

# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

STRAWBERRY MONTH

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina strawberry is a sweet, aromatic, nutritious berry, and the first sign of warm-weather fruits; and

**WHEREAS**, the strawberry industry generates an estimated \$21.3 million in farm income according to the 2017 Agricultural Statistics from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina ranks third in the nation in strawberry production with approximately 1,100 acres harvested by farm families in almost every county of the state; and

**WHEREAS**, there are over four hundred different varieties of strawberries and are a member of the rose flower family; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina is recognized as a leader in strawberry research and production in the Southeast; and

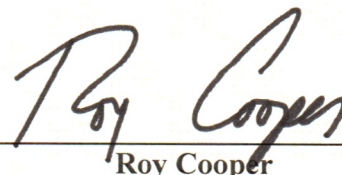
**WHEREAS**, the strawberry industry is a part of diversification practices by many of North Carolina's full-time farmers; the industry also provides employment for many of our state's residents and supplemental income for a number of rural families who farm on a part-time basis; and

**WHEREAS**, the strawberry industry is thriving across the state through the collaboration of strawberry producers, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumers Services, the North Carolina Agricultural Cooperative Extension Service, and hundreds of pick-your-own farms, roadside markets, and traditional farm-to-market operations; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina's strawberry industry is an important part of the state's \$91.8 billion agriculture and agribusiness economy;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May, 2020, as "STRAWBERRY MONTH" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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Roy Cooper  
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this thirtieth day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fourth.