



January 8, 2019

Dear First through Sixth Grade Parents and Teachers:

As you are probably aware, Nebraska agriculture contributes more than \$21 billion to Nebraska's economy each year. Nebraska is home to nearly 50,000 farms and ranches utilizing 91% (45.2 million acres) of the state's total land area. Nebraska IS Agriculture!

And, because Nebraska IS Agriculture, we plan to celebrate National Ag Week in a special way again this year. We are inviting first through sixth grade students to get involved in the 16th Annual Nebraska Department of Agriculture – Agriculture Week in Nebraska Poster Contest.

This year's theme is "The Many Colors of Nebraska Agriculture." Students can showcase what they feel and think about Nebraska agriculture. Last year, we received thousands of posters from across Nebraska (both rural and urban) and learned about the creative ways Nebraska's school teachers taught their classrooms about agriculture.

Complete contest rules and entry forms are attached. We ask that you share this information with all first through sixth grade classes in your school. As mentioned in the contest rules, all entries must be received in our office by **March 1, 2019**.

We would also like to take a moment to remind you of our "Kids Page" on the Nebraska Department of Agriculture website (www.nda.nebraska.gov/kids). The "Kids Page" has useful information, games, and activities for students to learn more about Nebraska agriculture. You'll find the poster contest information, along with a glimpse at past years' winners on this page as well. I'd encourage you to take a peek at the Fun Facts brochure.

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture realizes the important role that you play in the lives of Nebraska's youth. If, at any time, we can assist you in your classroom agricultural studies or if you are ever in need of an agricultural guest speaker, please feel free to contact me.

If you have any questions in regard to the poster contest, please contact me at (402) 471-6856 or christin.kamm@nebraska.gov.

We look forward to recognizing the creative talents of your students.

Sincerely,
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Christin Kamm
Public Information Officer