



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### FORAGE WEEK

- WHEREAS:** Forage is defined as the grasses and legumes grown and managed for consumption by livestock; and
- WHEREAS:** Georgia produces 4 million acres of quality forage annually for myriad purposes; and
- WHEREAS:** This forage provides the diet for 1.9 million cattle, sheep, goats, and horses, and supports \$1 billion in agricultural income for the state; and
- WHEREAS:** All Georgians enjoy the beautiful landscape and recreational foundation forage provides; and
- WHEREAS:** Georgia is a proud affiliate state of the American Forage and Grassland Council, which celebrates National Forage Week; and
- WHEREAS:** National Forage Week serves to pay homage to the forages that not only provide quality food for livestock but also provide food, cover, and shelter for wildlife, provide diverse habitat for pollinator species, reduce soil erosion, improve soil health, and filter sediments to reduce water pollution; and
- WHEREAS:** National Forage Week connects consumers with the indispensable role forages contribute to everyday life, including meat products, dairy products, and ornamental grasses; and
- WHEREAS:** National Forage Week preserves the agrarian heritage and rural lifestyle of both our country and Georgia; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim June 16-22, 2019, as FORAGE WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.



*B. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Timothy K. Fleming*

CHIEF OF STAFF