

Yearly Calendar of National Ag Days



**Lessons, activities,
book
recommendations,
and more. Content
in one place to
make teaching ag
simple.**

 *Michigan*
Agriculture in the Classroom



Intro

About Us:

Michigan Agriculture in the Classroom works with educators and farmers to increase agricultural literacy in youth across the state. Our goal is to get students to understand where their food, fuel and fiber come from, while also learning about careers connected to Michigan agriculture.

National Calendar:

This National Ag Day Calendar is composed for different “National Days” throughout the year that can be connected back to agriculture. Every “National Day” has content listed below that directly connects agriculture with the day.

Why is it Important?:

Agriculture is everywhere. Not a day goes by that we don't interact some way, shape, or form with agriculture. From the clothes we wear to the food we eat, agriculture is constantly at our fingertips. Today, so many don't understand that our food and clothes don't come from the store but instead it all comes from farmers. Here at Michigan Ag In The Classroom, we want to make it easier and fun for teachers to share agriculture with the next generations. We want to help bridge that gap.



The date and the name of the ag day.

If the date is not listed it means it is celebrated the entire month.

This is where you will find lessons, activities, books, and/or other resources that go along with the national ag day/ holiday.

Each will be hyperlinked so you have easy access to everything listed.

Lessons will include grade levels associated with each lesson at the end of the name in parentheses.

A diagram illustrating the relationship between an Ag Day entry and its associated resources. A brown box at the top contains the text "Ag Day". A black arrow points from this box to a larger green box below it. The green box is divided into three sections: "Lessons:", "Activities:", and "Other Resources:". Each section contains a bulleted list of items. A large black curly bracket on the left side of the green box encompasses all three sections, indicating that these resources are linked to the Ag Day entry.

Ag Day

Lessons:

- Lesson 1 (6-8)
- Lesson 2 (K-2)

Activities:

- Activity 1
- Activity 2

Other Resources:

- Resource 1
- Resource 2

January

National Biotechnology Month



Lessons:

- (6-8) [Use of Biotechnology in Selecting the Right Plants](#)
- [How Do Farmers Make Seedless Fruit?](#)

Activities:

- [Bringing Biotechnology to Life](#)
- [Biotech Cheese Kit](#)



Lessons:

- (K-2) [Bean Seed Cycle](#)
- (3-5) [Magic Beans and Giant Plants](#)
- (9-12) [The Science of GMOs](#)

Activities:

- [Bean Seed Fun](#)
- [The Bean Game](#)



Lessons:

- (3-5) [Growing Grains](#)
- (3-5) [FoodMASTER: Measurement](#)

Books:

- [Glorious Grasses: The Grains](#) by Meredith Sayles Hughes



Lesson:

- (6-8) [The QUEST for the Whole Enchilada](#)

Books:

- [A True Book: Corn](#) by Elaine Landau
- [Carlos and the Cornfield](#) by Jan Romero Stevens
- [Corn](#) by Gail Gibbons



February

National Cherry Month



Cherries

Lessons:

- (3-5) [The TART Cherry on Top](#)
- (3-5) [Tree-mendous Fruits](#)

Books:

- [Pie in the Sky](#) by Lois Ehlert

Other Resources:

- [Tree Fruits Flowchart](#)



Snack Food

Lessons:

- (6-8) [Energy Bar Exploration](#)
- (6-8) [Enlightened Concessions](#)

Books:

- [George Crum and the Saratoga Chip](#)
- [Let's Pop, Pop, Popcorn!](#) by Cynthia Schumerth



11th | National Inventors Day

Lessons:

- (9-12) [Growing a Nation Era 1a: Seeds of Change](#)
- (9-12) [Growing a Nation Era 2: From Defeat to Victory](#)
- (9-12) [Growing a Nation Era 3: Prosperity and Challenges](#)
- (9-12) [Growing a Nation Era 4: Into a New Millennium](#)



17th | National Cabbage Day

Activities:

- [Wisconsin Fast Plants](#)

Books:

- [Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table](#) by Jacqueline Briggs Martin
- [Katie's Cabbage](#) by Katie Stagliano



March

National Nutrition Month



Nutrition

Lessons:

- (K-2) [Understanding MyPlate](#)
- (3-5) [Making Half MyPlate Fruits and Vegetables](#)
- (6-8) [Introducing the Nutrition Facts Label](#)
- (9-12) [Looking Under the Label](#)

Activities:

- [Fill MyPlate Game](#)



1st | National Pig Day

Lessons:

- (K-2) [This Little Pig](#)
- (3-5) [Truth or Hogwash?](#)
- (3-5) [Pigs on the Farm](#)
- (9-12) [Pig Power: Creating Biogas and Renewable Energy](#)

Books:

- [Down on the Farm: Pigs](#) by Hannah Ray



National Ag Day

Lessons:

- (PreK-K) [All Kinds of Farms](#)
- (K-2) [Agriculture Counts](#)
- (3-5) [A Day Without Agriculture](#)
- (6-8) [AgVenture: Sourcing Ag Careers](#)
- (9-12) [Agricultural Production Regions in the United States](#)



21st | National Flower Day

Lessons:

- (K-2) [Fabulous Flowers](#)
- (3-5) [Flower Power](#)

Books:

- [Big Yellow Sunflower](#) by Frances Barry
- [Flower Talk: How Plants Use Color to Communicate](#) by Sara Levine



April

National Garden Month



Gardening

Lessons:

- (K-2) [A Garden Plot: The Tale of Peter Rabbit](#)
- (3-5) [Color in the Garden](#)

Activities:

- [Seed Ball Garden Activity](#)
- [Shape, Form, and Function in the Garden](#)



4th | International Carrot Day

Lessons:

- [Dig 'Em Up \(K-2\)](#)

Books:

- [Carrots Grow Underground](#) by Mari Schuh
- [The Carrot Seed](#) by Ruth Krauss

Other Resources:

- [Follow That Food: Carrot Edition](#)



10th | National Farm Animal Day

Lessons:

- (PreK-K) [Animals on the Farm](#)
- (K-2) [Farm Animal Life Cycles](#)
- (3-5) [Got Cuts?](#)
- (6-8) [The Remarkable Ruminant](#)

Books:

- [Farm Animals](#) by Katie Daynes



22nd | Earth Day

Lessons:

- (K-2) [Four Seasons on a Farm](#)
- (3-5) [What's Our Soil Worth?](#)
- (6-8) [Fertilizers and the Environment](#)
- (9-12) [Earth's Land and Soil Resources](#)
- (9-12) [Fertilizers and the Environment](#)

May

National Asparagus Month



Asparagus

Books:

- [Stinky and Stringy: Stem & Bulb Vegetables \(Plants We Eat\) by Meredith Sayles Hughes](#)

Activities:

- [Agricultural Fact and Activity Sheets](#)

Other Resources:

- [How Does it Grow? Video Series](#)



Eggs

Lessons:

- (K-2) [Be a DetEGGtive!](#)
- (3-5) [Eggology](#)
- (3-5) [Eggs: Protein MVP](#)
- (6-8) [Eggs on the Menu](#)
- (6-8) [FoodMASTER Middle: Eggs](#)
- (9-12) [Don't Forget the Eggs!](#)
- (9-12) [Weighing in on Egg Labels, Supply, and Demand](#)



7th | National Herb Day

Lessons:

- (3-5) [Tasty Testing](#)
- (6-8) [Water Ops for Growing](#)
- (9-12) [Herbs and Spices of the World](#)

Books:

- [Rooftop Garden by Danna Smith](#)



27th | National Grape Day

Lessons:

- (K-2) [Fruits of Our Labor](#)

Books:

- [How Do You Raise a Raisin? by Pam Munoz Ryan](#)
- [PB&J Hooray! by Janet Nolan](#)



June

National Dairy Month



Dairy

Lessons:

- (3-5) [A Day Without Dairy](#)
- (3-5) [Cowabunga! All About Dairy Breeds](#)
- (6-8) [Cheesemaking: A Science, an Art, and a Craft](#)
- (9-12) [Lactose Lab: Some Don't Like it Sweet](#)



Pollinators

Lessons:

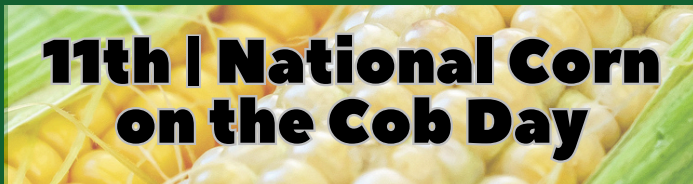
- (3-5) [Honey Bees: A Pollination Simulation](#)

Activities:

- [Prolific Pollinators](#)

Other Resources:

- [The Importance of Pollinators](#)
- [Wings of Life](#)



11th | National Corn on the Cob Day

Lessons:

- (3-5) [Corn an A-maizing Plant: Food, Fuel, and Plastic](#)
- (3-5) [Get Popping!](#)
- (6-8) [Growing America](#)
- (6-8) [Energy and Biofuels](#)
- (9-12) [Evaluating Perspectives About GMOs](#)
- (9-12) [Energy and Biofuels](#)



14th | National Cucumber Day

Books:

- [Blue-Ribbon Radishes \(Farm Friends\) by Kimberly Derting & Shelli R. Johannes](#)
- [Cucumber Soup by Vickie Leigh Krudwig](#)

Other Resources:

- [Can Science Create a 'Greener' Pickle? Video](#)

July

National Blueberry Month

Blueberries

Lessons:

- (3-5) [Bunches of Berries](#)

Books:

- [Berry Song by Michaela Goade](#)
- [Blueberries for Sal by Robert McCloskey](#)

Other Resources:

- [Berries Flowchart](#)

Picnic

Activities:

- [Food Safety from Farm to Fork: Mighty Microbes](#)

Books:

- [One Hundred Hungry Ants by Elinor Pinczes](#)

2nd Tuesday | Cow Appreciation Day

Lessons:

- (K-2) [It's a MOO-stery!](#)
- (3-5) [Beef Basics](#)
- (3-5) [Build-a-Calf Workshop](#)
- (9-12) [Beef: Making the Grade](#)

Other Resources:

- [Compliments of Cattle Poster](#)

3rd Sunday | National Ice Cream Day

Lessons:

- (K-2) [Milk, Sugar, Science: Engineering Ice Cream](#)
- (3-5) [FoodMASTER: Fats and Oils](#)
- (9-12) [Milk: The Scoop on Chemical and Physical Changes](#)

Activities:

- [Ice Cream in a Bag](#)

August

National Peach Month

Peaches

Lessons:

- (K-2) [Freshest Fruits](#)
- (3-5) [Peaches: What's All the Fuzz About?](#)
- (3-5) [Tree-mendous Fruits](#)

Books:

- [Pick, Pull, Snap! Where Once a Flower Bloomed](#) by Lola M. Schaefer

Back to School

Lessons:

- (K-2) [Agriculture Pays](#)
- (3-5) [Build it Better](#)
- (6-8) [Career Gaming](#)
- (9-12) [Find Your Future Career](#)

Activities:

- [How Many Hats Does a Farmer Wear?](#)

3rd Sunday | World Honey Bee Day

Lessons:

- (K-2) [The Amazing Honey Bee](#)
- (3-5) [Honey Bees: A Pollination Simulation](#)
- (6-8) [Mind Your Own Beeswax](#)
- (9-12) [Fermentation of Honey](#)

Books:

- [Flight of the Honey Bee](#) by Raymond Huber

3rd | National Watermelon Day

Lessons:

- (3-5) [FoodMASTER: Fruits](#)
- (9-12) [Melons, Mitosis, and Meiosis](#)

September

National Potato Month

Potatoes

Lessons:

- (K-2) [Potatoes: More Than Fries](#)
- (3-5) [Powerful Potato](#)

Books:

- [Potatoes for Pirate Pearl](#) by Jennifer Concepcion
- [The Life of a Potato](#) by Vicki Hutchings

Chickens

Lessons:

- (K-2) [From Chicken Little to Chicken Big](#)
- (3-5) [Hatching Science with Classroom Chicks](#)
- (9-12) [Hen House Engineering](#)

Activities:

- [The Life Cycle of a Chicken](#)

Whole Grains

Lessons:

- (3-5) [Growing Grains](#)
- (6-8) [FoodMASTER Middle: Grains](#)
- (6-8) [Serious Cereal Science](#)

Other Resources:

- [Sorghum: The Super Grain](#)

26th | National Johnny Appleseed Day

Book Recs:

- [Johnny Appleseed](#) by Steven Kellogg
- [Apples](#) by Gail Gibbons
- [Seed by Seed: The Legend and Legacy of John "Appleseed" Chapman](#) by Esme Raji Codell

October

National Apple Month



Apples

Lessons:

- (K-2) [A is for Apples](#)
- (3-5) [An Apple a Day Keeps the Doctor Away](#)
- (9-12) [Apples and the Science of Genetic Selection](#)

Books:

- [How to Grow an Apple Pie](#) by Beth Charles



12th | National Farmers Day

Activities:

- [An Agricultural Interview](#)
- [FUNdamentals of Farming Game](#)
- [Weather Harvest Game](#)

Books:

- [A Day in the Life of a Farmer](#) by Heather Adamson
- [Thank a Farmer](#) by Maria Gianferrari



14th | National Real Sugar Day

Lessons:

- (6-8) [FoodMASTER Middle: Sugar](#)

Other Resources:

- [America's Heartland: Sweet Beets Video](#)
- [The Sugar Association Website](#)



26th | National Pumpkin Day

Lessons:

- (K-2) [The Case of the Missing Pumpkin](#)
- (3-5) [Pumpkins...Not Just for Halloween](#)

Activities:

- [The Great Pumpkin](#)

November

National Peanut Butter Lovers Month

Peanut Butter

Lessons:

- (3-5) [Nuts About Peanuts!](#)

Books:

- [From Peanut to Peanut Butter](#) by Robin Nelson
- [Pb&J Hooray!](#) by Janet Nolan

Lessons:

- (3-5) [Bunches of Berries](#)

Books:

- [Time for Cranberries](#) by Lisl H. Detlefsen

Other Resources:

- [Cranberry Bounce Video](#)

Maize Day

Lessons:

- (3-5) [Corn an A-maizing Plant: Food, fuel, and Plastic](#)

Activities:

- [Farming in a Glove \(Corn Seeds\)](#)

Other Resources:

- [Evolution of Corn Website](#)

Thanksgiving

Lessons:

- (3-5) [A Rafter of Turkeys](#)
- (6-8) [The Geography of Thanksgiving Dinner](#)
- (9-12) [The Geography of Thanksgiving Dinner](#)

Other Resources:

- [Thanksgiving Maps and Posters](#)



December

National Root Vegetable Month



Root Vegetables

Lessons:

- (K-2) [Dig 'Em Up](#)
- (3-5) [Powerful Potato](#)

Books:

- [Carrots Grow Underground](#) by Mari Schuh

Other Resources:

- [Sweetpotato Ag Mag](#)



13th | National Cocoa Day

Activities:

- [Chocolate Taste-Testing](#)

Books:

- [Beans to Chocolate](#) by Sarah Ridley
- [The Book of Chocolate: The Amazing Story of the World's Favorite Candy](#) by HP Newquist



17th | National Maple Syrup Day

Lessons:

- (K-2) [From Sap to Syrup](#)
- (K-2) [Pancakes!](#)
- (3-5) [Pancakes!](#)

Books:

- [The Sweetest Season](#) by Elissa Kerr
- [At Grandpa's Sugar Bush](#) by Margaret Carney



Christmas

Lessons:

- (K-2) [Discover Christmas Trees](#)
- (3-5) [Discover Christmas Trees](#)

Activities:

- [Value-adding on a Christmas Tree farm](#)

Other Resources:

- [Christmas Tree Ag Mag](#)



Extra Ag Days to Celebrate

January

National Soup Month
11th National Milk Day
February
Celebration of Chocolate Month
27th National Strawberry Day

March

National Noodle Month
National Peanut Month
13th-19th National Agriculture Week

April

National Pecan Month
Easter

May

National Barbeque Month
National Hamburger Month
National Salsa Month
National Strawberry Month

June

Turkey Lover's Month
National Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Month

August

9th National Book Lover's Day
29th National Lemonade Day
31st National Trail Mix Day
September
National Rice Month
National Mushroom Month

October

National Popcorn Month
National Pork Month
National Seafood Month
National Pasta Month
National Pizza Month