



January 17, 2023

Dear First through Sixth Grade Parents and Teachers:

At the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA), we're all about recognizing and celebrating the contribution of agriculture in our everyday lives. Did you know that Nebraska agriculture contributes more than \$21 billion to Nebraska's economy each year? Or that Nebraska is home to more than 45,000 farms and ranches that use more than 90% (45 million acres) of the state's total land area? Nebraska IS Agriculture!

And, because Nebraska IS Agriculture, NDA is once again asking students to enter its annual poster contest highlighting the state's ag industry. We are inviting first through sixth grade students to get involved in the 20th Annual Nebraska Department of Agriculture – Agriculture Week in Nebraska Poster Contest. NDA plans to announce the winners during National Ag Week, March 19-25, 2023.

This year's theme is "Celebrating Nebraska Agriculture." Students can showcase what they feel and think about Nebraska agriculture. Last year, we received many posters from across Nebraska (both rural and urban) and learned about the creative ways Nebraska school teachers teach their students about agriculture.

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, 2023**.

We would also like to take a moment to remind you of our "Kids Page" on the Nebraska Department of Agriculture website (<https://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 past years' winners on this page as well. I'd encourage you to take a peek at the Fun Facts booklet.

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.

Sincerely,

Christin Kamm
Communications Director
Nebraska Department of Agriculture