



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: Soybeans are Minnesota’s largest agricultural export, with approximately two out of every three rows of soybeans sold abroad; and

WHEREAS: Soybean producers across Minnesota and the nation deliver vital nutrition, bio-products, and raw materials while providing food security and serving as pillars of rural economies; and

WHEREAS: In recent years, and especially during the 2025 harvest season, farmers have faced mounting challenges from federal trade policy and retaliatory tariffs, leading to the loss of key export markets, lower commodity prices, and financial strain; and

WHEREAS: China, once the largest purchaser of U.S. soybeans—at times buying \$12–13 billion annually—has sharply reduced purchases in response to trade tensions, redirecting demand to South America and leaving U.S. producers with fewer markets; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota farmers are often forced to store crops indefinitely, sell at distressed prices, or absorb added costs, resulting in billions in lost sales, farm bankruptcies, and strain on rural communities; and

WHEREAS: Beyond trade pressures, farmers must also contend with variable weather, localized crop damage, and uncertain yields; and

WHEREAS: Despite these challenges, Minnesota farmers continue to demonstrate resilience, innovation, and dedication to the land, holding on to hope for policy relief and stable markets; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota recognizes the burdens borne by soybean producers, encourages others to do the same, and supports efforts to restore competitiveness, fairness, and sustainability in agricultural trade.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim September 29-October 5, 2025, as:

SOYBEAN WEEK

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 29<sup>th</sup> day of September.

  
GOVERNOR

  
SECRETARY OF STATE