

NEBRASKA PORK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

NEWS RELEASE

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OCTOBER IS PORK MONTH – THANK A PIG FARMER

By Al Juhnke – Executive Director, Nebraska Pork Producers Association

October became known as Pork Month because it marked the time of year when hogs were traditionally marketed. Today, it serves as a celebration to thank pork producers and share their stories with consumers.

The Nebraska Pork Producers Association is a grassroots, incorporated, non-profit organization established in 1961. Our mission statement, “Serving Nebraska’s Pork Industry - Responsible people. Sustainable Pork.” reflects our ongoing commitment to family farmers and communities across the state. We work every day to promote the pork industry through the enhancement of consumer demand, producer education and research.

Our pork producers make important contributions to our rural agricultural economy. Nebraska is the 6th largest pork production state in the U.S. with more than 3.1 million pigs raised, generating over \$1 billion in annual receipts. Pig operations come in all sizes and production methods, and provide good paying jobs helping to boost the economic health in rural areas.

The benefits of our local farm production are felt beyond our borders. Pork is consumed by more people worldwide than any other meat. Nebraska and U.S. pork producers help to feed these people by exporting about 25% of what we produce to other countries. We are proud of the healthy sustainable pork we produce and the rest of the world looks to us for a safe nutritious product.

Swine production has been a part of our country’s history for a long time. During the Revolutionary War, General Washington secured salt pork from New Jersey which was shipped behind British lines to Valley Forge to feed the hungry Continental Army in the winter of 1776 to 1777. Today, pork tenderloin is recognized as a ‘heart healthy’ food and is served on plates across our nation as part of a balanced diet.

So, whether your favorite pork product is ham, ribs, chops, tenderloin or bacon (who doesn’t like bacon), this month we recognize the people who produce this food. These Nebraska family farmers are proud members our communities, our neighbors, and our friends. We recognize their many contributions and thank them for all they do!

For more information, visit NPPA’s website at www.NEpork.org. For pork recipes, cooking instructions, and nutritional information, visit the National Pork Board’s website at www.porkbeinspired.com.