



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS, New Mexico has a long history as a place defined by and celebrated for its rich confluence of cultures, and where food and agriculture have always played a vital biocultural role; and*

*WHEREAS, New Mexico retains the agrarian wisdom of traditional farming practices, such as Zuni waffle gardens, acequia irrigation, floodplain gardens and dry-land farming, which have been accompanied by people's development of biocultural crops and breeds, including corn, squash, beans, chile, pinon, wild greens, wild potatoes, Churro sheep, Criollo cattle and many others; and*

*WHEREAS, the traditional agrarian ethos offers the understanding that land and water and seeds are gifts that unite and sustain kin and community over time, and that all wild and cultivated animals and plants are dependent on each other, and deserve respect and gratitude for sustaining us and helping preserve the beauty of New Mexico; and*

*WHEREAS, these vital agrarian traditions have been waning and many cultivars and even cuisines are rare or at risk such as Rio Zape bean, Four Corners gold bean, Bolita bean, native tomatillo, Wenks yellow hot pepper, Chilitipin chile, Chimayo chile, chicos corn, and blue corn piki bread; and*

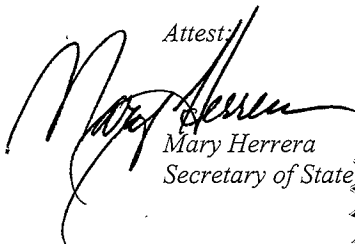
*WHEREAS, the State of New Mexico seeks to honor the dedicated Native American, Hispanic and Anglo-European groups and individuals working to preserve heritage crops and animals, as well as the traditional knowledge and methods associated with traditional agriculture, which includes seasonal ceremonies, special meals, and community values such as querencia and tierra sagrada, holds elegant historical significance, as well as high contemporary value in continuing to provide nourishment, health, cultural identity, way of life, practical survival skills and a source of income;*

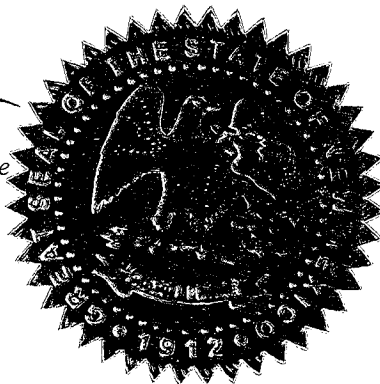
*NOW, THEREFORE I, Bill Richardson, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim October 12, 2010 as:*

## *"Traditional Foods and Farming Day"*

*throughout the State of New Mexico, and encourage all New Mexicans to celebrate and preserve this rich New Mexico heritage and honor traditional farmers, seed savers, land-race plant breeders, guardians of traditional ceremonies, mayordomos and parciantes, chefs and households cooking with biocultural crops, and all those who express reverence and gratitude for the land and its offerings.*

Attest:

  
Mary Herrera  
Secretary of State



Done at the Executive Office this  
21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2010.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal  
of the Great State of New Mexico

  
Bill Richardson  
Governor