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KDA Photo Contest Now Accepting Entries

MANHATTAN, Kansas — The beauty of Kansas agriculture has been celebrated throughout the state's ag industry, and we encourage photographers to capture that beauty and share it with others through the Kansas Department of Agriculture's annual photo contest. KDA began accepting photos on June 7, and will continue accepting entries through August 16.

This year's KDA Photo Contest categories were selected to promote different aspects of Kansas agriculture. *Kansas Weather, Celebrating Local Foods, Water in Kansas* and *Rural Kansas* categories will showcase the many places and ways we experience agriculture across the state of Kansas — from the beauty of the Flint Hills and the western plains to the family-run local ranches and colorful farmers' markets, and the many ways that weather and water have an impact on Kansas agriculture. And for the first time ever, we have added a *Video* category to showcase drone footage, harvest videos, or other short clips of under 30 seconds. As always, there will be a separate *Youth* category, for young photographers under age 19. Prizes will be awarded to the top two winners in each of the six categories.

KDA serves to advocate for agriculture, the state's largest industry and economic driver. Photos which best capture the categories will be used throughout the year as we tell the story of Kansas agriculture. After submission, KDA is granted permission to use any photograph for publications, social media, websites, displays, etc. without payment or other consideration from the photographer.

Photo entries should be sent in .jpg format to <u>KDA.PhotoContest@ks.gov</u>. Videos should be sent in .mp4 or .mov format. Entries must include a title and brief description, where and when the photo/video was taken, the photographer's full name and age, entry category hometown and email address.

Guidelines for the KDA Photo Contest, including deadlines, categories and prizes, can be found at <u>agriculture.ks.gov/photocontest</u>. Voting to select finalists will begin on KDA's social media sites in late August. For more information, contact Heather Lansdowne, KDA director of communications, at <u>Heather.Lansdowne@ks.gov</u> or 785-564-6706.