PROCLAMATION

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

WHEREAS, agricultural education at the college level began in Florida in October of 1884 with the opening of the Florida Agricultural College at Lake City under the Morrill Act, also known as the Land Grant College Act; and

WHEREAS, under the Hatch Act, the Agricultural Experiment Station was established as a division of the Agricultural College in 1888; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Agricultural College became known as the University of Florida and under an act of the Florida Legislature, moved from Lake City to Gainesville in 1906; and

WHEREAS, the Smith-Lever Act in 1914 established the Cooperative Extension Service, including the St. Johns County office at St. Augustine; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature in 1917 recognized the need for statewide agricultural research and education centers by the establishment of the Citrus Experiment Station at Winter Haven, which subsequently led to the establishment of 21 other research and education facilities throughout the State, including the Hastings Agricultural Research and Education Center; and

WHEREAS, in 1964 by action of the Florida Board of Control all of the functions of resident instruction, research and extension were consolidated in a single budgetary unit known as the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS): and

WHEREAS, over the past 100 years Florida's food and agricultural industry has developed into a major competitive force in both national and international markets and is a major generator of Florida wealth, with total annual gross retail sales exceeding \$16 billion; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Harry Waldron, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim March 21, 1985, as

IFAS CENTENNIAL DAY

in St. Johns County.

Harry Waldron

Chairman

Francis Brohaker

Larry Hartley

Sarah Bailey

Phyllis Lyden