



# Georgia Department of Agriculture

Gary W. Black, Commissioner

19 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, SW • Atlanta, Georgia 30334-4201

## Notice of Public Hearing

### Georgia Agricultural Commodity Commission for Vegetables

December 5, 2014

#### To All Interested Persons:

You are hereby notified that a public hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at the Macon State Farmer's Market, Room 3 in Macon, Georgia. The Farmer's Market address is 2055 Eisenhower Parkway, Macon, Georgia 31206. The purpose of the hearing will be for the Georgia Agricultural Commodity Commission for Vegetables to receive comments on the proposed Marketing Order for Vegetables. Written comments will be accepted from December 5, 2014, to the close of business (4:30 pm EST) on January 5, 2015.

#### SYNOPSIS AND MAIN FEATURES:

The Commission is proposing to establish a Marketing Order for Vegetables. Said Marketing Order would:

- (1.) Establish bell pepper, specialty pepper, beans, broccoli, beets, cabbage, cantaloupe, carrots, cucumber, eggplant, greens, squash, sweet potato, and tomato produced for sale on the fresh market as the affected products for the Order.;
- (2.) Establish the entire State of Georgia as the affected area of production;
- (3.) Explain that the scope of operation includes research, promotion and education;
- (4.) Explain the extent of operations;
- (5.) Set the term of operation for a three year period beginning May 1, 2015 and ending April 30, 2018, unless extended as provided by law;
- (6.) Direct that the method of approval be by referendum of affected producers;
- (7.) Set a 30 day time period for approval by referendum;
- (8.) Clarify that the Order would apply to all producers of the affected vegetables for sale within and without this state who have 50 acres or more of vegetable production annually;
- (9.) Set an assessment and levy of not more than 1¢ (\$0.01) per marketing unit on all affected products, define a marketing unit for each affected product, and explain other methods of finance;
- (10.) Explain the methods for collection of the assessment and levy which shall be collected from all affected producers;
- (11.) Explain that the Commissioner of Agriculture shall administer and enforce the Order;



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(12.) Authorize the Commission to expend funds;

(13.) Authorize the Commission to enter into contracts; and

(14.) Require all affected persons to keep records and make the same available for inspection by the Commissioner.

## COMMENT PERIOD AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

At the hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement or comment, or offer a point of view or an argument orally. Participants at the hearing are required to register upon arrival. Oral statements should be concise to permit everyone an opportunity to be heard. Interested individuals may also submit written comments concerning the proposed Marketing Order by mail or email to:

Andy Harrison  
Manager Commodity Commissions  
Georgia Department of Agriculture  
19 MLK Jr. Dr. S.W., Room 324  
Atlanta, Georgia. 30334  
Email: [andy.harrison@agr.georgia.gov](mailto:andy.harrison@agr.georgia.gov)

The Commission will begin accepting written comments on December 5, 2014. Written comments must be received no later than the close of business (4:30 p.m. EST) January 5, 2015 in order to be considered by the Commission.

Those desiring further information may contact Andy Harrison at 404-586-1405.

This notice is given in compliance with the Georgia Administrative Procedure Act, O.C.G.A. 50-13-4 and the Georgia Agricultural Commodities Promotion Act O.C.G.A. 2-8-23.