



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 Beef

January 28, 2014

To All Interested Persons:

You are hereby notified that a public hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m. on February 28, 2014 at the Macon State Farmer's Market, Room 3 in Macon, Ga. 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 Beef to receive comments on the proposed Marketing Order for Beef. Written comments will be accepted from January 28, 2014, to the close of business (4:30 pm EST) on February 28, 2014

SYNOPSIS AND MAIN FEATURES:

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

- (1.) Define necessary terminology;
- (2.) Establish beef as the affected product for the Order;
- (3.) Establish the entire State of Georgia as the affected area of production;
- (4.) Explain that the scope of operation includes research, promotion and education;
- (5.) Explain the extent of operations;
- (6.) Set the term of operation for a three year period;
- (7.) Direct that the method of approval be by referendum of affected producers;
- (8.) Set a 30 day time period for approval by referendum;
- (9.) Clarify that the Order would apply to all producers of bovine animals within this State;
- (10.) Set an assessment and levy of \$1.00 per head on bovine animals sold for \$100.00 or more effective July 1, 2014, and explain other methods of finance;
- (11.) Explain the methods for collection of the assessment and levy which shall be collected from all affected producers;
- (12.) Explain that the Commissioner of Agriculture shall administer and enforce the Order;
- (13.) Authorize the Commission to expend funds;
- (14.) Authorize the Commission to enter into contracts; and
- (15.) 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:

Nathan Wilson
Commodities Promotion, Manager
Georgia Department of Agriculture
19 MLK Jr. Dr. S.W., Room 324
Atlanta, Georgia. 30334
Email: nathan.wilson@agr.georgia.gov

The Commission will begin accepting written comments on January 28, 2014. Written comments must be received no later than the close of business (4:30 p.m. EST) February 28, 2014 in order to be considered by the Commission.

Those desiring further information may contact Nathan Wilson at 404-656-3678.

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.