

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEEF BOARD**

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2009

State of South Carolina



Office of the State Auditor

1401 MAIN STREET, SUITE 1200
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29201

RICHARD H. GILBERT, JR., CPA
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

(803) 253-4160
FAX (803) 343-0723

September 23, 2009

The Honorable Mark Sanford, Governor
and
Members of the South Carolina Beef Board
Columbia, South Carolina

This report on the audit of the financial statements of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture – Beef Board for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2009, was issued by Rogers Laban, PA, Certified Public Accountants, under contract with the South Carolina Office of the State Auditor.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please let us know.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard H. Gilbert, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Richard H. Gilbert, Jr., CPA
Deputy State Auditor

RHGjr/trb

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEEF BOARD**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS
JUNE 30, 2009**

	Page
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	1
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:	
Balance Sheet	2
Statement of Revenue, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance	3
Notes to Financial Statements	4 - 10
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
Full Dollar Accountability Report	11
REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH <u>GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS</u>	12 and 13
MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSE	Appendix A

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Richard H. Gilbert, Jr., CPA,
Deputy State Auditor
State of South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina

We have audited the accompanying balance sheet of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Beef Board ("the Board") special revenue fund and the related statement of revenue, expenditures, and changes in fund balance as of and for the year ended June 30, 2009. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Board's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the Financial Statements of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Beef Board special revenue fund are intended to present the financial position and results of operations of only that portion of the funds of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture attributable to the transactions of the Beef Board special revenue fund and do not include any other accounts or funds of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture or any other department or component unit of the State of South Carolina, and are not intended to present fairly the financial statements and results of operations of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Beef Board special revenue fund as of June 30, 2009, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated September 16, 2009, on our consideration of the Board's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The Full Dollar Accountability Report is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Rogers Laban, PA

September 16, 2009

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEEF BOARD**

**BALANCE SHEET
JUNE 30, 2009**

Assets

Cash	\$ 100,818
Accounts receivable-assessments	<u>12,003</u>
Total assets	<u><u>\$ 112,821</u></u>

Liabilities and Fund Equity

Liabilities:

Accounts payable	\$ 10,484
Accrued salaries and related benefits	<u>3,134</u>
Total liabilities	<u><u>13,618</u></u>

Fund Equity:

Fund balance (unreserved)	<u>99,203</u>
Total liabilities and fund equity	<u><u>\$ 112,821</u></u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEEF BOARD**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009**

Revenue

Assessments	\$ 183,127
Less, assessments remitted to other states	(16,042)
Less, assessments remitted to Cattleman's Beef Promotion and Research Board	<u>(83,541)</u>
Net assessment revenue	<u>83,544</u>

Expenditures

Advertising and promotion	14,983
Salaries and benefits	37,501
Board member per diem and costs	4,276
Operating costs	<u>21,542</u>
Total expenditures	<u>78,302</u>
 Excess of revenue over expenditures	 5,242
 Fund balance, July 1, 2008	 <u>93,961</u>
Fund balance, June 30, 2009	<u>\$ 99,203</u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEEF BOARD**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2009**

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The South Carolina Cattle and Beef Board was established January 3, 1985, as a commodity board under Section 46-17-190 of the South Carolina Code of Laws of 1962. The Board approved a name change to the South Carolina Beef Board on December 3, 1996 (also referred to as the "South Carolina Department of Agriculture Beef Board" and the "Beef Board" and the "Board". The commodity board is included as a part of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture. The Department of Agriculture is considered part of the State of South Carolina's primary government and is included in the State of South Carolina's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report as such. This is based on guidance provided by GASB Statement 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*. The Board was established for education, promotion and research to strengthen the cattle and beef industry's position in the marketplace.

The South Carolina Beef Board, whose members are elected by the local producers, is the governing body of the South Carolina Beef Board.

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture administers the South Carolina Beef Board. The Board operates as a special revenue fund of the Department of Agriculture. The accompanying financial statements present the financial position and results of operations solely of the South Carolina Beef Board, special revenue fund, and do not include any other funds of the State of South Carolina.

Basis of Presentation and Accounting

The financial statements were prepared using the fund accounting principles per the Government Accounting Standards Board *Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards*. The accounts of the Beef Board are a special revenue fund of the Department of Agriculture. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in this individual fund based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. All accounts of the Beef Board are reported in the special revenue funds of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to when revenue and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting also relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The Beef Board is a special revenue fund. Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than special assessments, expendable trust, or major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditures for specific purposes.

All special revenue funds of governmental units are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Their revenue is recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets.

Expenditures are recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting generally when the related fund liability is incurred. Expenditure recognition is limited to exclude amounts represented by noncurrent liabilities. Since they do not affect net current assets, such long-term amounts are not recognized as expenditures in special revenue funds.

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEEF BOARD**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2009**

Budgetary Controls

The following is a description of the budgetary process of the Beef Board:

Several months prior to the start of the fiscal year, a budget proposal for revenue and expenditures is developed by the executive director (the only employee) of the Beef Board. The proposal is developed through evaluation of historical financial data and on knowledge of future events. The proposal is presented to the Board for both discussion and review.

Capital Assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost if purchased. Capital assets contributed by other State agencies or funds are recorded at the original acquisition cost less accumulated depreciation from the purchase date. Assets donated by other parties are valued at fair market value at the date of gift. The capitalization dollar threshold limit for capital assets is \$5,000, and software is \$100,000. The Board had no capital asset purchases during the year, nor did it own any capital assets at June 30, 2009.

Compensated Absences

Generally all permanent full-time State employees and certain part-time employees scheduled to work at least one-half of the agency's workweek are entitled to accrue and carry forward at calendar year-end a maximum of 180 days sick leave and 45 days annual vacation leave. Upon termination of State employment, employees are entitled to be paid for accumulated unused annual vacation leave up to the maximum of 45 days, but are not entitled to any payment for unused sick leave. The Department calculates the compensated absences liability based on recorded balances of unused leave for which the Department expects to compensate employees through paid time off or cash payments. The Beef Board had no liability for accrued compensated absences at June 30, 2009, as it had no full time employees at that time.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue, and expenditures and affect disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Note 2. Deposits and Investments

All deposits of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Beef Board are under the control of the State Treasurer who, by law, has sole authority for investing State Funds.

State law requires full collateralization of all State Treasurer bank balances. The State Treasurer must correct any deficiencies in collateral within seven days.

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEEF BOARD**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2009**

With respect to investments in the State's internal cash management pool, all of the State Treasurer's investments are insured or registered or are investments for which the securities are held by the State or its agent in the State's name. Information pertaining to the reported amounts, fair values, and credit risk of the State Treasurer's investments is disclosed in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the State of South Carolina.

Note 3. Pension Plan and Other Employee Benefits

The Retirement Division of the State Budget and Control Board maintains five independent defined benefit plans and issues its own publicly available Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) which includes financial statements and required supplementary information. A copy of the separately issued CAFR may be obtained by writing to the Retirement Division, 202 Arbor Lake Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29223. Furthermore, the Division and the five pension plans are included in the CAFR of the State of South Carolina.

The one employee of the Board is eligible to participate in the South Carolina Retirement System and the State Health Insurance Group Plan. The South Carolina Retirement System (SCRS) is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit public employee retirement system which provides annuity benefits as well as disability and group life insurance benefits to eligible employees and retirees. Section 9-1-480 Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976 (as amended), states that all State employees unless specifically exempted shall become members of SCRS as a condition of their employment. The responsibility for administration of the systems is assigned by law to the State Budget & Control Board. The Conservation Board has no fiduciary responsibility or further liability for the retirement plan beyond the current contributions.

Under the SCRS, employees are eligible for a full service retirement annuity upon reaching age 65 or completion of 28 years credited service regardless of age. The benefit formula for full benefits effective since July 1, 1989, for the SCRS is 1.82 percent of an employee's average final compensation multiplied by the number of years of credited service. Early retirement options with reduced benefits are available as early as age 55. Employees are vested for a deferred annuity after five years service and qualify for a survivor's benefit upon completion of 15 years credited service (five years effective January 1, 2001). Disability annuity benefits are payable to employees totally and permanently disabled provided they have a minimum of five years credited service (this requirement does not apply if the disability is the result of a job-related injury). A group-life insurance benefit equal to an employee's annual rate of compensation is payable upon the death of an active employee with a minimum of one year of credited service.

Effective January 1, 2001, Section 9-1-2210 of the South Carolina Code of Laws allows employees eligible for service retirement to participate in the Teacher and Employee Retention Incentive (TERI) Program. TERI participants may retire and begin accumulating retirement benefits on a deferred basis without terminating employment for up to five years. Upon termination of employment or at the end of the TERI period, whichever is earlier, participants will begin receiving monthly service retirement benefits which will include any cost of living adjustments granted during the TERI period.

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEEF BOARD**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2009**

Since July 1, 2006, employees participating in the SCRS have been required to contribute 6.5% of all compensation. Effective July 1, 2008, the employer contribution rate became 12.74 percent, which included a 3.50 percent surcharge to fund retiree health and dental insurance coverage. The Board's actual contributions to SCRS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2009, 2008, and 2007 were \$2,763, \$3,449 and \$1,967 and equaled the required contributions of 9.24 percent (excluding the surcharge) for 2009, 9.06 percent for 2008 and 8.05 percent for 2007. Also, the Board paid employer group-life insurance contributions of \$45 in the current fiscal year at the rate of .15 percent of compensation.

The System does not make separate measurements of assets and pension benefit obligations for individual employers. Accordingly, information regarding the excess, if any, applicable to the Board of the actuarially computed value of vested benefits over the total of the applicable pension fund and any balance sheet accruals, less any pension prepayments or deferred charges, is not available. By State law, the Board's liability under the retirement plan is limited to the amounts contributed during the year. Accordingly, the Board recognized no contingent liability for unfunded costs associated with participation in the plan.

Article X, Section 16 of the South Carolina Constitution requires that all state operated retirement systems be funded on a sound actuarial basis. Title 9 of the South Carolina Code of Laws of 1976, as amended, prescribes requirements relating to membership, benefit and employee/employer contributions for each retirement system. Employee and employer contribution rates to SCRS are actuarially determined. The surcharges to fund retiree health and dental insurance are not part of the actuarially established rates. Annual benefits, payable monthly for life, are based on length of service and on average final compensation (an annualized average of the employee's highest twelve consecutive quarters of compensation).

Note 4. Post-Employment and Other Employee Benefits

In accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws and the annual Appropriations Act, the State provides post-employment health and dental and long-term disability benefits to retired State and school district employees and their covered dependents. The Board contributes to the Retiree Medical Plan (RMP) and the Long-term Disability Plan (LTDP), cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment healthcare and long-term disability plans administered by the Employee Insurance Program (EIP), a part of the State Budget and Control Board (SBCB). Generally, retirees are eligible for the health and dental benefits if they have established at least ten years of retirement service credit. For new hires May 2, 2008 and after, retirees are eligible for benefits if they have established twenty-five years of service for 100% employer funding and fifteen through twenty-four years of service for 50% employer funding. Benefits become effective when the former employee retires under a State retirement system.

Basic long-term disability (BLTD) benefits are provided to active state, public school district and participating local government employees approved for disability.

Section 1-11-705 and 1-11-710 of the South Carolina Code of Laws of 1976, as amended, requires these post-employment healthcare and long-term disability benefits be funded through annual appropriations by the General Assembly for active employees to the EIP and participating retirees to the SBCB except the portion funded through the pension surcharge and provided from other applicable sources of the EIP for its active employees who are not funded by State General Fund appropriations. Employers participating in the RMP are mandated by State statute to contribute at a rate assessed each year by the Office of the

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEEF BOARD**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2009**

State Budget, 3.50% and 3.42% of annual covered payroll for 2009 and 2008, respectively. The EIP sets the employer contribution rate based on a pay-as-you-go basis. The Board paid \$1,047 and \$682 applicable to the surcharge included with the employer contribution for retirement benefits for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. BLTD benefits are funded through a per person premium charged to State agencies, public school districts, and other participating local governments. The monthly premium per active employee paid to EIP was \$3.23 for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008.

Effective May 1, 2008 the State established two trust funds through Act 195 for the purpose of funding and accounting for the employer costs of retiree health and dental insurance benefits and long-term disability insurance benefits. The South Carolina Retiree Health Insurance Trust Fund is primarily funded through the payroll surcharge. Other sources of funding include additional State appropriated dollars, accumulated EIP reserves, and income generated from investments. The Long Term Disability Insurance Trust Fund is primarily funded through investment income and employer contributions.

One may obtain complete financial statements for the benefit plans and the trust funds from Employee Insurance Program, 1201 Main Street, Suite 360, Columbia, SC 29201.

Note 5. Deferred Compensation Plans

Several optional deferred compensation plans are available to State employees and employers of its political subdivisions. The employee of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Soybean Board does not participate. The multiple-employer plans, created under Internal Revenue Code sections 457, 401(k), and 403(b) are administered by third parties and are not included in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the State of South Carolina. Compensation deferred under the plans is placed in trust for the contributing employee. Employees may withdraw the current value of their contributions when they terminate State employment. Employees may also withdraw the current value of their contributions prior to termination if they meet requirements specified by the applicable plan. The State has no liability for losses under the plans.

Note 6. Related Party Transactions

The Beef Board has certain transactions with the South Carolina Department of Agriculture and various other state agencies.

Services received at no cost from State agencies include processing certain accounting records and payroll and disbursement processing from the Comptroller General; check preparation, banking functions from the State Treasurer; and legal services from the Attorney General.

Other services received at no cost from the various divisions of the State Budget and Control Board include retirement plan administration, insurance plans administration, personnel management, procurement services, property management and record keeping; and other centralized functions.

The Department of Agriculture provides to the Board at no cost, office space, personnel review, record keeping, disbursement processing, insurance coverage and other centralized functions. The amount of 2009 expenditures applicable to these services is not readily determinable.

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEEF BOARD**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2009**

The Board also had financial transactions with various State agencies during the fiscal year. Certain payments were made to divisions of the State Budget and Control Board for office supplies, telephone, interagency mail, and data processing services. The amount of 2009 expenditures applicable to related party transactions is not readily available.

Effective November 1986, the South Carolina Beef Board, as Qualified State Beef Council, started remitting a portion of its assessment proceeds to the Cattleman's Beef Promotion and Research Board. The authority for the formation of the Cattleman's Beef Promotion and Research Board was the Beef Promotion and Research Act of 1985 (the "Act"), approved on December 23, 1985, by the United States Congress: The "Act" provides for the establishment of a coordinated program of promotion and research designed to strengthen the beef industry's position in the marketplace, as well as to maintain and expand domestic and foreign markets and uses for beef and beef products. As provided in the Act, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture (the "Secretary") issued the Beef Promotion and Research Order, effective July 18, 1986, which provides the terms and conditions for the Act's administration. The Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board (the "Board"), which was created and approved by the Secretary to administer the Act, consisted of various members who are representatives of the cattle industry in the United States, including importers. Amounts recorded as accounts payable to Cattleman's Beef Promotion and Research Board at June 30, 2009 is \$5,517.

The program is financed exclusively by a \$1 per head assessment on sales of domestic and imported cattle and beef products. The assessments are remitted to the South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Beef Board. The Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board receives approximately one-half of assessment monies and the South Carolina Beef Board retains the remainder.

Annually the Board may make a contribution that is customarily approximately 10% of the Cattleman's Beef Promotion and Research Board annual assessment amount to the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (formerly the National Live Stock and Meat Board). For the current fiscal year the Board elected not to make a contribution.

Note 4. Risk Management

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Beef Board is exposed to various risks of loss and maintains State or commercial insurance coverage for known risks. Management believes such coverage is sufficient to preclude any significant uninsured losses to the South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Beef Board. The South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Beef Board has not had any claims in the past three years. There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage from coverage in the prior year. The South Carolina Department of Agriculture pays insurance premiums to certain State agencies and commercial insurers to cover risks that may occur in normal operations. The insurers promise to pay to or on behalf of the insured for covered premium losses sustained during the policy period in accord with the insurance policy and benefit program limits. Several State funds accumulate assets and the State itself assumes substantially all risks for the following:

1. Claims of covered employees for health and dental insurance benefits (Office of Insurance Services); and
2. Claims of covered public employees for long-term disability and group-life insurance benefits (Office of Insurance Services).

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEEF BOARD**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2009**

3. Claims of covered public employees for workers' compensation insurance benefits (State Accident Fund).
4. Claims of covered public employees for unemployment compensation insurance benefits (Employment Security Commission).

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture and other entities pay premiums to the State's Insurance Reserve Fund (IRF) which issues policies, accumulates assets to cover the risks of loss and pays claims incurred for covered losses related to the following Fund assets, activities, and/or events.

1. Personal property and equipment - Eighty percent of each loss is covered by the IRF. Losses are subject to a \$250 deductible.
2. Data processing equipment - Coverage is up to \$100,000 per loss with a \$250 deductible.
3. Torts

The IRF is a self-insurer and purchases reinsurance to obtain certain services and specialized coverage and to limit losses. The IRF's rates are determined actuarially.

State agencies are the primary participants in the State's Health and Disability Insurance Fund and in the IRF.

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture purchases insurance coverage for employee fidelity bond insurance coverage arising from theft or misappropriations. The policy has a \$1,000 deductible with a coverage limit of \$25,000.

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Beef Board has not recorded any estimated losses or expenditures related to the deductible or policy limits because there is no evidence of asset impairment or other information to indicate a loss should be recorded.

All payments for insurance to the IRF and for fidelity coverage are made by the Department and the Beef Board does not reimburse any of those expenses.

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEEF BOARD**

**FULL DOLLAR ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009**

Revenue

Assessments	\$ 183,127
Less, assessments remitted to other states	(16,042)
Less, assessments remitted to Cattleman's Beef Promotion and Research Board	<u>(83,541)</u>
Net assessment revenue	83,544

Expenditures

Promotion	18,143
Consumer Information	15,667
Industry Information	7,192
Producer Communication	9,282
Collections	3,000
Board meetings, per diem and travel	10,074
General Administration	<u>14,944</u>
Total expenditures	78,302

Excess of Revenue Over Expenditures	<u><u>\$ 5,242</u></u>
--	------------------------

**REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT
OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Mr. Richard H. Gilbert, Jr., CPA,
Deputy State Auditor
State of South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina

We have audited the balance sheet of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Beef Board ("the Board") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2009, and have issued our report thereon dated September 16, 2009. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Board's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified a deficiency in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be significant deficiency.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control. We consider the deficiencies described in the following two paragraphs to be a significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting.

The Auditing Standards Board (ASB) has issued guidance to auditors related to an entity's internal controls over financial reporting. The Beef Board relies on their auditor to prepare the annual financial statements including footnotes and to make journal entries to properly classify revenues and expenses and accrue year-end revenues and expenditures. These recently issued auditing standards emphasize that the auditor cannot be part of your system of internal control over financial reporting. In our judgment, management and those charged with governance need to understand the importance of this communication and determine ways to prepare the annual financial statements and to make all required adjustments to the records.

We discovered errors in the monthly assessment reports that the Board files with the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board. The Board misreported the amount of assessments received resulting in remitting excess funds to the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board. This occurred because the amount reported was not reconciled to the accounting records.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we believe that the significant deficiencies described above are material weaknesses.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Board's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards. Specifically, in connection with our audit, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that the Board failed to comply with the terms, in so far as they relate to accounting matters, of the Beef Promotion and Research Act of 1985 and the Beef Promotion and Research Order ("the Order") relative to the use of funds collected by the Board and with the terms described in Section 1220.228(a) of the Order relative to use of funds collected by the Board and with the terms described in Section 1260.181 (b)(7) of the Order relative to prohibited uses of funds collected. However, it should be noted that our audit was not directed primarily towards obtaining knowledge of such noncompliance.

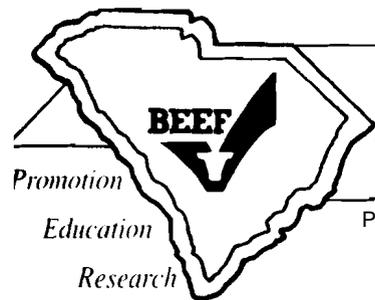
This report is intended solely for the information and use of the State Auditor, Commissioner and Management of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Beef Board and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Rogers Lalan, PA

September 16, 2009

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSE

APPENDIX A



South Carolina Beef Board

Post Office Box 11280/ Columbia, South Carolina 29211 / Telephone (803) 734-9806 / Fax (803) 734-9808

September 25, 2009

Rogers Laban, PA
P. O. Box 124
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

We are providing the following responses to the audit findings noted. Please call Carla Lindler at 803-734-2195 if you have any questions.

Financial Reporting - in past audits, these reports have been prepared by the audit firm. However, the risks associated with this process are understood. We will work with the accounting office in the future to prepare these reports to the best of our understanding and knowledge.

Errors in assessment reports filed with the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board - (Per Roy Copelan) State of Origin reports (Georgia, North Carolina, Kentucky and Tennessee) come in randomly (not every month). They are reported dollars to the month received (not month recorded). All states have reimbursable expenses. Therefore, accounting dollars will be off each month. We will review our procedures for remitting these reports and assessments and work to ensure these types of errors will be kept at a minimum if not avoided altogether.

Sincerely,

Roy Copelan