WILKES & COMPANY

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

TIMOTHY C. WILKES, CPA
W.M. McDOWELL, JR., CPA
BEN J. PEARMAN, CPA
CHERYL H. THIGPEN, CPA

COMPLIANCE LETTER

Mr. Thomas L. Wagner, Jr., CPA
State Auditor
South Carolina Office of the State Auditor
Columbia, South Carolina

We have audited the balance sheet of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Soybean Board special revenue fund for the year ended June 30, 2000, and the related statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance for the year then ended, and have issued our report dated September 25, 2000. Our audit was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements.

Compliance with the Soybean Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Act of (the "Act") 1990 and the Soybean Promotion and Research Order (the "Order") relative to the use of funds collected by the State Board and with the terms described in Section 1220.228(a) of the Order relative to prohibited uses of funds collected by the State Board, is the responsibility of the Board's management. As part of our audit, we assessed the risk that noncompliance with the Act and the Order as explained above, could cause the financial statements to be materially misstated. We concluded that the risk of such material misstatement was sufficiently low that it was not necessary to perform tests of the Board's compliance with the Act and the Order.

However, in connection with our audit, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that the South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Soybean Board has not complied, in all material respects, with the Act and the Order referred to in the preceding paragraph.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the directors and management of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture - Soybean Board, the United Soybean Board, and the United States Department of Agriculture; and should not be used for any other purpose.

Wilkes & Company

Columbia, South Carolina
September 25, 2000