WHEREAS, agriculture builds on centuries of progress by constantly seeking advances in science, research, technology, production, and marketing to meet the demands of changing consumer needs and complex world markets; and

WHEREAS, American agriculture helps feed the world, fuel’s our country’s economy, is the largest positive contributor to our nation’s net trade balance, and is South Carolina’s second largest industry, with cash receipts of more than $1.5 billion; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina farmers uphold the rural character of our nation as they join other American farmers in providing the most abundant and most affordable food and fiber supply in the world; and

WHEREAS, the stewardship of South Carolina’s farmers helps ensure a sustainable resource base for future generations; and

WHEREAS, a broad approach to agricultural education and increased agricultural literacy efforts are vital to ensuring that the agriculture industry in South Carolina and across the nation continues to flourish.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 16—22, 2003, as

SOUTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURE WEEK

and March 21, 2003, as

SOUTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURE DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize our farmers for their many contributions to our quality of life.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA