



November 1, 2023

Albert Perez  
Chair  
National Mango Board

Dear Mr. Perez:

Thank you in advance for your time. I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals—PETA entities have more than 9 million members and supporters worldwide—to let you know that today and on Wednesday, November 8, we're running the full-page ad shown below in the *Orlando Weekly*. In addition, a mobile billboard ad with the same message will circulate today near your headquarters. **Again, we urge the National Mango Board (NMB) to adopt a public policy against animal testing. Our suggested language is “The National Mango Board does not conduct, fund, or commission tests on animals unless explicitly required by law.”**



As you know, the NMB has funded several cruel and deadly tests on animals for the purpose of establishing human health claims for marketing mangoes,<sup>1</sup> using mandatory assessment fees from mango farmers. PETA has urged the NMB to establish a public policy banning the conducting, funding, and commissioning of animal tests since 2017. National advocacy groups for Black and other underserved farmers, including Family Agriculture Resource Management

<sup>1</sup>PETA. Animal Experiments Funded by the Research and Promotion Boards. n.d. Accessed November 1, 2023. <https://www.peta.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Animal-Experiments-Funded-by-the-Research-and-Promotion-Boards.pdf>

PEOPLE FOR  
THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT  
OF ANIMALS

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Entities

- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Switzerland
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)

Services and Farms to Grow,<sup>2</sup> and more than 104,000 concerned consumers<sup>3</sup> have also made this same plea. However, the NMB continues to drag its feet. Earlier this year, your organization issued an insufficient statement via a Google review reply, stating that “the National Mango Board (NMB) is not funding any research studies that involve animals and does not plan to do so in the future.”<sup>4</sup> However, the NMB refused to clarify whether it prohibits or allows the conducting and commissioning of animal testing, and its statement falls short of a prohibition on animal testing.

There has been progress on this issue from your peers. Specifically, after hearing from PETA and more than 85,000 of our supporters, the Hass Avocado Board established a public policy, unequivocally stating that it “does not support, fund, or conduct animal research.”<sup>5</sup> More than 170 major food and beverage manufacturers globally have also established policies against conducting, funding, and commissioning experiments on animals that are not explicitly required by law, after engaging in discussions with PETA.<sup>6</sup>

You can contact me directly at [FrancesC@peta.org](mailto:FrancesC@peta.org). Thank you for your consideration. I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely yours,



Frances Cheng, Ph.D.  
Chief Scientist, International Laboratory Methods  
Laboratory Investigations Department

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<sup>2</sup>PETA. National Black Farmers Groups and PETA: Stop Bloody Animal Tests, USDA! October 28, 2021.

Accessed November 1, 2023. <https://www.peta.org/features/usda-farmer-tax-funds-cruel-tests/>

<sup>3</sup>PETA. Animals Beheaded for Blueberries? USDA Farmer “Tax” Funds Cruel Tests. n.d. Accessed

November 1, 2023. <https://support.peta.org/page/22117/action/1>

<sup>4</sup>Google Business Review of the NMB. Accessed November 1, 2023.

[https://www.google.com/search?q=national+mango+board&sca\\_esv=574911510&rlz=1C1GCEJ\\_enUS846US846&sxsrf=AM9HkKlacCtC2iO2Iipv3MOPsJEXvXIgsQ%3A1697737859249&ei=g2wxZY\\_DDoj\\_ptQP6KS6gAo&ved=0ahUKEwjPkJaw1oKCAxWiv4kEHWiSDqAQ4dUDCBA&uact=5&oq=national+mango+board&gs\\_lp=Egxn3Mtd2l6LXNlcnAiFG5hdGlvmFsIG1hbmdvIGJvYXJkMgQQIXgnMgQQIXgnMg4QLhiKBRjHARivARiRAjIFEAAyGAQyBRAAGIAEMgUQABiABDIFEAAyGAQyBRAAGIAEMgYQABgWGB4yCBAAGBYHhgPSPEFUABYjwFwAHgBkAEAmAG-AaAB5AKqAQMwLjK4AQPIAQD4AQHiAwQYACBBiAYB&scient=gws-wiz-serp#lrd=0x88e7707524f9fac1:0x30fc010617b425a5.1](https://www.google.com/search?q=national+mango+board&sca_esv=574911510&rlz=1C1GCEJ_enUS846US846&sxsrf=AM9HkKlacCtC2iO2Iipv3MOPsJEXvXIgsQ%3A1697737859249&ei=g2wxZY_DDoj_ptQP6KS6gAo&ved=0ahUKEwjPkJaw1oKCAxWiv4kEHWiSDqAQ4dUDCBA&uact=5&oq=national+mango+board&gs_lp=Egxn3Mtd2l6LXNlcnAiFG5hdGlvmFsIG1hbmdvIGJvYXJkMgQQIXgnMgQQIXgnMg4QLhiKBRjHARivARiRAjIFEAAyGAQyBRAAGIAEMgUQABiABDIFEAAyGAQyBRAAGIAEMgYQABgWGB4yCBAAGBYHhgPSPEFUABYjwFwAHgBkAEAmAG-AaAB5AKqAQMwLjK4AQPIAQD4AQHiAwQYACBBiAYB&scient=gws-wiz-serp#lrd=0x88e7707524f9fac1:0x30fc010617b425a5.1)

<sup>5</sup>Avocado Nutrition Center. Research Grant Program. n.d. Accessed November 1, 2023.

<https://research.loveonetoday.com/research-grant-program/>

<sup>6</sup>PETA. Victory! Global Food Industry Ditches Deadly Animal Tests—See the List. n.d. Accessed

November 1, 2023. <https://www.peta.org/features/victories-food-drink-companies-refuse-animal-tests/>