



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE**

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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Tip Leads to Recovery of Stolen Tractor in Rankin County

JACKSON, Miss. – Following an investigation into a tip, the Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau (MALTB) and Rankin County Sheriff's Office recovered a Massey Ferguson tractor reported stolen at the end of October. MALTB received a tip about a tractor on November 29. After investigating the tip, investigators identified the tractor as the Massey Ferguson that was stolen in Rankin County. This investigation is ongoing. Anyone with additional information regarding this theft is asked to please contact MALTB or the Rankin County Sheriff's Office.

MALTB Director Dean Barnard commended MALTB and Rankin County investigators for their time and effort on this investigation. Director Barnard would also like to say a special thanks to the individual who called in the tip.

"Tips from the public can often provide key information needed in recovering stolen property. I want to thank the individual who came forward with information regarding this case, as well as Director Dean Barnard, Ag Theft investigators, and the Rankin County Sheriff's Office for their efforts in this ongoing investigation. I encourage anyone who may have information that can assist with this or other cases to give us a call," said Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson.

The Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau, a division of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, enforces state laws pertaining to the theft of cattle, horses, swine, poultry, fish, farm equipment, chemicals, timber and all other farm or agriculture-related crimes. Visit www.mdac.ms.gov/bureaus-departments/agricultural-livestock-theft-bureau/ to learn more about the MALTB. To report or provide information regarding an agricultural crime, call (800) 678-2660.

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