



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

ANDY GIPSON  
COMMISSIONER

# **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **MDAC to Host Farmers Market Manager Workshop Friday, March 31**

**JACKSON, Miss.** – The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce will host a workshop for farmers market managers, staff, volunteers and board members on Friday, March 31, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. inside the Sparkman Building at the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum, located at 1150 Lakeland Drive in Jackson.

“In recent years, we’ve seen a reinvigoration for locally sourced produce by consumers in our state and nation,” said Mississippi Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson. “Our farmers markets across the state have stepped up to provide a marketplace for both farmers and consumers, boosting local economies. I encourage anyone who is interested, and particularly any market managers and personnel, to take part in our upcoming workshop to learn how to grow and improve their local farmers markets.”

The purpose of this workshop is to provide farmers market leaders support with creating productive and effective marketing opportunities for small farmers and value-added food producers. Market specialists will be discussing the efficiency and sustainability of farmers markets around the South. Participants will hear information on farmers market metrics using the collection and utilization of data to improve their operations, in addition to learning how to improve community engagements for their farmers markets. Experts will be reviewing cottage foods and sales tax, as well as an overview of programs offered by the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

The registration fee to attend is \$15, which includes lunch. The deadline to register is Wednesday, March 29, 2023. The workshop will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude by 3:30 p.m.

For more information or to obtain a registration form, visit the ‘Alerts and Announcements’ section at [mdac.ms.gov](http://mdac.ms.gov), contact 601-359-1168 or email Purvie Green at [purvie@mdac.ms.gov](mailto:purvie@mdac.ms.gov).

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