



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

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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MALTB Investigators Recover Stolen Tractor in Yazoo County

JACKSON, Miss. – The Mississippi Agriculture and Livestock Theft Bureau (MALTB) recovered a stolen tractor, with an estimated value of \$78,334, in Yazoo County last week.

In March of 2021, the Yazoo City Police Department took an initial report of a stolen John Deere 6100 series tractor in Yazoo County. MALTB was asked to assist in the case. On November 26, 2023, MALTB received information that led investigators to Yazoo County. Based on the information received, MALTB investigators located and recovered the John Deere tractor in a rural area in Yazoo County on November 30, 2023. This is an open and ongoing criminal investigation.

MALTB Director Dean Barnard would like to commend the MALTB investigators who worked this case for their continued efforts to recover stolen equipment, as well as the anonymous caller who provided the information that led to this recovery.

“I am proud of the work our agency’s investigators have accomplished under Director Barnard,” said Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson. “Equipment like this tractor is an absolute necessity on a working farm. The Mississippi Agriculture and Livestock Theft Bureau continues to protect and serve Mississippi’s ag community. I encourage all our farmers, ranchers and producers across the state to take precautions to prevent the theft of personal livestock and equipment.”

The MALTB recommends:

- Never leaving keys inside equipment or machinery;
- Parking equipment so that it is not visible from the road;
- Taking pictures and recording the serial numbers of all equipment;
- Registering your livestock brand with the MALTB and branding livestock;
- Keeping gates locked; and
- Installing cameras around your property.

The Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau, the law enforcement 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.

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Photo attached.



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