



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

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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Ag Commissioner Andy Gipson Announces November 2024 Wild Hog Control Program Application Period

JACKSON, Miss. – Today, Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson announced that the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (MDAC) will begin accepting a new round of applications for its Wild Hog Control Program (WHCP) beginning Friday, November 1. The application period will close on Friday, November 15. All Mississippi counties are eligible for the application period.

Through the WHCP, MDAC provides “smart” wild hog traps to landowners and managers for the control of wild hogs on private agricultural and forestry lands in Mississippi. MDAC provides the training necessary to use the “smart” traps and technical guidance regarding the most effective methods to trap and control wild hogs on private lands.

“Trapping is the most effective means for managing wild hogs in our state,” said Commissioner Gipson. “These destructive animals cannot be managed effectively by hunting and incidental take alone. Even though the hunting season is upon us, and survey data indicates that deer hunters harvest more wild hogs than deer annually, wild hogs are still abundant across the state. I encourage anyone that has wild hogs on their property to apply for trapping equipment provided by our agency.”

Applications must be completed and submitted online at www.mdac.ms.gov/whcp. Submitted applications will be evaluated based on the number of acres available for trapping, historical agricultural losses caused by wild hogs on the property and current trapping efforts on the property. A cooperative application is encouraged for small acreage (i.e., adjoining land managers of small parcels should work together to submit one application). Traps will be available for one-month intervals, dependent upon use and success. One trap per 500 acres is recommended, depending on landscape and land use.

Visit www.mdac.ms.gov/whcp for program guidelines, application and additional information. Submit questions regarding the WHCP to Chris McDonald at chris@mdac.ms.gov.

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Photo attached.

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MDAC will be accepting a new round of applications for its Wild Hog Control Program Friday, November 1, through Friday, November 15. Pictured above: Large group (sounder) of wild hogs in Marion County being conditioned and baited for trapping.