

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE

ANDY GIPSON COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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MALTB Recovers Stolen Agricultural Equipment in Hinds County

JACKSON, Miss. – This week, the Mississippi Agriculture and Livestock Theft Bureau (MALTB) recovered a stolen Bobcat T870 skid steer in Hinds County.

On January 29, 2025, the Warren County Sheriff's Office took a report of a stolen Bobcat T870 skid steer. Investigators with the Mississippi Agriculture and Livestock Theft Bureau were asked to assist in the investigation. Working in conjunction with the Hinds County and Warren County Sheriff's Offices, the skid steer was located and recovered in a wooded area in rural Hinds County the next day.

MALTB Director Dean Barnard said, "I appreciate the continued partnership and support we receive from local law enforcement organizations around the state, and I want to thank the Hinds County Sheriff's Office and Warren County Sheriff's Office for their assistance on this case. The Mississippi Agriculture and Livestock Theft Bureau is dedicated to recovering stolen agricultural assets utilized by our farmers, ranchers and producers every day."

Director Barnard asks the public to continue to report any suspicious activity regarding agricultural theft crimes to the Mississippi Agriculture and Livestock Theft Bureau or a local law enforcement agency. Report theft to any of the following: Mississippi Agriculture & Livestock Theft Bureau by calling 1-800-678-2660, or the Central Mississippi Crime Stoppers by calling 601-355-TIPS (8477). All calls remain anonymous, and you could be eligible for a reward upon arrest and conviction.

The Mississippi Agriculture 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. Visit <u>http://msagtheft.org/</u> to learn more about the MALTB.



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Photo attached.



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