
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF
**AGRICULTURE
& COMMERCE**

ANNUAL
REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2025





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A Message from Commissioner Andy Gipson

This has been a very productive year at the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (MDAC). Our dedicated staff continue to work tirelessly on behalf of all Mississippians. As we often say, *the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce touches the daily lives of all Mississippians* - from the food on our tables to the integrity of our markets.

Families across our state continue to feel the impact of rising costs, and these pressures are felt by Mississippi's farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses. High input costs, market disruptions, and low commodity prices have placed many producers under significant strain. At a time when agriculture is facing serious challenges nationwide, MDAC's responsibility to protect consumers, support producers, and work with policymakers to advance sound, practical solutions is more important than ever.

To meet these challenges head-on, MDAC is developing the Future of Agriculture Resiliency for Mississippi (F.A.R.M.) Strategic Plan - a comprehensive, locally driven roadmap designed to strengthen Mississippi agriculture for the long term. The F.A.R.M. Plan will focus on actionable policies and initiatives that support producers, strengthen markets, protect natural resources, and enhance the quality of life in rural Mississippi communities. I believe this is the most significant initiative our agency has undertaken since I took office as Commissioner, because it looks beyond today's challenges and asks an essential question: *What will agriculture in Mississippi look like 10 to 20 years from now?* Through this process, we are helping shape that future.

MDAC also advanced efforts to strengthen Mississippi's food systems and local supply chains. Through programs such as Make Mississippi Healthy Again and the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure program, MDAC is working to expand access to fresh, healthy, and locally grown foods while investing in infrastructure that supports producers, processors, and communities. These initiatives highlight Mississippi farmers and producers as essential partners in ensuring our citizens have access to safe, affordable, and abundant food, while also building resilience across the entire food system.

I am proud of the work accomplished by MDAC, and I invite you to learn more in this Annual Report. As you read, I hope you gain a deeper understanding of the diverse role MDAC plays in supporting Mississippi agriculture, strengthening markets, and protecting consumers.

You can learn more about the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce by visiting our website at www.mdac.ms.gov.

Sincerely,



Andy Gipson, Commissioner



In addition to overseeing the responsibilities of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, duties of the Commissioner include leadership through service on the following boards:

- Mississippi Board of Animal Health
- Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Permit Board
- Mississippi Egg Marketing Board
- Mississippi Land, Water, and Timber Resources Board, Co-Chairman
- Mississippi Livestock Show
- Mississippi Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund, Board of Trustees (ex officio)
- State Seed Board
- State Soil & Water Conservation Committee



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & COMMERCE

Mission

The mission of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce is to support and apply necessary regulations to agricultural-related businesses within the state and to promote Mississippi's products throughout both the state and the rest of the world for the benefit of all Mississippi citizens.



Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce
121 North Jefferson Street
Jackson, MS 39201
601-359-1100

Mississippi Agriculture
and Forestry Museum
1150 Lakeland Drive
Jackson, MS 39216
601-432-4500

Bureau of
Plant Industry
705 Stone Blvd
Mississippi State,
MS 39762
662-325-3390

Mississippi Farmers
Market
929 High Street
Jackson, MS 39202
601-354-6573

Mississippi State
Fairgrounds
1207 Mississippi Street
Jackson, MS 39202
601-961-4000



@msdeptofag



@MSDeptofAg



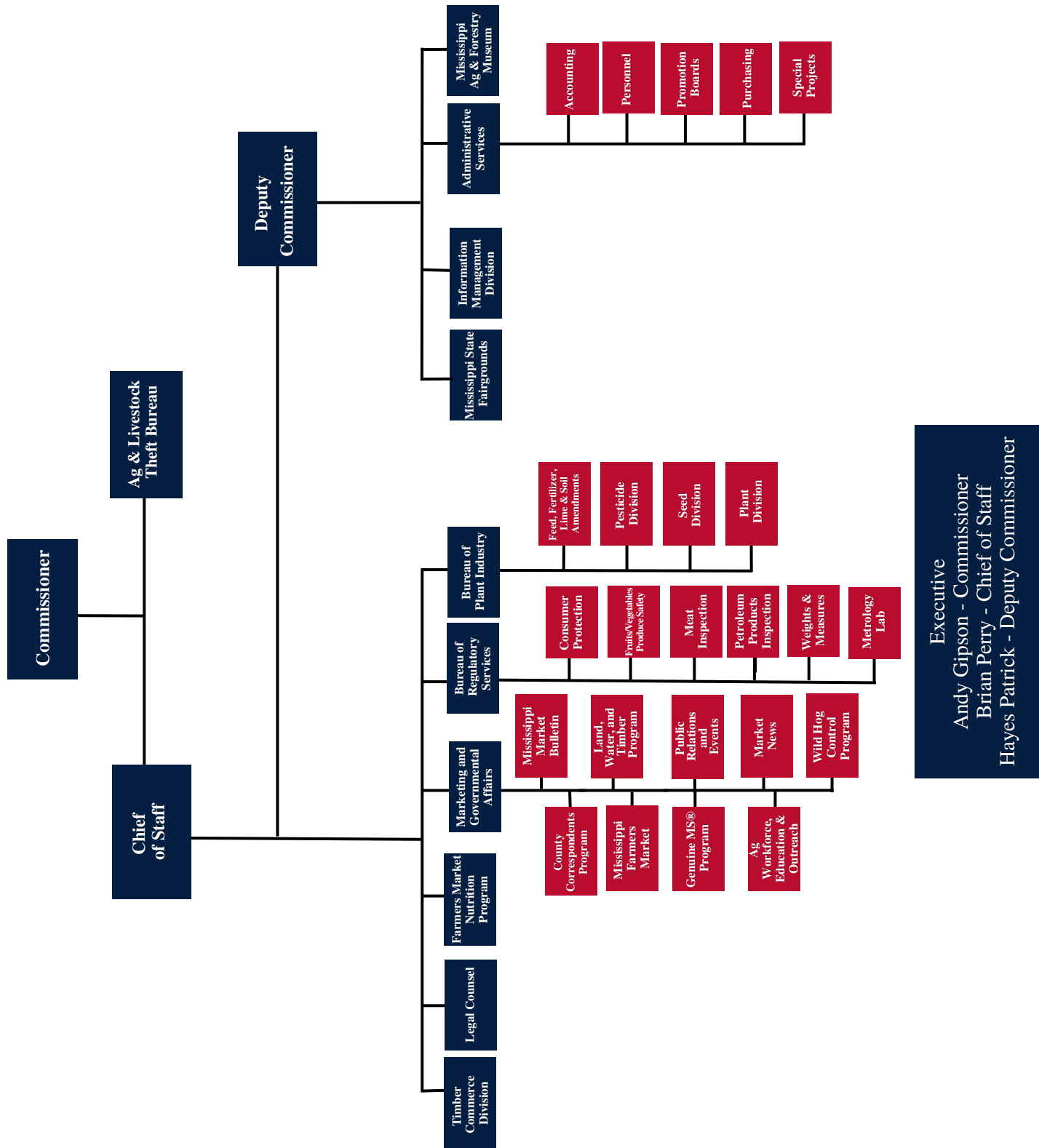
Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

Contact MDAC

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MDAC Organizational Chart



Mississippi Agriculture Industry Overview

\$9.51 Billion* of crops and commodities produced in Mississippi in 2025
*farm-gate value



FARMS

31,290 in Mississippi



ACREAGE

10.2 Million
farm acres
in Mississippi



CATFISH

Nation's #1 producer with
29,900 water acres in
production



EXPORTS

\$1.09 Billion of agricultural
exports



TAXES

Agriculture contributes \$7.92
Billion in business taxes

FOREST

19.2 Million forest acres
in Mississippi



NATIONALLY

Mississippi ranks in the top
25 nationally in 14 ag
commodities



WORKFORCE

11.4% of the state's workforce is
employed in a job directly or
indirectly related to agriculture



WAGES

Agriculture accounts for \$1.17
Billion in direct wages and
\$19.46 Billion in total wages



OUTPUT

Agriculture provides \$7.02 Billion
in direct output and \$77.08 Billion
in indirect output



Mississippi Top 10

Mississippi's Top Commodities Based on Cash Receipts



1. Broilers
\$3.38 Billion



6. Cotton
\$333 Million



2. Forestry
\$1.47 Billion



7. Catfish
\$195.9 Million



3. Soybeans
\$1.02 Billion



8. Hay
\$186.3 Million



4. Cattle
\$743.6 Million



9. Rice
\$124.9 Million



5. Corn
\$619 Million



10. Specialty Crops
\$116.5 Million

Mississippi Ag Exports

Top Trading Partners

1. Vietnam
2. Mexico
3. Canada
4. Pakistan
5. Japan

Top Traded Commodities

1. Cotton
\$512.9 Million
2. Forest Products
\$215.3 Million
3. Poultry Meat & Meat Products
\$205.2 Million
4. Other Feeds & Fodders
\$30.8 Million
5. Seafood Products
\$29.4 Million

\$1.09 Billion total value of Mississippi exports in 2025

Sources: Mississippi State University (2025 Data); USDA-Foreign Agricultural Service, Global Agricultural Trade System Online; (2024 Trade Data); Feeding the Economy (2025 Report); USDA Forest Service, Mississippi State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet (2025)

Executive Summary

MDAC FY 2025 Annual Report (July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025)

State law tasks the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (MDAC) to promote agriculture; to manage invasive species; to register and regulate pesticides, seeds and fertilizers; to ensure a fair marketplace in pricing and commercial scales; to inspect motor fuel; to protect the public's food supply; and to engage in additional state and federal regulatory roles. The mission of MDAC is to support and apply necessary regulations to agricultural-related businesses within the state and to promote Mississippi's products throughout both the state and the rest of the world for the benefit of all Mississippi citizens.

MDAC impacts the daily lives of all Mississippians. The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce ensures equity in the consumer marketplace by inspecting petroleum pumps at gas stations, checking food labels in grocery stores and retail establishments, and inspecting scales at grocery stores, truck stops, stockyards, and railways. It supports the state's ag producers by promoting Mississippi products and developing marketing opportunities for these products. It protects farmers, ranchers, and ag producers statewide by investigating agriculture-related thefts and enforcing laws pertaining to agribusiness and livestock brands. During the past year alone, MDAC's Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau (MALTB) investigated 343 cases with a reported value of over \$5,362,071 and recovered \$2,301,240 in stolen property. Through the efforts of the MALTB, Mississippians recouped livestock, farm equipment, and timber profits illegally acquired from private lands.

MDAC's Bureau of Plant Industry and Bureau of Regulatory Services conducted inspections statewide to ensure compliance with state and federal laws. MDAC inspectors responded to consumer complaints, resulting in corrective action, education, and a return to compliance. MDAC registered 15,527 pesticide products for sale; conducted 23,860 tests on seeds; inspected 62,186 petroleum devices; tested 12,389 active weighing devices and scales; issued more over 2,100 retail food establishment licenses; and inspected 30 million pounds of red meat and 52 million pounds of poultry this fiscal year.

The agency's Marketing and Governmental Affairs division distributed more than \$3 million through grant funds provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The Marketing and Governmental Affairs Division also implements several promotional programs specifically designed to increase awareness of Mississippi's ag products and agricultural-related businesses. International trade, agritourism and farmers market registries, livestock and grain market news, online market portals, and other outreach efforts remain a focus for the agency. Part of these efforts include expanding the Genuine MS® program and publishing the *Mississippi Market Bulletin*.

Working closely with each division at MDAC, the Information Management Division (IMD) plays a critical role by both providing technical support to agency employees and data and information to the public. Through online webpages, social media applications, and drone and photography services, IMD ensures important information is readily available to the public on behalf of the agency and its branches including the Mississippi State Fairgrounds and Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum. This vital service provides a direct line of communication between the consumer and local farmer to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce's 248 employees work from offices located in Jackson, Mississippi State University, Alcorn State University, Biloxi, and on-the-road to promote Mississippi agriculture and protect Mississippi's markets to ensure fair commerce.

Marketing and Governmental Affairs

The Marketing and Governmental Affairs Division promotes Mississippi agriculture and the state's agricultural products across the state, nation, and world while working with policymakers and stakeholders on key issues impacting Mississippi agriculture and the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

In 2025, the Market Development Division became the Marketing and Governmental Affairs Division after merging the marketing efforts and program areas pertaining to state, federal, and environmental issues along with the Wild Hog Control Program and Agriculture Workforce, Education, Outreach, and Development.

The Marketing and Governmental Affairs Division is dedicated to promoting Mississippi's agricultural commodities and the farmers and ranchers who produce them. The main purpose of the Division's outreach efforts is to educate the public about agriculture. This is accomplished through participation in trade shows, fairs, international trade, presentations to schools and civic organizations, promotion of local farmers markets, connecting with other agricultural organizations or commodity groups, and various other communication outlets. The Division's marketing efforts consists of three main program areas: communications/outreach, market development programs, and grants and cost-share programs.

Communications/Outreach

The Marketing and Governmental Affairs Division serves as the communications and outreach arm of the Department and is responsible for media and public relations. Communication to the public is achieved through social media, press releases, videos, and various publications, including the *Mississippi Market Bulletin*, *Mississippi Agriculture* magazine, the MDAC Ag Matters e-newsletter, Upcoming Events e-newsletter, and Livestock and Grain Marketing News.

The Marketing and Governmental Affairs Division publishes the *Mississippi Market Bulletin*, a buy/sell newspaper for farmers to advertise farm and agricultural items such as equipment, land, and livestock. The *Mississippi Market Bulletin* is a bi-monthly publication, published on the 1st and 15th of each month, with a circulation of approximately 25,000 in-state and out-of-state subscribers. The Division partners with Farm Flavor Media to publish and distribute 15,000 copies of *Mississippi Agriculture*, an annual magazine that tells the stories of Mississippi's agriculture industry to educate the public on the importance of the state's largest industry. MDAC publishes a monthly e-newsletter, *MDAC Ag Matters*, to inform the public of happenings within the Department and the agriculture industry as well as an e-newsletter with upcoming agricultural events for producers.

Livestock and Grain Market News reports are released daily through a federal/state cooperative agreement with USDA. Eight cross-trained Mississippi Board of Animal Health personnel report prices from fourteen livestock auction markets. Prices collected from the fourteen auctions represent 85 percent of all the livestock markets throughout the state. Livestock and grain pricing is collected and disseminated through the USDA and MDAC websites and the radio five days a week. These prices are used by lending institutions, university agricultural economists, consultants, and livestock associations.



Marketing and Governmental Affairs

Continued

Marketing Development Programs

The primary focus of the Marketing and Governmental Affairs Division is the promotion of Mississippi agricultural products statewide, nationwide, and worldwide, to increase the purchase and consumption of products that are grown, raised, crafted, and made in the state. MDAC administers several programs that promote and create marketing opportunities for Mississippi's agricultural products.

Make Mississippi Healthy Again

Make Mississippi Healthy Again is an initiative launched by Commissioner Andy Gipson in FY2025 to support and expand upon the Trump Administration's Make America Healthy Again Executive Order. This statewide initiative is focused on strengthening Mississippi's food systems by increasing access to fresh, healthy, and locally grown foods across all communities. Make Mississippi Healthy Again incorporates farm tours as part of the strategy to highlight the nutritious foods grown by farmers across the state. Videos from the farm tours and resources for finding local farmers can be found at [MakeMSHealthyAgain.com](https://www.makeMSHealthyAgain.com). Additional resources are being added to the website continually.

Mississippi Farm Marketplace

The Mississippi Farm Marketplace is an online market portal that gives farmers a place to list commodities they have for sale, while providing consumers a location to easily source local products. The portal can be accessed at [MSFarmMarketplace.com](https://www.MSFarmMarketplace.com), where commodities such as produce, meats, dairy products, honey, live animals for custom slaughter, eggs, aquaculture, seafood, and horticulture products can be located. The portal also contains a listing of available on-farm jobs.

Certified Farmers Market Program

MDAC administers the Certified Farmers Market Program to promote farmers markets in the state with Mississippi farmers selling Mississippi produce and other agricultural products. MDAC certified 36 markets in FY 2025. MDAC hosted 90 farmers market managers, main street associates, and others at the annual Farmers Market Manager Workshop to network and discuss pertinent farmers market issues and solutions. MDAC also held a "Mississippi Farmers Market" week in July 2024 to celebrate and promote farmers markets across the state. This included a proclamation signed by Governor Tate Reeves, a social media campaign, and a press conference at the Mississippi Farmers Market.

Agritourism Limited Liability Registration Program

MDAC's Agritourism Limited Liability Registration Program provides limited liability and promotion to farms engaged in agritourism activities. MDAC registered 103 agritourism operations in FY 2025. In 2025, the Mississippi Legislature (HB 1295) enhanced protections for registered Mississippi agritourism operations.

Native Plant Month

Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. §3-3-69, April is designated as Mississippi Native Plant Month in order to preserve the heritage and importance of native plants for clean air, water, and soil stability. In April 2025, MDAC implemented a social media campaign to create public awareness. MDAC also collaborated with the Garden Club of Jackson and the Mississippi Farmers Market in the month of April to provide educational information on native plants to market shoppers.

Centennial Farm Family Program

The Centennial Farm Family Program was established in 1976 by the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, in cooperation with the Bicentennial Commission, the Governor's Office, and the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation. This program is designed to honor those families who have continuously operated a farm or ranch for 100 years or more. It is an ongoing effort to identify and salute those families who have worked and sacrificed to build the legacy of owning/holding their farms for a century. Families qualifying for the honor are awarded a certificate signed by the Governor, Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce, and President of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation. Since its creation, 277 farms have registered with the Centennial Farm Family Program. In FY 2025, 10 new farms registered with the program and were awarded certificates.

Marketing and Governmental Affairs

Continued

International Trade

MDAC creates international marketing opportunities for Mississippi's farmers and agribusinesses through meetings with international delegations, participation in trade activities, and program offerings through the Southern U.S. Trade Association (SUSTA). MDAC collaborates with other state and federal agencies to deliver accurate information to companies interested in exporting through site visits, seminars, research, and providing potential trade leads and opportunities.

Commissioner Gipson participated in the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) Trade Mission to Panama to promote Mississippi's agricultural commodities. MDAC staff also participated in the USDA Trade Mission to Colombia in FY 2025, in addition to meetings with the Consul General of Canada to discuss potential trade opportunities.

MDAC staff met with U.S. Department of State Mandela Washington Fellowship program attendees organized through Jackson State University. Representatives from Ghana and Sierra Leone engaged in discussions about Mississippi's unique and diverse agriculture industry.

MDAC staff serve as liaisons for SUSTA to promote opportunities available for Mississippi agriculture and value-added products, in addition to serving as activity managers for trade shows and missions. MDAC staff assisted in coordinating the ATO New Product Showcase and FOODEX Japan, both held in Tokyo, Japan. In addition, MDAC staff coordinated the SUSTA pavilion at the Summer Fancy Food Show in New York City. Four Mississippi companies participated in SUSTA's cost-share program to explore new markets. Seven Mississippi companies participated in SUSTA's global event activities.



Grants and Cost-Share Programs

The Marketing and Governmental Affairs Division offers grant and cost-share programs to assist farmers and agribusinesses. Funding for these programs is made available through USDA rather than state funds.

Specialty Crop Block Grant

Through the USDA Specialty Crop Block Program, MDAC was awarded \$422,993.37 in funding to enhance the state's specialty crop industry. MDAC awarded eight university-led research projects in areas specifically related to sweet potatoes, honeybees, tomatoes, melons, and various other fruit and vegetable crops. MDAC has 52 projects currently ongoing.



In March 2025, MDAC celebrated National Ag Day on the Mississippi State Capitol grounds by planting the first-ever State Blueberry Orchard in honor of Mississippi's state fruit. MDAC was joined by the students who pushed for the blueberry to become the state fruit while they were at Mannsdale Upper Elementary School.

Marketing and Governmental Affairs

Continued

GAP/GHP Cost-Share Program

MDAC administers the Good Agricultural Practices/Good Handling Practices (GAP/GHP) Cost-Share Program. This program reimburses farmers 75 percent, up to \$750, of the cost incurred to obtain the GAP/GHP food safety certification. MDAC granted 13 reimbursements. This program is funded by the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program.

Organic Cost-Share Program

MDAC offers the National Organic Certification Cost-Share Program which reimburses farmers 75 percent, up to \$750, of the costs incurred to obtain the certification. MDAC did not receive any applications for the Organic Cost-Share assistance in FY 2025. This program is funded through the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service.

Growing Lunch School Garden Grant Program

MDAC continued the successful Growing Lunch School Garden Grant Program funded through the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. This program provides grants in an amount up to \$500 to schools interested in planting a school garden. MDAC awarded 10 school garden grants during FY 2025. MDAC has awarded 103 grants since 2014 when the program was established.

Let's Plant Community Garden Grant

MDAC continued the Let's Plant Community Garden Grant Program funded through the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program for communities interested in creating or expanding a community garden. MDAC awarded 17 community garden grants in FY 2025. MDAC has awarded 27 community garden grants since 2022.

Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program

MDAC administers the Local Food Purchase Assistance Program funded by USDA. Through this initiative, food is procured from local farmers and food producers, including socially disadvantaged farmers and processors, and distributed to underserved communities throughout the state. MDAC has partnered with the Mississippi Food Network, Feeding the Gulf Coast, and Mid-South Food Bank, three Feeding America affiliated food banks, to procure and distribute the local food through their networks of existing and new agency partners. In FY 2025, food purchases from 26 farmers and farmer cooperatives valuing \$2,337,136.60 were distributed through this program.

Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program

MDAC was awarded \$6.2 million through a cooperative agreement with USDA to administer the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Program for the State of Mississippi in 2023. Through the RFSI Program, MDAC has made available more than \$5.8 million in funding to build resilience in the middle-of-the-supply chain and strengthen local food systems. MDAC allocated funds for Equipment-Only grant projects and Infrastructure grant projects. In FY 2025, the 42 Equipment-Only projects and the seven Infrastructure projects approved by USDA began the implementation phase. The scope of work for many of the projects include the purchasing of delivery trucks, installation of processing equipment, and increasing cold storage to enhance the middle-of-the-supply chain. In FY 2025, the type of agriculture industries that this supported were catfish, pecans, produce, blueberries, and sweet potatoes. MDAC reimbursed expenses totaling \$2,176,503.63 for the projects.

- Funds awarded to universities to promote the specialty crop industry: \$422,993.37 to implement 8 projects.
- Farms/Agribusinesses assisted through Market Development Programs/Activities:
 - Agritourism Limited Liability Program: 103
 - School and Community Gardens: 27
 - Farmers Market Certification Program: 36
 - GAP/GHP Cost Share Program: 13
 - Specialty Crop Block Grant Program Projects: 52
 - Attendees of Farmers Market Manager Workshops: 96
 - Certificates of Free Sale issued: 71 to 9 companies

Director
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Genuine MS® Program

Genuine MS® identifies and promotes products proudly created or produced by Mississippi farmers, artisans, entrepreneurs, and manufacturers.

The purpose of the Genuine MS® program is to increase public awareness of Mississippi's farm, food, crafted, and fabricated products. The website, GenuineMS.com, serves as a centralized location featuring members' products, while connecting consumers across the globe with the people and places that grow, raise, craft, and make Genuine MS® products. The program provides a platform for members to share their unique stories in an effort to increase consumer awareness of their products. Genuine MS® shows state pride and keeps the economy strong.

GENUINE MS®

There are four classifications of membership determined by members' products in the Genuine MS® program — Grown, Raised, Crafted, and Made. The Genuine MS® Grown classification consists of farmers who grow everything from produce, nuts, and row crops to horticulture and timber in Mississippi. The Genuine MS® Raised classification consists of farmers, ranchers, and aquaculturists with animals and aquaculture products raised in Mississippi or those selling products from animals and aquaculture products raised in Mississippi. The Genuine MS® Crafted classification consists of craftspeople whose products are hand-created in Mississippi from agricultural products, which includes specialty foods and beverages and pet or artisan products. The Genuine MS® Made classification consists of manufacturers whose products are 51 percent or more manufactured in Mississippi to benefit agriculture.



In FY 2025, Genuine MS® continued to strengthen its impact across Mississippi through expanded membership, increased retail participation, and enhanced statewide outreach. The program's focus on growth in membership and producer engagement resulted in measurable progress across all areas.

The Genuine MS® Pop-Up Store participated in six major Mid-South events, including the Mid-South Farm & Gin Show in Memphis, the Ag and Outdoor Expo, the Mississippi State Fair, the Dixie National Rodeo, and Mistletoe Marketplace, among others. Each event provided valuable opportunities to showcase Mississippi products, recruit new members, and strengthen consumer awareness of the Genuine MS® brand.

Genuine MS® Program Continued

The Genuine MS® Store, located in the Mississippi Farmers Market, has continued to experience steady growth in both participation and product diversity. More than 60 members now supply over 850 products, reflecting the wide range of goods Grown, Raised, Crafted, and Made in Mississippi. FY 2025 was a particularly strong year for retail expansion, with over \$2,000 in corporate baskets fulfilled, demonstrating increased demand for locally sourced, Mississippi-made gifts.

In FY 2025, the Genuine MS® program expanded its digital presence through a refreshed social media strategy focused on collaboration, storytelling, and community engagement. Building upon our foundation of consistent, data-driven posting, we introduced the “New Member Monday” campaign—an initiative designed to spotlight new members, strengthen statewide connections, and enhance both member and program visibility. This campaign not only increased the quantity of member-related posts but also fostered valuable collaboration opportunities, allowing producers and small businesses to engage directly with Genuine MS® content and audiences. The result was a measurable rise in impressions (323,000), reach (278,000), and engagement (13,900), paired with a stronger sense of partnership among members.

Genuine MS® takes great pride in the relationships that have been cultivated with producers throughout the state. As the program has expanded, Regional County Correspondents have been trained to facilitate local engagement, strengthen member support, and represent the program at expos, conventions, and community events within their regions. In FY 2025, through this network, Genuine MS® participated in 29 events statewide.

Genuine MS® continues to execute a strategic social media plan emphasizing video content that strengthens member relationships and fosters mutually beneficial partnerships to showcase the best of Mississippi Grown, Raised, Crafted, and Made. By maintaining a consistent posting schedule, the Genuine MS® program tracks quantitative metrics such as reach, impressions, and engagement rates (likes, comments, and shares) while gathering qualitative insights through audience interactions and member feedback, ensuring its content effectively highlights the program's value.

- Genuine MS® Active Members: 320
- Genuine MS® grossed over \$73,000 in sales at the retail and pop-up stores.
- The Genuine MS® Pop-Up Store at the Dixie National Rodeo had a record year with a growth in sales of 83%.
- Genuine MS® continues to stay active in promoting the brand across the state. The program participated in an average of 2.5 events per month such as expos, conventions, or tradeshows.



@genuinems



@genuinems



Genuine MS

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Mississippi Farmers Market

The Mississippi Farmers Market provides a location for Mississippi farmers to sell their locally-grown and produced agricultural products direct to the public.

The Mississippi Legislature created the Mississippi Farmers Market to provide a facility for the efficient handling of farm products in the interest of the farmer, consumer, general public, and the State of Mississippi. The 18,000-square foot facility serves as a central location for farmers, specialty food makers, and local artisans to sell their agricultural goods and wares. The Market provides farmers with additional marketing opportunities, while increasing consumers' access to fruits, vegetables, and other farm-raised products. The Mississippi Farmers Market is open on Saturdays year-round and Thursdays during the peak produce season.

The Mississippi Farmers Market participates in two USDA Farmers Market Nutrition Programs: the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program and the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program. These programs provide card benefits to eligible WIC participants and senior citizens to shop at the Market.

The Mississippi Farmers Market offers a café which provides breakfast and lunch six days a week. The Market serves as the location of the Genuine MS® Store which is open five days a week. The Farmers Market is rented for private events.

- Vendors certified to sell at market: 70
- Average number of vendors weekly: 43
- Number of seasonal events hosted: 9
- Shoppers: 45,000 annually



@msfarmersmarket



@msfarmersmarket



Mississippi Farmers Market

Manager
Jonathan McCraw
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County Correspondents Program



MDAC County Correspondents Program



The program is divided into five regions. Each region has one MDAC representative that provides status updates to the central office in Jackson.

The County Correspondents Program ensures the flow of information on current issues to and from the agency and local farmers in each county in a timely manner. The program designates farmers from every Mississippi county to serve as County Correspondents. Each correspondent communicates with MDAC on issues affecting their local jurisdiction.

An MDAC Representative is assigned to each of the five county correspondent regions. The assigned representative works closely with the 98 County Correspondents within their region. Representatives attended 28 events in conjunction with the County Correspondents Program.

In FY 2025, the County Correspondent Program began expanding its impact by taking on responsibilities under the Genuine MS® program. This strategic shift enhances MDAC's ability to engage with local communities, spotlight regional producers, and share meaningful stories from across the state - while continuing the program's long-standing mission.

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Agriculture Workforce Education, Outreach, and Development

Agriculture Workforce Education, Outreach, and Development works with schools and universities, agriculture organizations, and government partners to grow the agricultural workforce and connect it to employers.

The Agriculture Workforce Education, Outreach, and Development Program assists the agriculture industry in meeting employment demands of Mississippi's agriculture workforce and creates a pipeline of quality educational and training opportunities for high school and college students pursuing a career in agriculture. The program partners with Mississippi agribusinesses, industries, agricultural youth development organizations, and educational institutions to increase the number of qualified applicants for agricultural jobs. The MDAC internship program is also facilitated through this program.

Mississippi Agriculture Youth Council

The fourth cohort of the Mississippi Agriculture Youth Council concluded, comprised of 14 high school seniors from across the state, and the fifth group of 14 members was selected for the 2025-2026 year. The council members had an opportunity to volunteer at various MDAC events, tour a variety of agricultural businesses, and learn about advocacy, communications, and the legislative process related to Mississippi's agriculture industry.



MDAC Internship Program

The MDAC Internship Program employed seven interns in FY 2025 to work in various areas throughout the Department. The program also welcomed the addition of Byron Lopez, who serves as this year's FFA State President. The FFA internship program brings a Mississippi FFA State Officer to work in the Department, filling various roles during the entire school year from August to May.



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MDAC Internship Director
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Wild Hog Control Program

Through the Wild Hog Control Program (WHCP), the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce offers wild hog traps to land managers for the control of wild hogs on private agricultural and forestry lands in Mississippi.

In Mississippi, wild hogs are defined as “nuisance animals” by state law. They are non-native animals that cost farmers and landowners over \$60 million annually across the state and at least \$1.5 billion annually across the United States. Wild hogs cause substantial damage to row crops, pastures, and forestlands; carry harmful diseases; and eat the eggs and young of many wildlife species. To aid in the battle against these destructive animals, the Mississippi Legislature passed legislation in 2020 that authorized MDAC to operate programs to fight nuisance wildlife species on private agricultural and forestry land. As a result, MDAC’s Wild Hog Control Program was created.

The WHCP originally began in 2020 as a trap loan program in which MDAC provided “smart” traps to farmers and land managers for trapping wild hogs on private agricultural and forestry lands. Funding was limited to get the program started. However, the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation and the Mississippi Pork Producers Association provided key support for acquisition of traps to initiate the program. Today under the WHCP umbrella, MDAC has 36 “smart” traps available to private land managers across the state. MDAC provides the training necessary to use the traps and technical guidance regarding the most effective methods to trap and control wild hogs. To participate in the trap loan program, applications must be completed and submitted online at mdac.ms.gov/whcp. Submitted applications are 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 are available for one-month intervals, dependent upon use and success. One trap per 500 acres is recommended, depending on landscape and land use. Trap application periods occur annually during February, May, August, and November.

Due to the demand and success regarding the WHCP, the program was expanded in 2022 through a partnership among MDAC, Mississippi Future Farmers of America (FFA), and Wildlife Dominion Management, LLC (the manufacturer of HogEye Camera Systems). This partnership created the WHCP Youth Trapping Corps (YTC). The purpose of the YTC is to educate and professionally develop youth members of agriculture-based organizations, such as FFA, in relation to the impact and management of wild hogs at the farm, county, and state level. Students that participate in the YTC provide wild hog trapping services to local land managers while supporting their local FFA chapter. While the concept and plan for the YTC was great, implementation of the program stagnated due to limited funding. That changed for the better in 2023.

In 2023, MDAC received a federal grant to support and expand the WHCP. Through the grant, MDAC sub-awarded a total of \$656,000 to 20 FFA Chapters across Mississippi. The sub-awards were used by the FFA Chapters to purchase traps, trapping supplies, and equipment to construct their own traps. Two additional chapters participated in the program, bringing the total to 22 FFA chapters actively trapping wild hogs.



Wild Hog Control Program Continued

Since the inception of the WHCP in 2020, MDAC has been responsible for adding more than 100 wild hog traps to the Mississippi landscape and prevented thousands of wild hogs from causing damage to farms and natural resources. The WHCP would not have been possible without support from the State Legislature, Congress, and Mississippi agricultural associations. MDAC will continue to monitor the number of wild hogs captured during programmatic activities and will continue to provide technical guidance regarding the most effective methods to trap and control wild hogs.

- Application periods opened to the public for submission of trap applications: 4
- Partnered with the MDAC Wild Hog Control Program, along with Wildlife Dominion to continue the Mississippi Youth Trapping Corps.
- Traps available for landowners: 36 for each application period.
- Wild hogs captured: 901 on 42 properties in 27 counties.
- WHCP staff provided information regarding wild hog management at various public meetings and events across the state.

Director
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Sounder captured in Marion County.



Sounder captured in Claiborne County.

Farmers Market Nutrition Program

Farmers Market Nutrition Programs provide benefits for eligible individuals to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables which increases access to healthy produce, while creating marketing opportunities for farmers.

The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce coordinates two USDA-funded supplemental nutrition programs that benefit fruit and vegetable growers and eligible Women, Infants, and Children's (WIC) program participants and low-income senior citizens in select communities of Mississippi. The WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) and the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program provide benefits in the form of benefit cards for nutritionally at-risk Mississippi residents to redeem at authorized farmers markets in the state.

- Farmers markets participating in the WIC and Seniors FMNP: 29 farmers markets and 2 farm stands
- Farmers participating in the FMNP: 200
- Low-income Mississippi residents receiving FMNP (WIC and Senior) checks to redeem at participating farmers markets: 8,337
- Value of vouchers redeemed in both programs: \$138,939



Mississippi Senior FMNP Card at a Market



The Oxford, Jackson, and Batesville Farmers Market are a few of the markets that participate in the WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Programs.

Director
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Timber Commerce

The Timber Commerce Division actively engages with state agencies and the private sector to promote the Mississippi timber industry domestically and internationally. The Timber Commerce Division works with experts on infrastructure, supply chain, and transportation solutions to benefit the timber industry.

The Timber Commerce Division was established in 2018 to promote the timber industry. The Mississippi Timber website, <https://timber.mdac.ms.gov>, continues to serve as a significant resource with comprehensive data for the timber industry, including buyers and sellers. Its purpose is to highlight Mississippi's timber industry with information utilizing reliable data sources. It has proven to be a valuable tool for research, education, economic development, and for marketing Mississippi's timber resources.

In 2025, the Timber Commerce Division toured two facilities: the Hinds Community College Logging Equipment Operator Academy and the Chad Stocks Regional Maritime Training Center in Vicksburg, MS. The Logging Equipment Operator Academy provides students with hands-on experience with logging equipment. Chad Stocks Regional Maritime Training Center provides training for professional jobs in the maritime industry. These programs provide career training that supports the backbone of the timber and trade industries. The jobs provide real income and life-changing opportunities for generations to come.

MDAC's Timber Commerce Division maintains relationships with contacts and is working on a number of opportunities for Mississippi's timber industry. Mississippi has increased international wood trade from 72 countries to 85 countries with the sales exceeding \$850 million from 2024 to 2025.



Deputy Bureau Director
Ginger Williamson
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- Timber Commerce Division organized sawmill tours for the MDAC's Agriculture Youth Council.
- Mississippi Timber Booklet was updated in FY 2025.
- Timber Commerce Liaison, Ginger Williamson, spoke at the Inland Rivers, Ports, and Terminals (IRPT) Annual Convention, Simpson County Forestry Association, and Hinds Community College.

Agriculture and Livestock Theft Bureau

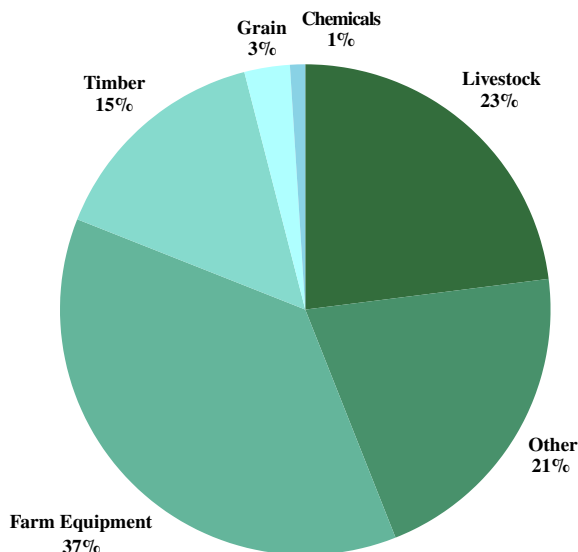
The Mississippi Agriculture and Livestock Theft Bureau assists in the investigation of farm and agriculture-related crimes.

The Mississippi Agriculture and Livestock Theft Bureau (MALTB) enforces all state laws pertaining to the theft of cattle, horses, swine, poultry, fish, farm equipment, chemicals, timber, and other farm or agriculture-related crimes. The Bureau consists of 12 investigators. The Bureau is also responsible for the investigation and prosecution of all persons who violate any of the laws administered by the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

In addition to its law enforcement function, MALTB maintains registration of all livestock brands. Branding is not required for livestock in Mississippi. However, if livestock are branded, the brand must be registered. The brands are recorded for a five-year period at a cost of five dollars. Registered brands are kept in a regularly updated document that is distributed to law enforcement members throughout the state.



Percentage Distribution of Dollar Value of Reported Crimes



- Cases investigated: 343 cases with reported property value of \$5,362,071
- Cases resolved: 158 cases with recovered property value of \$2,301,240
- Recovery rate: 43%
- Brands issued: 1,520 brands which generated approximately \$7,600 over a five year period

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A recovered Piper Archer II airplane that was stolen from the Indianola Airport in Sunflower County.



Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum

The Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum tells the story of Mississippi's agricultural history through indoor and outdoor exhibits and events.

The mission of the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum is to create an environment that communicates the value of past and present Mississippi agricultural lifestyles, relationships, and practices and their relevance to the future of all people. The Museum consists of multiple exhibits including Small Town, Mississippi, a train exhibit featuring several gauges of trains, and a nature trail. The Fortenberry-Parkman Farmstead, a designated Mississippi Landmark dating back to 1860, includes many of the original buildings from a farmstead once located in Jefferson Davis County. The Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum is home to the Bisland Cotton Gin (America's oldest working cotton gin) and the National Agricultural Aviation Museum.

Highlight of Annual Events

Pumpkin Adventure - October 2-5, 9-12, & 16-19, 2024

Attendance: 7,282

- This event included a hayride, tour of gardens and Small Town, Mississippi, a walk around the Museum, two corn pits, a complementary pumpkin, and a snack of cookies and milk.

Harvest Festival - November 5-9, 2024

Attendance: 5,772

- This educational event consisted of demonstrations at the sawmill, cane mill, print shop, blacksmith shop, and grist mill. The Bisland Cotton Gin ginned multiple bales of cotton for visitors. The event also featured hit-and-miss engines, bluegrass music, antique tractors, and live demonstrations by interpreters at the Fortenberry-Parkman Farmstead.

Homestead for the Holidays - December 12-13, 2024

Attendance: 1,004

- This event was sponsored by the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board, the Mississippi Beef Council, and the Mississippi Loggers Association. Guests were treated to wagon and train rides, Small Town in Lights, story time with Mrs. Claus, live music, and breakfast for dinner.

Spring Farm Days - March 6-8, 2025

Attendance: 1,305

- This event offered the opportunity for visitors to see tractor and blacksmith demonstrations and tour the Fortenberry-Parkman Farmstead over a three-day period.



Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum

Continued

Easter at the Ag Museum - April 19, 2025
Attendance: 1,739

- Guests walked down the rabbit trail that meandered throughout the Museum grounds while collecting Easter eggs.

Pickle Fest - June 6-8, 2025
Attendance: 7,157

- This year, the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum partnered with the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum Foundation to host the award-winning Pickle Fest. This event had over 60 vendors and thousands of attendees come out to promote all things pickled.



Special Event:

Brandon Garden Clubs Garden Restoration

The Brandon Garden Club continues to work tirelessly to maintain the main focal garden adjacent to the Heritage Center. Members meet monthly to complete maintenance in the gardens. They have also secured funding to expand their efforts to other areas around the Museum grounds. Currently they have placed new beds along the entrance walkway, Lakeland Drive gate, and various areas around Small Town. They have been instrumental in coordinating the Blue Star Memorial effort through the National Garden Clubs. Their efforts have brought the Museum to the attention of the Mississippi Garden Clubs and their members.



Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum

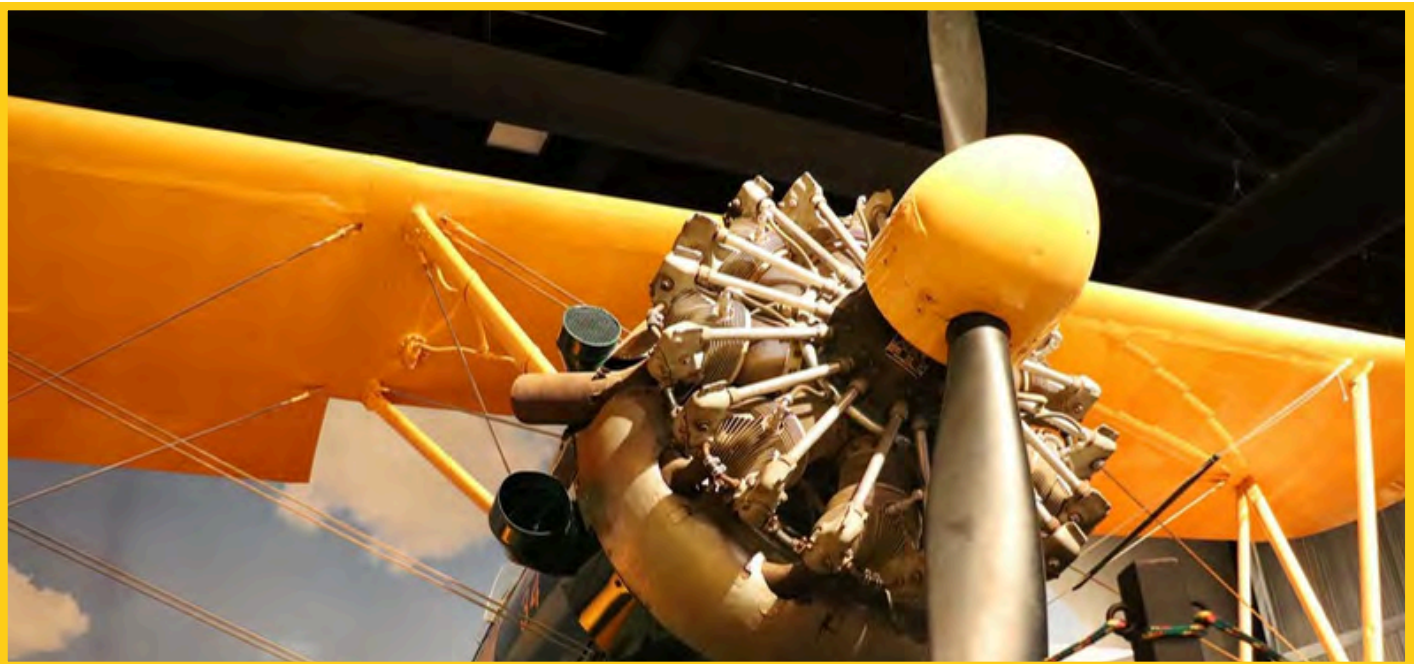
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Last Pass

The National Agricultural Aviation Association, in conjunction with the National Agricultural Aviation Museum and Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum Foundation, implemented a memorial walkway honoring agricultural aviators who lost their lives in their line of work. This walkway displays names of aviators from around the country.

Educational Outreach

The Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum continues to present educational and outreach programs throughout each month. The Museum educators and interpreters have presented at educational conferences throughout the country representing Mississippi and the Museum. The Museum has unveiled an interactive Uncle Story program on the website to encourage teachers from around the state to interact with the Museum. A monthly calendar of programing has been added to the website.



- Annual Museum visitors: 82,914
- Museum events hosted and attendees: 6 events with 24,259 total attendees
- Private events held: 339

Executive Director
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Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum

Mississippi State Fairgrounds

The Mississippi State Fairgrounds is a premier venue promoting agriculture, industry, and entertainment for the people of Mississippi.

The mission of the Mississippi State Fairgrounds is to promote agricultural and industrial development in Mississippi, and to create a safe and vibrant environment where visitors can experience Mississippi's rich agricultural heritage, enjoy premier entertainment, and support the economic vitality and family-friendly atmosphere of the Capital City. Spanning over 100 acres, the Fairgrounds Complex includes a mile-long midway, the Mississippi Coliseum, the Mississippi Trade Mart, the Kirk Fordice Equine Center, 14 livestock barns, and parking for over 7,000 vehicles. The Fairgrounds hosts a diverse range of events from livestock and horse shows to concerts, trade exhibitions, and conventions. Key annual events include the Mississippi State Fair, the Junior League of Jackson's Mistletoe Marketplace, the Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo, and Comic-Con.



Highlights of Annual Events:

165th Mississippi State Fair

October 3-14, 2024

Attendance: 505,000+

- Fairgoers enjoyed Mississippi's beloved traditions, including livestock shows, a petting zoo, pig races, and unique fair foods, along with the rides and games.
- Frontier Village featured the Tumbleweed Crossing and Agri-Puppets shows, petting zoo, pig races, the Taste of Dixie National Rodeo, and more.
- MDAC employees offered hot, homemade biscuits at the famous Biscuit Booth.
- The Marketplace Expo, featuring the Genuine MS® Store and FARMtastic Exhibit, was located inside the Trade Mart, along with the Antique Car Show and various competitions, including a Fiddle Contest, 4-H Omelette Cookoff and Chess Tournament.
- Hundreds of 4-H and FFA youth from across the state traveled to the Fairgrounds, after training all year, to compete for the prestigious titles in various livestock shows.



Mississippi State Fairgrounds Continued

Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo

January 7- February 16, 2025

Attendance: 50,000+

- Celebrating its 60th year, the Dixie National is the largest rodeo east of the Mississippi River, achieving record-breaking ticket sales of over \$1.4 million. Guests also enjoyed Dixie National Rodeo Days and the Dixie National Steakhouse in the Trade Mart.
- More than 2,000 school children attended a special free rodeo performance featuring Dusty the Clown and professional barrel racing during Kids Day.
- The Dixie National Rodeo Days Expo took place the first weekend of the Dixie National Rodeo, and the Ag & Outdoor Expo took place during the second weekend. The “Cowboy Corner,” which included free haircuts from The Noble Barber, custom hat shaper, and vendors selling artisan items for men was in the Trade Mart Atrium.



New Projects and Enhancements

- In FY 2024-2025, the Fairgrounds initiated the revitalization of the Barn 14 roof, marking an important step in maintaining and improving the facility infrastructure.
- Plans were approved for the repair and repaving of Mississippi Street, extending from Gate 14 to Monroe Street. This project will enhance accessibility, improve water drainage, and support better traffic flow across the grounds.



@mississippifairgrounds, @dixienationalrodeo, and @statefairms



@mississippifairgrounds, @dixienationalrodeo, and @msstatefair



Mississippi State Fairgrounds, Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo, and Mississippi State Fair

- Annual visitors to the Mississippi State Fairgrounds: 1.4 Million+
- Economic Impact of Mississippi State Fair: \$40 Million (Study conducted by Jackson State University)
- The 2024 Mississippi State Fair ranked #34 of Top 50 Fairs in North America by Carnival Warehouse.
- Events held at Mississippi State Fairgrounds:
 - Equine events: 20
 - Livestock: 6
 - Trade Shows: 40
 - Entertainment/Concerts: 24
 - Private events: 48
 - MDAC hosted events: 32

Acting Director
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Bureau of Plant Industry

Plant Pest Programs - Pesticide Program - Seed Program and State Seed Laboratory Feed, Fertilizer, Lime, and Soil and Plant Amendment Program

The Bureau of Plant Industry protects the agricultural and horticultural interests of the state from harmful insects, diseases, and weeds.

The Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) is a regulatory and service division of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce. BPI serves as the Plant Protection and Quarantine Division of the agency. BPI administers 31 programs pertaining to agricultural aviation, pesticides, plant pests, honey bees, seed, animal feed, fertilizer, lime, and soil/plant amendments. Additionally, the Bureau maintains cooperative agreements with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), and the Mississippi State Chemical Laboratory (MSCL) in administration and enforcement of state and federal laws. BPI is also designated by the federal government as the state agency responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

The Bureau of Plant Industry collaborates with a number of agricultural organizations to keep producers and the agriculture industry informed of program updates, and BPI provides training materials. In FY 2025, BPI provided updates at meetings held by the following organizations:

- Mississippi Agricultural Aviation Association
- Mississippi Agricultural Consultants Association
- Mississippi Agricultural Industry Council
- Mississippi Beekeepers Association Annual Convention
- Mississippi Farmers Market Management Workshop
- Mississippi Entomological Association
- Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation – Agricultural Consultants Meeting
- Mississippi Pest Control Association
- Mississippi Rice Council
- Mississippi Seedmen's Association
- Mississippi State University – Row Crop Short Course
- Mississippi Sweet Potato Council
- Mississippi Turfgrass Association
- Mississippi Vegetation Management Association

BPI provided Pesticide Re-certification training at the following locations:

- Central MS Research and Extension Center
- Coastal Research and Extension Center
- Commercial Pest Control Webinar
- Delta Research and Extension Center
- Forrest County Extension Office
- North MS Research and Extension Center
- Panola County Extension Office
- Termite University

Director
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Plant Pest Programs

The Bureau of Plant Industry's Plant Pest Programs protect the agricultural and horticultural interests of the state from the introduction and spread of injurious insects and plant diseases within the state.

Under the provisions of the Mississippi Plant Act, the Bureau of Plant Industry carries out plant pest programs designated to prevent the spread of destructive insects, diseases, and other pests when plant material, machinery, and carriers are transported. These programs include inspection, certification, quarantine, and survey activities.

The online Boll Weevil Reporting System provides growers 24-hour access to reporting acreage and assessment. The Bureau continued with its Cogongrass Control Program. Cogongrass is considered one of the worst invasive weeds in the world and can be found in most counties in Mississippi. Control in many areas has become a difficult and expensive battle for landowners and livestock producers. Through federal funding, the Bureau provides herbicide to landowners to control this weed.

- Nurseries and nursery dealers certified: 1,003
- Nursery and nursery dealer inspections: 1,335
- Phytosanitary certificates issued for plant material and seed export: 936
- Acres of noxious weeds treated: 645

Visual surveys conducted:

- Nurseries and nursery dealers: 1,334 surveys state-wide
- Corn: 33 surveys in 8 production fields
- Cotton: 28 surveys in 65 cotton production fields in 5 counties
- Rice: 48 surveys in rice production fields

Other services:

- Traps set for Exotic Bark Beetle: 2,399 within Attala, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Clay, Lamar, Lee, Lowndes, Madison, Neshoba, Oktibbeha, Quitman, and Winston Counties
- Total traps set and screened for exotic species: 3,991
- Commercial sweet potato businesses served: 45 operated by 49 growers
- Acres of sweet potatoes monitored for Sweet Potato Weevil: 30,482 (no positive detections)
- Colonies of honey bees certified: 53,920
- Colonies of honey bees inspected: 5,673

State Entomologist
Randy Boyle
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- Recognized by USDA for conducting citrus greening surveys to prevent the introduction and spread of this harmful disease.
- MDAC received a National Honey Bee Grant from USDA to survey exotic pests and pathogens and provide beekeepers with comprehensive data of the health of their apiaries.



Pesticide Program

The Pesticide Program protects the agriculture industry through the registration of pesticide products, regulation of purchasing and application of pesticides, and regulation and licensing of aerial applicators.

Under the provisions of the Mississippi Pesticide Law, the Bureau of Plant Industry carries out various activities to register and inspect pesticide products, administers special types of pesticide registrations and exemptions, licenses dealers of restricted-use pesticides, and protects the general public and the environment from possible pesticide contamination and misuse.

BPI has continued its efforts implementing the Mississippi Honey Bee Stewardship Program. The program promotes awareness, communication, and education between beekeepers and farmers. This program was developed through a joint effort between the Mississippi Farm Bureau, Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Mississippi Beekeepers Association, Mississippi Agricultural Aviation Association, Mississippi State University Extension Service, Mississippi Agricultural Consultants Association, Mississippi Agricultural Industry Council, and row crop farmers.

- Pesticide products registered for sale in the state of Mississippi: 15,527
- Samples collected from products available at retail and distribution outlets to check compliance with state and federal pesticide laws: 260
- Stop-sale orders issued on pesticide products found to be deficient, misbranded, and non-registered: 63
- Special-use registrations (Section 24c of FIFRA) issued on pesticide products: 2
- Emergency exemptions (Section 18 of FIFRA) issued on pesticide products: 1
- Dealers licensed to sell restricted use pesticide products: 366
- Registered technician identification cards issued to persons engaged in professional services such as pest control and weed control services: 2,087
- Structural pest control inspections: 1,358
- Licenses and permits issued to persons engaged in professional services: 1,039
- Aerial licenses issued for agricultural purposes:
 - Agricultural aviation pilots: 246
 - Applicators: 93
 - Aircrafts: 173
 - UAV: 20 Remote Pilots; 14 Applicators; 22 Drones
- Pest management consultants licenses issued: 165
- Private applicator certificates issued: 701
- Commercial applicator certificates issued: 533
- Horticulturist licenses issued: 116
- Tree surgeons licenses renewed and issued: 157

- Inspections conducted:
 - Producer-establishment inspections: 23
 - Marketplace inspections: 648
 - Applicator records inspections: 578
 - RUP dealer records inspections: 196
 - Container/containment inspections: 27
 - Non-agricultural/for cause inspections of pesticide misuse: 20
 - Agricultural/for cause inspections of pesticide misuse: 27
 - Non-agricultural inspections of pesticide use: 1,523
 - Agricultural inspections of pesticide use: 70
 - Worker protection inspections: 22
- Samples collected under the Pesticide Enforcement Program: 259
- MDAC's Waste Disposal Program has played an important role in environmental protection by offering farmers and landowners a safe way to dispose of pesticides to help reduce risks associated with pesticide waste disposal.
- MDAC continues to support the Mississippi State University Extension Termite University to conduct training and recertification.
- MDAC continues to provide endangered species updates related to pesticide protections.
- The Certification and Training Plan was approved by EPA and is in the process of being implemented.
- MDAC continues to add programs to the AgNet system for all inspection activities at BPI.
- MDAC established UAV Task Force consisting of stakeholders responsible for staying informed on research, pesticide labels, FAA, and EPA requirements.
- MDAC is scheduled to host EPA Region 4 States to discuss issues impacting pesticide policies.



Inspectors investigate complaints of pesticide drift onto non-target vegetation as is shown on this wheat.

Director
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Seed Program and State Seed Lab

The Seed Program and State Seed Laboratory protect and support the seed industry and farmers through regulation and seed testing.

The Seed Testing Laboratory provides regulatory and service seed testing to the seed industry and farmers of Mississippi. The seed lab inspects and collects samples of seed offered for sale to determine truth-in-labeling. Seed companies and farmers may submit samples of seed for testing to obtain quality and purity levels of seed. Regulatory and service tests protect and support seed companies and farmers by providing unbiased and reliable information in a timely manner. The Seed Testing Laboratory also tests all seed for the Mississippi Certified Seed Program and the Mississippi Crop Improvement Association.



- Permits issued for the sale of seed to be planted: 2,455
- Seed samples received: 12,791
- Tests conducted on seeds: 23,860
- Official regulatory seed samples collected: 4,852
- Official regulatory seed samples found to be in violation of the State Seed Law: 224
- Special tests conducted on seed such as cool germ test, accelerated aging, and chemical tests: 5,024
- Seed Lab Director was elected President of Association of American Seed Control Officials and the Association of Official Seed Analysts.
- Working with MSU Extension Service to develop Seed Technology Short Course and assisted Mississippi State University students with graduate research projects.
- Provided education and outreach through laboratory tours.

Director
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Feed, Fertilizer, Lime, and Soil Amendments

The Feed, Fertilizer, Lime, and Soil Amendments Program protects the agriculture industry through the regulation of feed, fertilizer, lime, and soil amendment products sold in the state of Mississippi.

Under provisions of Mississippi laws regulating feed, fertilizer, lime, and soil amendment products, the Bureau of Plant Industry carries out activities that include registering products and facilities, collecting registration and inspection fees, inspecting and sampling products for label guarantees, and assessing penalties for substandard products.

All brands and grades of fertilizer, lime, and soil/plant amendment products must be registered with the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce before sold in the state of Mississippi. Items subject to registration include liming materials, fertilizer materials, mixed grades of fertilizer and all products sold to promote plant growth by means other than supplying a recognized plant food element, or those products applied to plants, seed, or soil to improve germination, growth, yield, product quality, reproduction, flavor, or other desirable characteristics of plants. The Bureau of Plant Industry collects reports from fertilizer, soil, and plant amendment registrants of the tonnage of materials sold in the state annually.

- Feed products registered: 16,597 products from 873 feed distributors
- Feed samples collected: 1,235
- Fertilizer products registered: 10,241 products from 952 fertilizer distributors
- Fertilizer samples collected: 437
- Lime products registered: 108 products from 74 distributors
- Lime samples collected: 67
- Rebuilt the Feed, Fertilizer, Soil and Plant Amendment Registration on-line system providing industry 24-hour access to registration and renewals.



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Regulatory Services

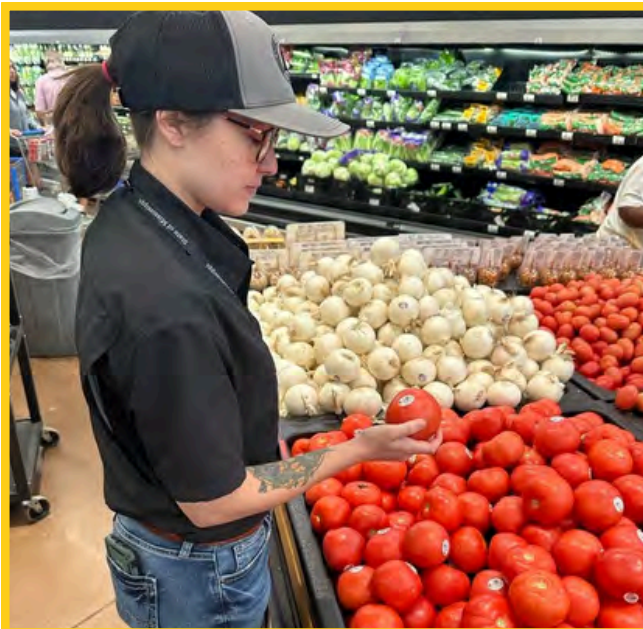
**Consumer Protection - Federal and State Inspection - Petroleum Inspection - Meat Inspection
Weights and Measures - Metrology Lab - Grain Dealers and Warehouses**

The Bureau of Regulatory Services is a regulatory bureau within the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce. Its mission is to effectively and efficiently administer and enforce the laws and regulations charged to the Bureau.

The Bureau protects the health and economic welfare of all citizens, affords a measure of economic protection which citizens cannot provide for themselves, and strives for equity in the marketplace which works to the good of all citizens of this state.

The Bureau is divided into area-specific divisions that regulate certain businesses within the state. The Bureau administers state laws and promulgates regulations to support those laws in the areas of meat inspection, retail food sanitation, labeling laws, grains, aquaculture, peanuts, petroleum, and weights and measures. The Bureau partners with multiple federal and state agencies to carry out its mission.

MDAC's Weights and Measures Division, Consumer Protection Division, Petroleum Products Inspection Division, and State Metrology Laboratory utilizes inspection stickers to inform the public of when inspections were conducted as well as the contact information for each division. Each year, the inspection stickers bear the color of one of Mississippi's colleges or universities. In 2025, the colors of The University of Southern Mississippi were selected for inspection stickers



Bureau Director
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Consumer Protection

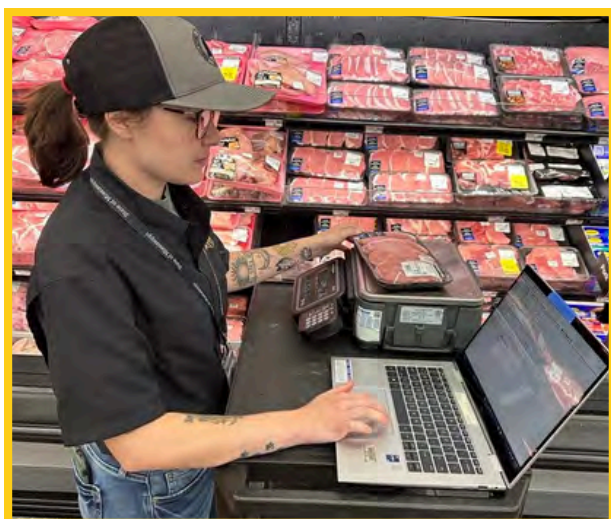
The Consumer Protection Division protects the interests of the general public by ensuring food quality, safety, fairness, and equity in the retail marketplace.

The Consumer Protection Division is one of the most diversified divisions within the Department. The Division protects Mississippi consumers on a daily basis by enforcing retail food safety and sanitation laws and regulations, weights and measures standards, and food labeling requirements in retail food establishments such as convenience stores and grocery stores.

The Division conducts routine inspections of all retail food establishments throughout the state to ensure that food safety and sanitation regulations are being met. Inspectors routinely examine meat market sanitation, ensure food is stored at appropriate temperatures, confirm the availability of hot water and soap in restrooms, and monitor stores to ensure the absence of insects and rodents. Inspectors test scales and check UPC pricing for accuracy to make sure the consumer is not being overcharged or undersold. Inspections are performed to ensure illegally processed meats are not sold in retail food establishments. Additionally, Country-of-Origin Labeling (COOL) inspections are conducted to ensure foods such as muscle cuts of meats, fresh fruits and vegetables, and unprocessed nuts have country-of-origin declarations at the final point of sale.

The Consumer Protection Division conducts labeling inspections in restaurants and grocery stores throughout the state to ensure that catfish and seafood being promoted as U.S. products and not being discreetly replaced with foreign substitutes

The Division works in collaboration with the Mississippi State Department of Health and the Mississippi State Chemical Lab to regulate the sale of honey and syrup. Pure honey and pure syrup label inspections are performed to ensure consumers are receiving the product as it is advertised on the labels.



Director
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- Retail food establishment licenses issued: 2,106
- Retail egg licenses issued: 100
- Mobile Vendor licenses issued: 64
- Inspections conducted:
 - Businesses inspected: 3,690
 - Retail scale inspections: 6,638
 - Retail food sanitation inspections: 2,955
 - Net weight inspections: 27,967
 - Disposition of garbage inspections: 2,390
 - UPC price verification inspections: 1,394
 - Shell eggs inspected: 27,400 dozen
 - Catfish and Shrimp Marketing inspections: 95
- USDA COOL audits conducted: 35

Federal and State Inspection Program

The Federal/State Inspection Program Division provides quality inspections for produce growers as well as unbiased food safety audits.

Food Safety

This Division conducts fruit and vegetable inspections as well as third party food safety audits known as Good Agricultural Practices/Good Handling Practices (GAP/GHP) audits. All inspections and food safety audits are provided statewide to farms, packers, and wholesalers.

The GAP/GHP audits are voluntary, independent audits of produce suppliers throughout the production and supply chain. GAP/GHP audits focus on best agricultural practices to verify that fruits and vegetables are produced, packed, handled, and stored in the safest manner possible to minimize risks of microbial food safety hazards. The audits verify adherence to the recommendations made in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Guide to *Minimize Microbial Food Safety Hazards for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables* and industry recognized food safety practices.

- USDA GAP/GHP food safety audits conducted: 62
- USDA Farmers' stock peanuts graded: 38,709 tons
- USDA Peanut A-Flavus chemical testing: 762 semi-truck loads

USDA Shipping Point Inspections are conducted upon request to provide growers and packers with a USDA Certificate showing proof of grade and condition for each load of produce as it is being loaded for transit to buyers or end users.

Farmers' stock peanuts must be inspected and a grade issued per lot for the farmer to receive payment at the point of sale. The Federal/State Inspection Program Division grades the peanuts brought to buying points in the state.

Produce Safety

The Produce Safety Division provides food safety assurance for consumers of fresh fruit and vegetables which are grown in Mississippi.

The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce's Produce Safety Division implements the Produce Safety Rule in Mississippi. It also provides Outreach and On Farm Readiness Reviews to farmers prior to an operation having an inspection. The outreach team works to increase awareness of the Produce Safety Rule as well as help growers prepare their operations for compliance. Most outreach services, except for required trainings, are free to growers in Mississippi.

- New farms identified: 32
- Inspections at identified farms performed: 23
- Produce Safety Alliance Grower trainings conducted in conjunction with MSU: 4
- Developed Produce Safety Division publications for grower education.
- Promoted the Produce Safety Rule at more than 15 meetings and workshops statewide.
- Total number of farms processed, certified, or exempted in the Produce Safety Program: 706



Bureau Director
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Petroleum Inspection

The Petroleum Products Inspection Division regulates the motor fuel sold in Mississippi to ensure that those who purchase petroleum products and motor fuels get what they pay for in terms of quality and quantity.

All petroleum products sold in the state must be registered with MDAC's Petroleum Products Inspection Division. All retail motor fuel products which include gasoline, ethanol blended fuel, diesel fuel, biodiesel blended fuel, and kerosene, are analyzed by the Mississippi State Chemical Lab to ensure product compliance within American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) specifications. Analysis includes tests for octane number, alcohol content, diesel flash point, biodiesel content, and the presence of water in fuel.

The Division regulates approximately 2.3 billion gallons of fuel consumed by Mississippians and visitors to the state and conducts annual inspections of the Retail Motor-Fuel Dispensers (RMFD), commonly known as gas pumps, to ensure compliance with all laws and regulations. These inspections consist of ensuring the accuracy of RMFDs, testing for the presence of water, checking signage to ensure that the proper price is displayed on all signs, and checking the quality of the fuel to ensure proper product designations. Violations are issued for equipment found to be noncompliant with the petroleum law. Petroleum equipment repairmen are required to obtain a license from MDAC and report all adjusted devices to the Division.



- Registered fuel distributors: 212
- Petroleum equipment repairmen licensed: 514
- Registered devices inspected: 62,186 devices at 2,628 retail establishments
- Fuel samples obtained: 1,574
- Total individual devices tested: 60,207
- Consumer complaints responded to within 24 hours: 241
- Percent of the complaints for noncompliance wherein corrective action was taken: 34%
- Stop sales enforced:
 - 242 fuel quality violations
 - 431 calibration violations
 - 716 sign violations
 - 168 water violations

Director
Clay Hammons
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Meat Inspection

The Meat Inspection Division provides food safety assurance to consumers of meat and poultry food products.

The Meat Inspection Division provides inspection services to establishments that prepare meat and poultry food products for entry into intrastate commerce and to some establishments that engage in interstate commerce. The Division inspects all establishments engaged in the slaughtering of food animals and poultry, except for those plants operating under federal inspection. The Division also inspects the further processing of meat, meat-food products, poultry, and poultry food products and their preparation for consumer items. These products are also inspected throughout formulation, packaging, labeling, and distribution to retail outlets. This assurance is becoming more critical as more food products are intended to be consumed with little or no further preparation at home.

MDAC has a cooperative agreement with the USDA establishing a meat and poultry inspection system equal to the federal inspection system. In addition, MDAC has cooperative agreements for the Talmadge-Aiken Program (TA), which permits state employees to provide inspections at federal meat plants as well as the Compliance and Investigation Division Program (CID), which gives authority to inspect businesses that handle meat and poultry for law compliance.

- Pounds of red meat inspected: 30 million
- Pounds of poultry inspected: 52 million
- Other inspections: 2,504 rabbits and 6,100 quail
- State meat plant licenses issued: 31
- Meat plants inspected through the Talmadge-Aiken program: 29
- Rendering companies licensed: 9



Director
Dr. B. Nicole Hodges
nicoleh@mdac.ms.gov

Weights and Measures

The Weights and Measures Division regulates the use of weighing and measuring devices used in commerce to ensure consumers are treated fairly in the marketplace.

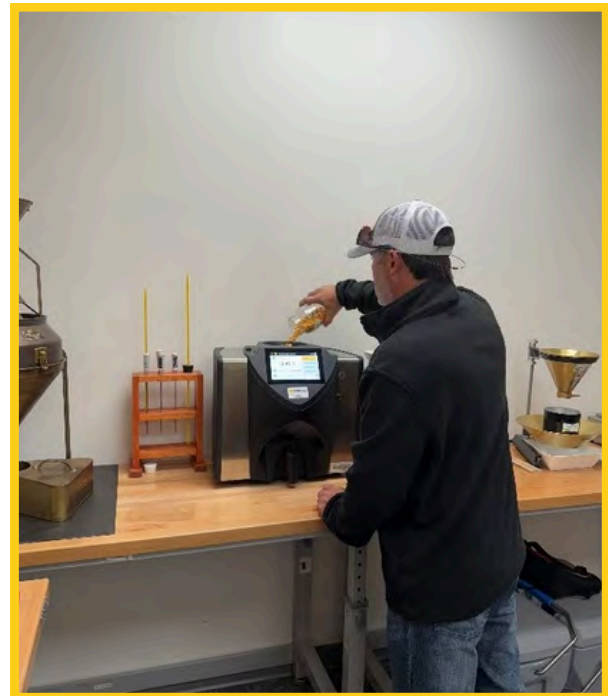
The Weights and Measures Division inspects and tests scales and measurement equipment used in commerce to ensure compliance with state laws and equity in the marketplace. Division inspectors make routine inspections on all types of commercial weighing devices including railroad scales, vehicle scales, livestock scales, hopper scales, floor scales, bench scales, and those used to weigh precious metals and stones like gold, silver, and diamonds. Inspectors conduct package inspections to verify the net contents of packaged commodities and price verification inspections in businesses that utilize UPC scanning systems. The Division also investigates complaints involving weighing and measuring devices.

The Division licenses livestock facilities, livestock auctioneers, pulpwood facilities, bonded weighmasters, scale service companies, and repairmen that install and repair weighing or measuring devices within the state of Mississippi.

Moisture Meter Testing Laboratory

The Mississippi Moisture Meter Laboratory provides testing and inspection of devices used to measure the moisture content of agricultural products offered for sale, processed, or stored, using standard methods set by the USDA. The Moisture Meter Laboratory also compiles grain standards used in the inspection of grain moisture meters tested in the state.

- Active scales: 4,357
- Heavy capacity scales inspected: 946
- Intermediate scales inspected: 4,598
- Railway scales inspected: 47
- Livestock scales inspected: 160
- Weighmaster inspections conducted: 54
- Pulpwood/timber inspections conducted: 138
- Oven tests conducted: 270 (Corn 40; Rice 43; Wheat 47; Soybeans 65; Milo 4; Other 8)
- Moisture meter tests conducted: 250



Director
Brent Bowman
brent@mdac.ms.gov

Metrology Lab

The Mississippi Metrology Laboratory tests, calibrates, and certifies measuring devices used in commerce for accuracy.

The Mississippi Metrology Laboratory tests, calibrates, and certifies weighing and measuring artifacts used to test commercial devices for accuracy by industry and state regulatory officials.

The Regulatory Services Bureau maintains the Mississippi Metrology Laboratory located in Lorman on the campus of Alcorn State University. The Lab is accredited for the testing of mass and volume by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The accreditation allows the Lab to provide certification and calibration services for government, commercial businesses, and private entities. This certification allows registered service agents and MDAC to test all weighing and measuring devices for accuracy used in commerce.



Director
Gene Robertson
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Grain Dealers and Warehouses

MDAC's Bureau of Regulatory Services licenses grain dealers and grain warehouses in the state of Mississippi.

Mississippi law requires grain dealers and grain warehouses be licensed by the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, unless they hold a license from the federal government.

The Mississippi Grain Dealers Law requires dealers who purchase grain directly from producers to be licensed and bonded. Operations or individuals who are not licensed are prohibited by law from purchasing grain from producers.

Warehouses that store grain for the public in Mississippi are required to be licensed pursuant to the Grain Warehouse Law, unless the warehouse is licensed under the United States Warehouse Act. Grain warehousemen must be bonded for financial and storage obligations, and they must maintain sufficient assets to cover potential losses. Bonding requirements of the law range from a minimum of \$15,000 to a maximum of \$1 million.



Mississippi produces a variety of grains including soybeans, corn, rice, and wheat. Farmers produced \$619 million of corn in 2025.

- Grain dealers licensed: 45
- Grain warehouses licensed: 10

Director
Gene Robertson
gene@mdac.ms.gov



Legal Division

The Legal Division represents and provides advice to all divisions within the Department.

The Legal Division's attorneys provide a wide variety of legal advice and services to the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce. This Division also represents the Mississippi Board of Animal Health, the Mississippi Land, Water, and Timber Resources Board, and the Mississippi Livestock Show.

Services to the Department include:

- Provides legal advice.
- Analyzes and interprets laws and regulations.
- Prepares and files agency regulations and drafts proposed legislation.
- Represents the agency in administrative hearings and litigation, including the filing of complaints, briefs, and orders.
- Drafts, reviews, and negotiates agency agreements and contracts. This includes service, rentals, events, entertainment, livestock shows, law enforcement/security, sponsorships, promotion boards, food service, and all third party contracts.
- Responds to public records requests and any associated litigation.
- Responds to subpoenas for witnesses and records.
- Handles personnel and employment issues, including terminations, demotions, suspensions, and reprimands.
- Represents agency employees at depositions and files answers to garnishments.
- File liability claims forms with the Mississippi Tort Claims Board.
- Represents the agency in automobile collision cases, collections, zoning, and grain licensure litigation.
- Handles all seed arbitration hearings, slaughter house, gasoline/petroleum, retail food aquaculture, produce safety, and labeling violations.
- Reviews and drafts RFPs for bids and procurement law issues.
- Drafts emergency declarations.
- Researches constitutional law issues.
- Handles intellectual property issues.
- Conducts legal research, prepare letters and memos, and advise all divisions of the agency on day-to-day matters.

Legal Counsel
Rebecca Wilson
rebecca@mdac.ms.gov



Information Management

The Information Management Division provides information technology services to MDAC staff.

The Information Management Division (IMD) provides information technology and services to all employees of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce as well as provides technical and network support, application development/systems support, and strategic planning services for both MDAC and the Mississippi Board of Animal Health.

IMD plays a critical role in aligning information technology with the agency's business goals, providing the infrastructure resources to support the agency's communication and decision making, and exploring emerging technologies to promote agriculture and commerce in the state.

- Provided general IT support, resolving 1307 tracked agency Help Desk tickets.
- Launched brand new *Mississippi Market Bulletin* website including online subscriptions, viewing previous bulletins, and submitting ads.
- Published new agency website with new design and cloud hosting.
- Created agency Purchase Request system to modernize purchasing workflow for creation of requests, review, digital signatures, budgeting, and tracking.
- Updated laptops for Bureau of Regulatory Services.
- Installed new Palo-Alto firewall for upgraded and enhanced network security.
- Launched new BPI Seeds Registration application – modernizing from the 20 year old ITS hosted application.
- Migrated all agency websites to cloud hosting.
- Enabled 2-factor authentication for Microsoft to enhance the agencies security posture.
- Created Make MS Healthy Again website.
- Provided OpenShow registration for the Dixie National Livestock Shows.
- Migrated to ITS hosted FortiNet VPN to align with State Enterprise Security Policy.
- Finalized Phase 1 of the Fairgrounds Wireless project to provide stable wifi in the barns, midway, and other areas of the Fairgrounds.
- Provided GIS services for Regulatory, Timber, Agriculture Transportation, Wild Hog Control Program, RFSI, and various other mapping applications.
- Implemented new backup for network migrating from Veeam to Cohesity cloud based backup.

Information Management Continued

- Printed 291 large format posters (24x36) saving approximately \$6,000 in cost of paper and ink versus printing with a vendor.
- Assisted with design and implementation of new agency logo for marketing and branding.
- Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Signup.
- Upgrades to MBAH disease tracking applications including maps by adding address validation and changing out GIS provider.
- Published Online Brand Book.



Provided the following Drone /Multimedia coverage:

- Maps for events at Fairgrounds including Dixie National Rodeo and MS State Fair.
- Photography and video services for various museum and fairgrounds events.
- Genuine MS® Christmas photoshoot.
- *Mississippi Market Bulletin* photoshoot.
- Make Mississippi Healthy Again photoshoot.
- Centennial Farm Family Program photos.
- Dixie National Parade coverage.
- Coverage of National Ag Day Blueberry event.



Director
Jason Price
jasonp@mdac.ms.gov

Employee Recognition and Professional Engagement and Leadership

MDAC Employee Recognition for Years of Service



(L-R) Sharon Walker, Timothy Biles, Charles Champagne, and Jason Lancaster have served the State of Mississippi for 10 years.



(L-R) Randy Boyle and Theresa Love have served the State of Mississippi for 20 years.



Ann Walker has served the State of Mississippi for 25 years.



(L-R) Brent Bowman, Aguster Lewis, and Purvie Green have served the State of Mississippi for 30 years.



Denise Kelly has served the State of Mississippi for 40 Years!

Employee Recognition and Professional Engagement and Leadership Continued

Commissioner's Employee of the Year and Outstanding Performance of Service Awards

The inaugural Commissioner's Employee of the Year and Outstanding Performance of Service Awards were presented to employees whose leadership consistently demonstrates excellence in the performance of their duties, shows a strong commitment to their responsibilities, delivers reliable and high-quality work, and contributes positively to the success of their division and to MDAC.



Justin Nipper, Mississippi State Fairgrounds; Tim Thompson, BPI; Randy Boyle, BPI; Mike Kusch, Sr., Regulatory Service; and Jason Jones, IT, received the Outstanding Performance of Service award.



Jennifer Thompson, Director of MDAC's Bureau of Regulatory Service, received the 2025 Commissioner's Employee of the Year award.

Other Awards



Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce's Agriculture & Livestock Theft Bureau (MALTB) Investigator Leon Wedgeworth received the Top Cop award for his outstanding work in recovering stolen agricultural equipment.

Employee Recognition and Professional Engagement and Leadership Continued

MDAC Employee Professional Development & Leadership

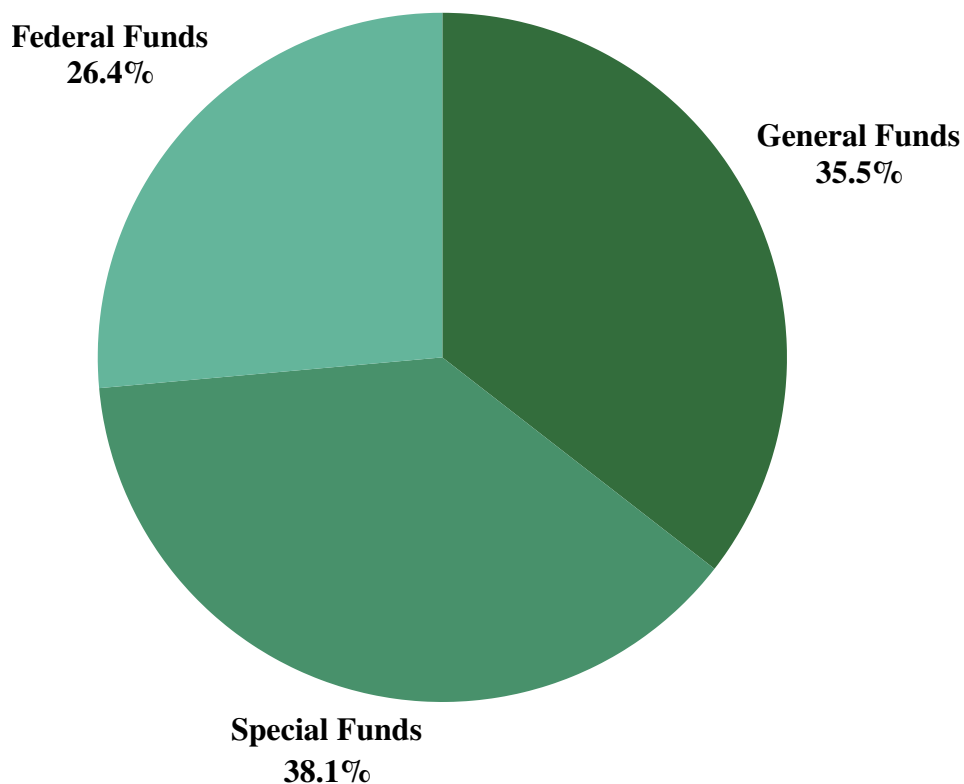
The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce's strength lies in the knowledge, dedication, and professional engagement of its employees. MDAC team members actively participate in a wide range of professional organizations, boards, and associations that support agriculture, commerce, regulatory excellence, and public service. This involvement allows employees to stay informed of best practices, emerging trends, and policy developments while strengthening partnerships that benefit Mississippi's agricultural producers, businesses, and consumers.

- American Agricultural Law Association
- American Hardwood Export Council
- Association of American Feed Control Officials
- Association of American Pesticide Control Officials
- Association of Pest Control Officials
- Association of American Plant Food Control Officials
- Association of Official Seed Analysts
- Association of American Seed Control Officials
- Association of State Meat Inspection Directors
- Certified Crop Consultant Board
- Communication Officers of State Departments of Agriculture
- Copiah-Lincoln Community College Foundation Board
- Entomological Society of America
- Horticultural Inspection Society Southern Chapter
- Inland Rivers, Ports and Terminals
- Issaquena County Farm Bureau Board Member
- Issaquena County Soil and Water Conservation Board
- Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers State Committee
- Franklin County Cattlemen Association
- Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Junior League of Jackson
- Metro Jackson Attractions Association
- Mississippi Chapter of the Public Sector Human Resources Association
- Mississippi Department of Agriculture, UAV Task Force
- Mississippi Department of Transportation, Freight Advisory Committee
- Mississippi District Export Council
- Mississippi Egg Marketing Board
- Mississippi Forestry Association
- Mississippi Historical Society
- Mississippi Humanities Council
- Mississippi Lumber Manufacturers Association
- Mississippi Prosecutors Association
- Mississippi State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Advisory Board
- Mississippi State University Vision 2023 Taskforce
- Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association
- Mississippi Women for Agriculture
- National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
- National Council on Weights and Measures
- National Egg Regulatory Officials
- National Endangered Species Implementation Working Committee
- National Hardwood Lumber Association
- North American Agricultural Marketing Officials
- Professional Women's Association
- Public Relations Association of Mississippi
- Rankin County Farm Bureau Board Member
- She Leads Mississippi
- Society of Commercial Seed Technologists
- Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture
- Southern Public Relations Federation
- Southern United States Trade Association
- Southern Weights and Measures Association
- The Mississippi Bar
- Union County Farm Bureau Board

Revenues and Expenditures

Total Revenue: \$27,609,667

Sources of Revenue



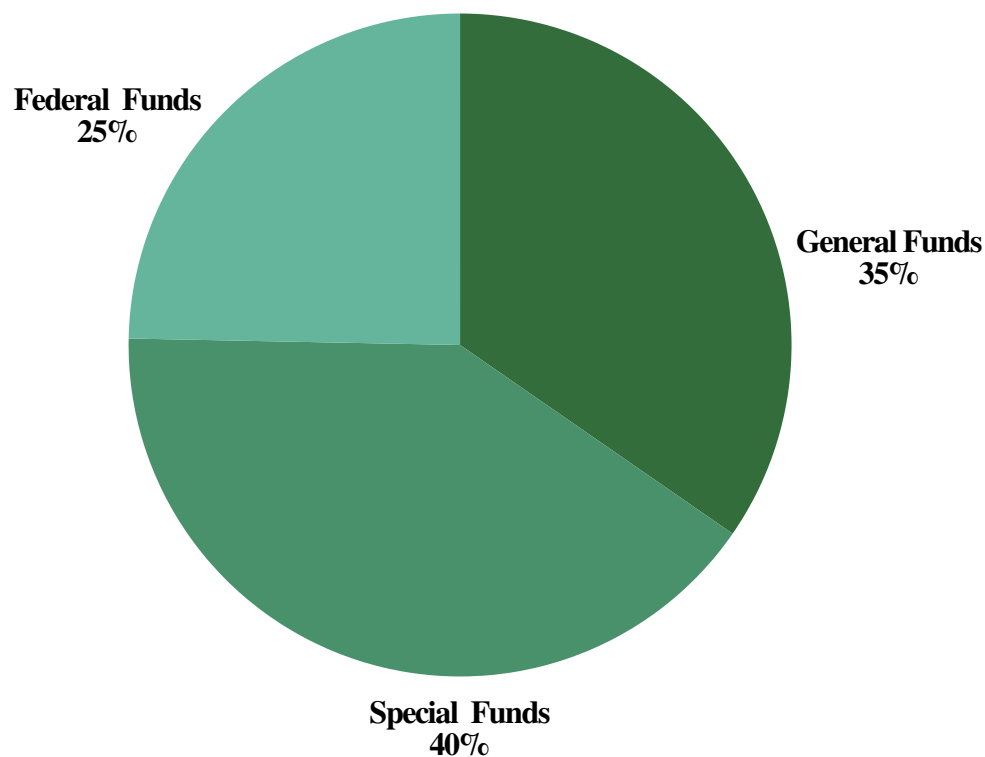
General Funds	\$9,805,062	35.5%
Special Funds	\$10,509,361	38.1%
Federal Funds	\$7,295,244	26.4%

Revenues and Expenditures

Continued

Total Expenditures: \$28,307,778

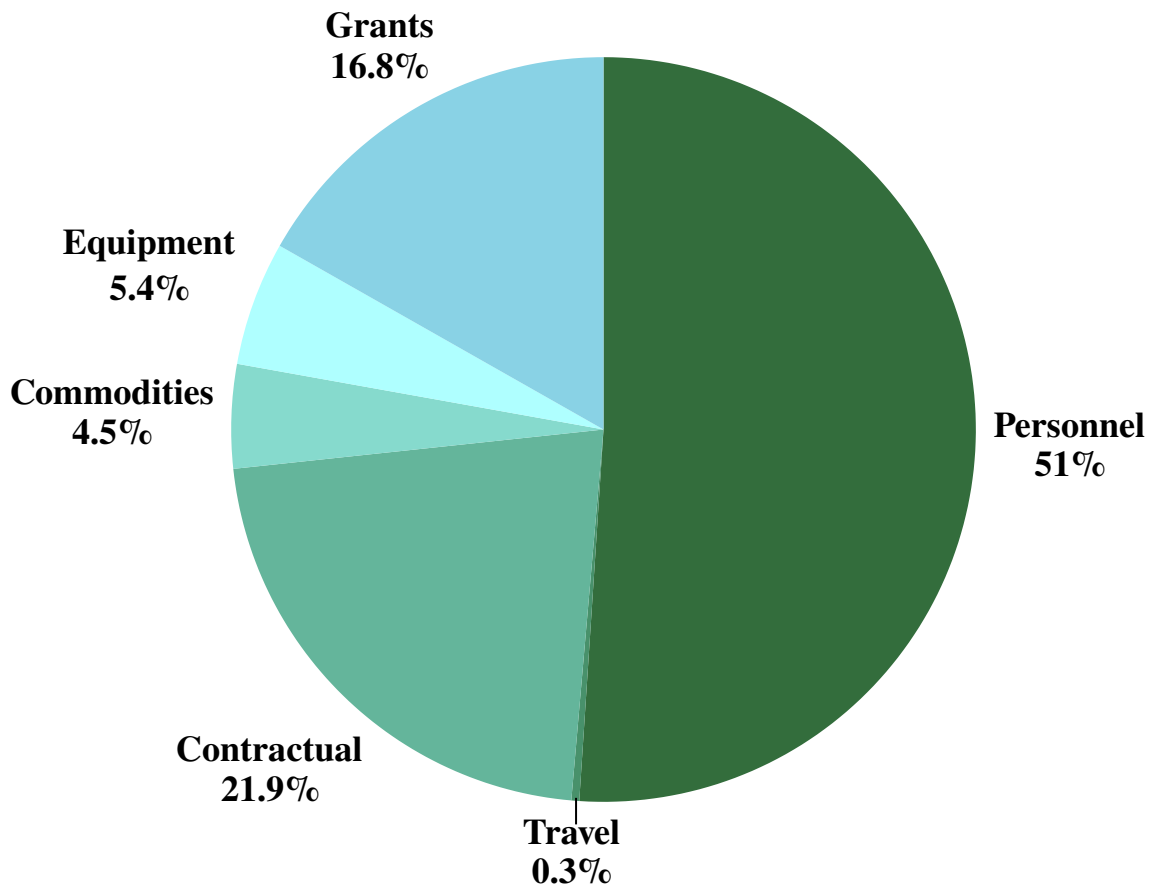
Classification of Expenditures by Funding Source



General Funds	\$9,805,062	35%
Special Funds	\$11,514,060	40%
Federal Funds	\$6,988,656	25%

Expenditures: \$28,307,778

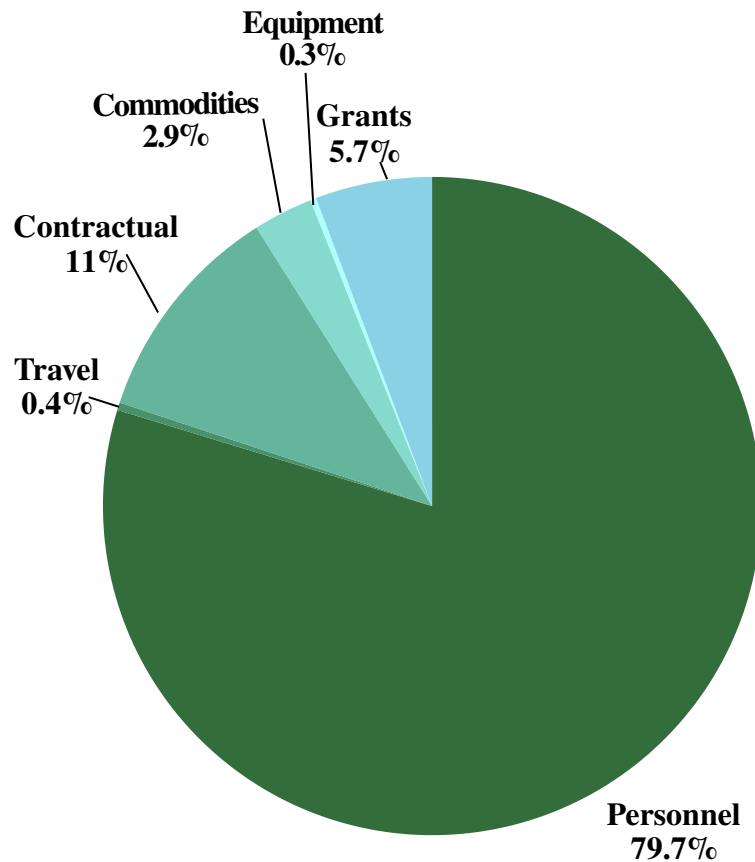
Classification of Expenditures by Expense Categories



Personnel	\$14,447,730	51%
Travel	\$96,547	0.3%
Contractual	\$6,209,235	21.9%
Commodities	\$1,276,848	4.5%
Equipment	\$1,525,479	5.4%
Grants	\$4,751,939	16.8%

General Fund Expenditures: \$9,805,063

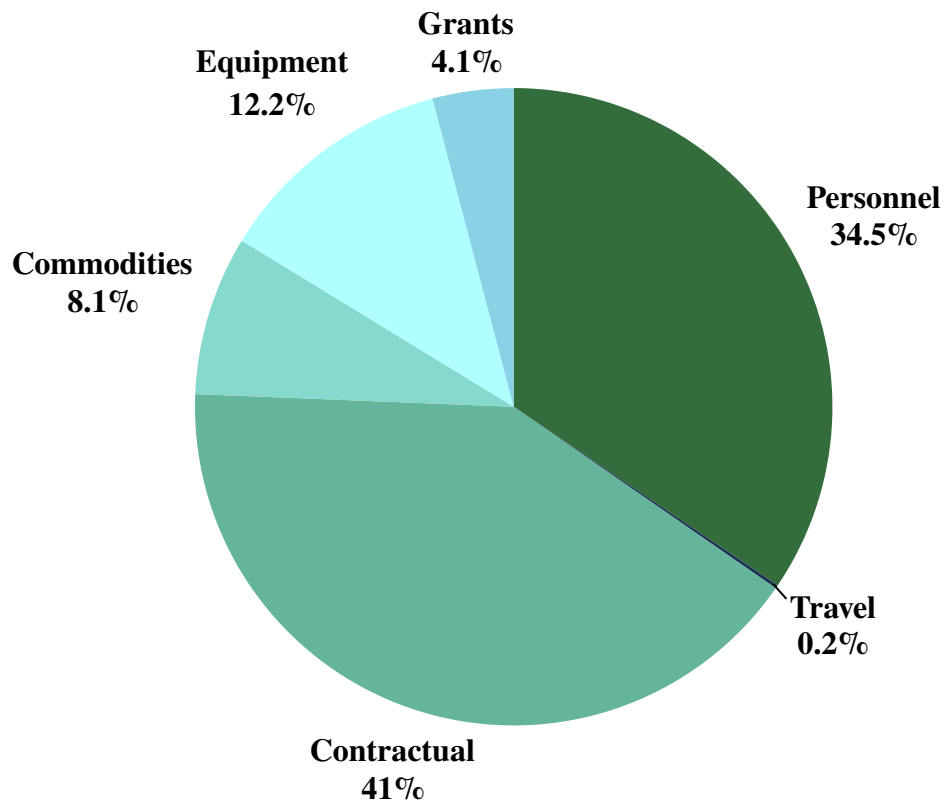
Classification of Expenditures by Expense Categories



Personnel	\$7,816,257	79.7%
Travel	\$36,637	0.4%
Contractual	\$1,074,196	11%
Commodities	\$286,935	2.9%
Equipment	\$28,787	0.3%
Grants	\$562,251	5.7%

Special Fund Expenditures: \$11,514,060

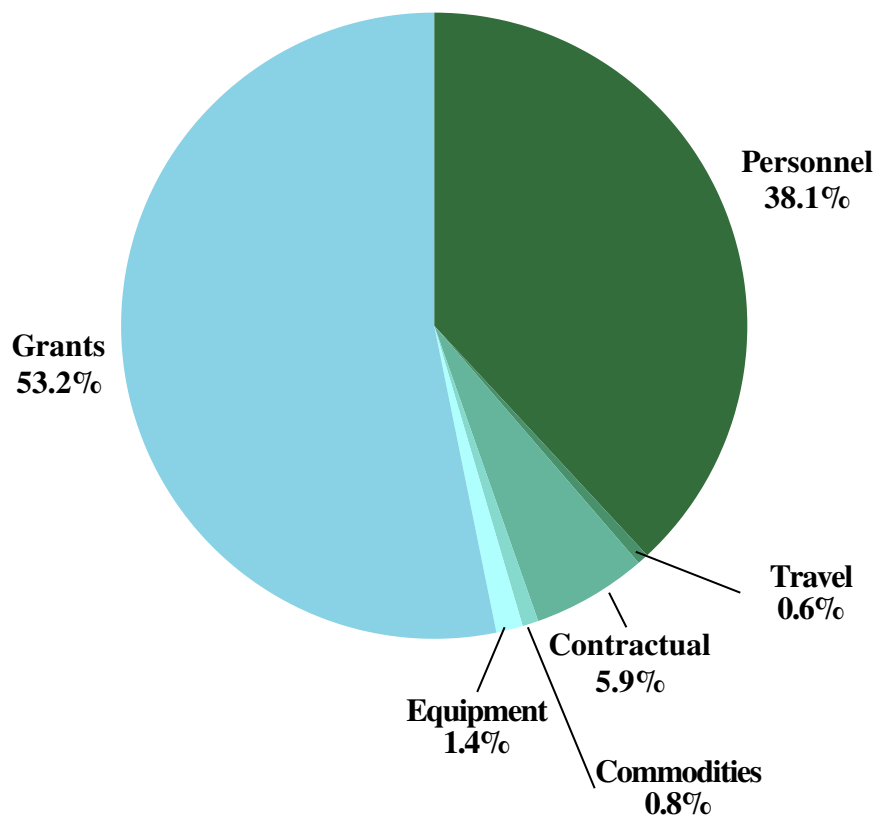
Classification of Expenditures by Expense Categories



Personnel	\$3,968,761	34.5%
Travel	\$19,537	0.2%
Contractual	\$4,720,360	41%
Commodities	\$932,216	8.1%
Equipment	\$1,400,426	12.2%
Grants	\$472,760	4.1%

Federal Fund Expenditures: \$6,988,656

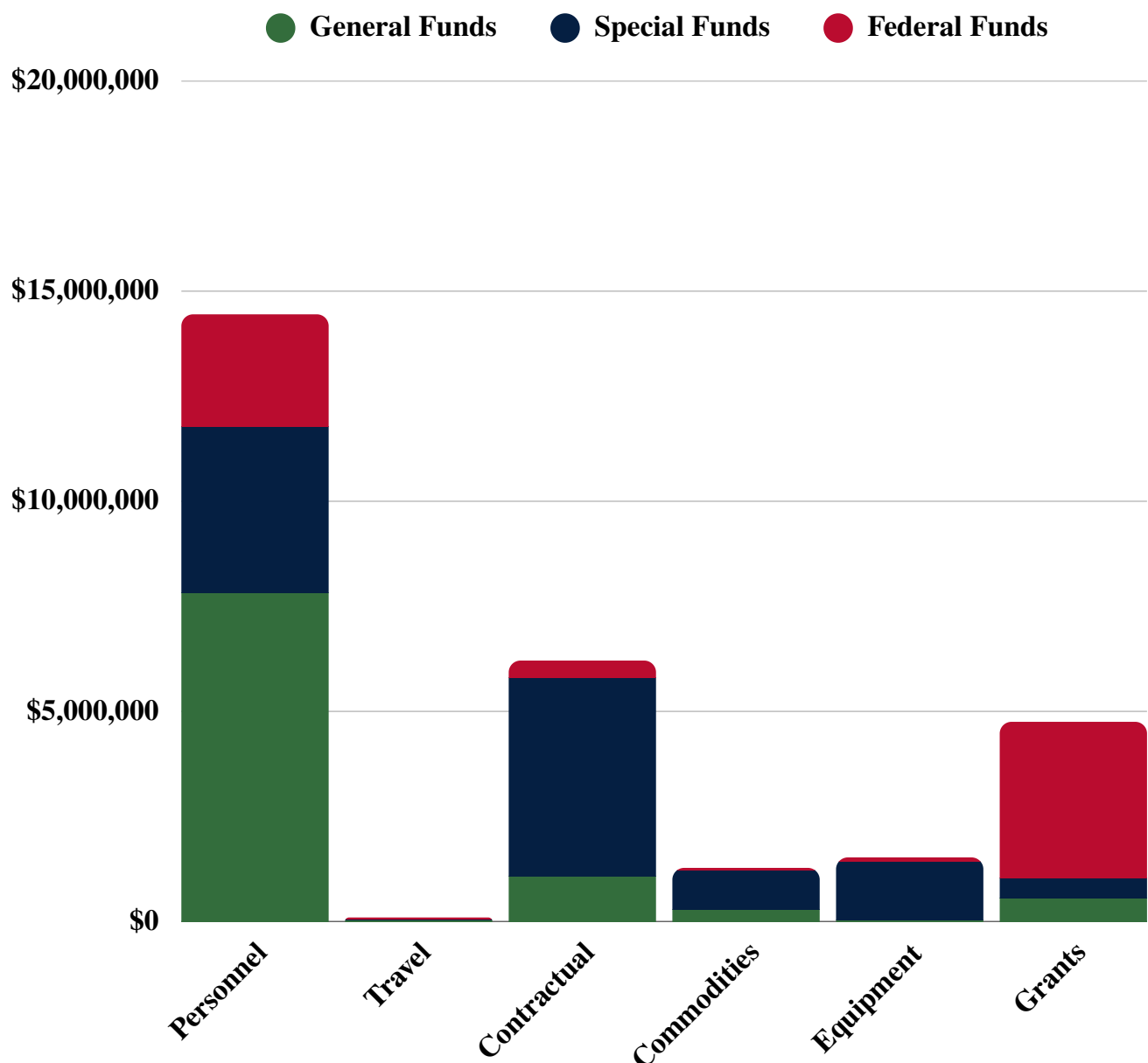
Classification of Expenditures by Expense Categories



Personnel	\$2,662,712	38.1%
Travel	\$40,373	0.6%
Contractual	\$414,680	5.9%
Commodities	\$57,697	0.8%
Equipment	\$96,266	1.4%
Grants	\$3,716,928	53.2%

Expenditures: \$28,307,778

Classification of Expenditures by Expense Categories





MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF
**AGRICULTURE
& COMMERCE**

Andy Gipson, Commissioner



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