



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

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 18, 2026

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What: 61st Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo

When: Thursday, February 19, and Friday, February 20

Where: Mississippi State Fairgrounds

Schedule of 61st Annual Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo Events Taking Place Tomorrow, Thursday, February 19, and Friday, February 20

STATE FAIRGROUNDS, Miss. – Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson invites everyone to attend the 61st annual Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo and announces the schedule of events taking place tomorrow, Thursday, February 19, and Friday, February 20. All events take place on the Mississippi State Fairgrounds.

The **Dixie National Rodeo** continues tomorrow with bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, tie-down roping, steer wrestling and barrel racing. Up-and-coming artist Waylon Wyatt will perform immediately following rodeo competitions. Wyatt's hits include "Arkansas Diamond," "Smoke & Embers" and "In Loving Melody." Then, following the action-packed Rodeo on Friday, February 20, rodeo fans will enjoy a performance by Muscadine Bloodline, whose hits include "Porch Swing Angel," "Pieces" and "Me on You."

The all-new **Dixie National Super Sort** starts tomorrow inside the Kirk Fordice Equine Center and runs through Saturday, February 21. Super Sort is a ranch-style equestrian event where riders compete against the clock to sort cattle into pens in numerical order. This unique competition tests a team's horsemanship, strategy and teamwork skills while racing against the clock. This unique equine event is open and free to the public.

The **Mississippi Ag & Outdoor Expo** kicks off Friday at 12:00 p.m. inside the Trade Mart. This special Spring Edition is the largest display of everything for the outdoors in Mississippi. Visitors can shop hunting and fishing gear, UTVs and ATVs, tractors, farm equipment, power equipment, the Genuine MS® Store and more! Admission to the expo is \$15 for adults and \$5 for children 6 to 12 years old. Children 5 years and under will receive free admission.

Open Livestock Shows featuring cattle will take place in Barn 14 on Friday. These shows are open to all ages with some competitors traveling from out of state.

Scheduled Activities & Events for Thursday, February 19, 2026:

- 8:00 a.m. – Dixie National Super Sort - Equine Center
- 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. – Dixie National Steakhouse - Trade Mart
- 7:00 p.m. – Dixie National Rodeo featuring Waylon Wyatt - Coliseum

Scheduled Activities & Events for Friday, February 20, 2026:

- 8:00 a.m. – Dixie National Super Sort - Equine Center
- 8:00 a.m. – Open A.O.B. Show - Barn 14
- 8:00 a.m. – Open Mini Hereford Show - Barn 14
- 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. – Dixie National Steakhouse - Trade Mart
- 12:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. – Mississippi Ag & Outdoor Expo - Trade Mart
- 2:00 p.m. – Open Charolais Show - Barn 14
- 2:00 p.m. – Gelbvieh/Balancer Show - Barn 14
- 7:00 p.m. – Dixie National Rodeo featuring Muscadine Bloodline - Coliseum

In conjunction with the nationwide America250 celebrations, this year's Dixie National will take on a special patriotic focus. Events of the 61st Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo run through Sunday, February 22, 2026. The Dixie National Rodeo, the largest rodeo east of the Mississippi River, runs through Saturday, February 21, inside the Mississippi Coliseum at the State Fairgrounds.

Rodeo Entertainment:

- Thursday, February 19, at 7:00 p.m. – Waylon Wyatt
- Friday, February 20, at 7:00 p.m. – Muscadine Bloodline
- Saturday, February 21, at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. – Mark Chesnutt

To purchase tickets to the Dixie National Rodeo, visit www.ticketmaster.com/search?q=dixie+national+rodeo online or the Coliseum Box Office in-person. For more information on the Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo, visit www.dixienational.org and follow the Dixie National Livestock Show & Rodeo on Facebook, Instagram and X.

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Photo attached.



The 2026 Dixie National Rodeo runs through February 21 in the Mississippi Coliseum.

MEDIA NOTE:

A designated Media Room will be available to local/state newspapers, tv stations and print and broadcasting media for the Dixie National Rodeo, which takes place February 13-15 and 18-21. Media will have access to live updates/stats from each rodeo performance, current leaderboard information and exclusive one-on-one interviews with rodeo competitors and entertainers. The media room, or Gray Room, is located on the south side of the Coliseum. To enter the Coliseum, simply show your work ID badge at the doors. Enter the Coliseum through the glass doors on the south side and take an immediate right. The media room will be on your right. The room is easily visible and will be labeled MEDIA ROOM.

Media passes will be distributed in the Media Room for those who want to get b-roll footage inside the Coliseum arena. You will be directed to the reserved section designated for your camera crews. We will bring cowboys/clowns/queens/etc. to the media room for interviews. If there are specific people that you would like to interview for a story, let us know ahead of time and we will work to make those happen.

Immediately following each rodeo performance, a rodeo announcer will be in the Media Room to provide a Rodeo Recap to the media.

If members of the media would like to request interviews regarding Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo events, please contact Hannah East at hannahe@mdac.ms.gov or (662) 816-3230.