



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

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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Annual Magnolia Beef and Poultry Expo to be Held in Laurel April 9

JACKSON, Miss. – The annual Magnolia Beef and Poultry Expo will be held Thursday, April 9, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Magnolia Center at the Laurel Fairgrounds in Laurel, Mississippi.

Beef and poultry producers from across the state will have the opportunity to attend educational seminars and browse the trade show. The trade show, featuring a variety of agribusinesses and organizations, opens at 8:00 a.m. Following the welcome at 9:00 a.m., the Charles Waldrup Memorial Scholarship will be presented to a graduating high school senior or a current college student pursuing an education in the field of agriculture.

Dr. Jim Watson, State Veterinarian for the Mississippi Board of Animal Health, and Jonathan Moon with Mississippi State University's Poultry Department will present an educational seminar, Biosecurity Starts with Proper Composting, at 9:45 a.m. in the upstairs meeting room of the Magnolia Center. At 11:15 a.m., Dr. Kale Katten of the Pine Belt Veterinary Clinic; Dr. Che Trego of Merck Animal Health; Jeff Easterling, South Mississippi Vice President of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation; and Darrel Hoover of the Superior Livestock Auction will present an educational seminar on the Benefits of Vaccinating Calves for Market on the Magnolia Center Main Stage.

In addition, the Magnolia Beef and Poultry Expo Producer of the Year will be recognized. This prestigious award will go to a producer actively involved in the beef and/or poultry industries in Covington, Jasper, Jones, Newton, Rankin, Scott, Simpson and Smith Counties.

This free event is open to the public. Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day. For more information, follow the Magnolia Beef and Poultry Expo on Facebook.

This Expo is hosted by the Covington, Jones, Jasper, Newton, Rankin, Scott, Simpson and Smith County Extension Service Offices. The 2026 Magnolia Beef and Poultry Expo is sponsored by Community Bank, Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation, Pro Flow Motorsports, First Financial Bank, John Deere AGUP Equipment, Mississippi Poultry Association Inc., Ozark-Ag, Farm Systems Inc., Circle C Tractor, and Mississippi State University Extension Service.

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