



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

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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Agriculture Commissioner Andy Gipson Announces August 2026 Wild Hog Control Program Application Period

JACKSON, Miss. – Today, Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson announced that the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (MDAC) will begin accepting a new round of applications for its Wild Hog Control Program (WHCP) starting this Saturday, August 1. The application period will remain open until Saturday, August 15, 2026.

“Wild hogs are non-native, nuisance animal that cause an estimated \$60 million in damage to Mississippi agricultural lands every year,” said Commissioner Andy Gipson. “They destroy crops, damage pastures and personal property, and create problems for farmers and landowners across our state. Our Wild Hog Control Program gives landowners access to proven trapping equipment, training and technical support to control and reduce wild hog populations. I encourage all eligible landowners to apply and take advantage of this opportunity to better protect their property and livelihoods.”

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

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

Visit www.mdac.ms.gov/whcp for program guidelines, applications and additional information. Submit questions regarding the WHCP to Harold Leonard at HaroldL@mdac.ms.gov.

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Photo attached.



MDAC will be accepting a new round of applications for its Wild Hog Control Program Saturday, August 1, through Saturday, August 15, 2026. Pictured: A group (sounder) of wild hogs in Copiah County being conditioned and baited for trapping.