



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

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 20, 2026

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**Ag Commissioner Recaps Successful 2026 Mississippi State Fair,
Encourages Public to Purchase Tickets Now for Upcoming Dixie National Rodeo**

STATE FAIRGROUNDS, Miss. – The 167th Mississippi State Fair concluded Sunday, October 18, at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds in Jackson. Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson and Fairgrounds leadership announced that the 2026 Mississippi State Fair was a success with approximately 514,000 visitors, record breaking numbers for the Biscuit Booth and no security incidents.

“The Mississippi State Fair really did ‘Let Freedom Ring’ this year. A sincere word of thanks to everyone who helped make Mississippi’s 2026 State Fair a great success,” said Commissioner Gipson. “Thank you to our visitors, families and livestock exhibitors for making memories at this year’s Mississippi State Fair; to our vendors, small businesses and performers for their hard work; and to our cleaning crews for keeping the Fairgrounds ‘as clean every day as opening day.’ And a huge thank you to our men and women in uniform, our state, county and local law enforcement and private security, who successfully executed the very best State Fair security plan. Thanks to our law enforcement’s behind-the-scenes diligence and efforts, we had no security incidences again this year. We are grateful to everyone who helped make this year’s Fair a success.”

Notably, the infamous Biscuit Booth on the Midway was again a popular destination for fairgoers. A new and popular item this year was the Brisket Biscuit. Throughout the duration of the Fair, veterans and active-duty military members received a complimentary Brisket Biscuit at the Biscuit Booth, thanks to Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce and the Mississippi Beef Council. MDAC also delivered biscuits to Batson Children’s Hospital on opening day of the fair for patients and staff to enjoy.

“Our dedicated Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce and Mississippi State Fairgrounds employees and staff worked long hours, putting in extra work and effort to make the State Fair a success, and for that, I am thankful,” added Commissioner Gipson. “There’s no doubt that we have the best team of staff in Mississippi.”

“Following the success of this year’s Mississippi State Fair, our team is already looking ahead to 2027 and working to deliver another outstanding event filled with exciting entertainment, community engagement and a safe, family-friendly atmosphere,” said Gipson.

“In the meantime, we look forward to welcoming visitors back to the Mississippi State Fairgrounds for the Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo. Tickets are on sale now for the 2027 Dixie National Rodeo, featuring an exciting lineup of performers, including Chris Janson, Emily Ann Roberts, Deana Carter, Blake Whiten, Braxton Keith, Zach John King and Ole 60. We encourage everyone to purchase tickets early and join us for this celebrated Mississippi tradition,” continued Gipson.

For more information and to purchase tickets to the Dixie National Rodeo, which runs February 12-14, and February 17-20, 2027, visit www.dixienational.org and follow the Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo on Facebook, Instagram and X.

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Photo attached.



Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson hands the first Brisket Biscuit to a local veteran at the Biscuit Booth on the Midway during opening day of the 167th Mississippi State Fair.