

## STATE OF MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE

ANDY GIPSON COMMISSIONER

## PRESS RELEASE

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## Agriculture Commissioner Gipson Promotes Mississippi Christmas Trees

**JACKSON, Miss.** — As the holidays approach, Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson and the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce encourage those celebrating the holidays to make this a "Genuine Mississippi" Christmas by purchasing a live Mississippi Christmas tree.

The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce has made it easy for shoppers to find the perfect Mississippi Christmas tree this holiday season at MSChristmasTrees.com online. The website, part of the Genuine MS state branding program, provides a guide to the types of Christmas trees grown in the state and the locations of Mississippi Christmas tree farms where locally-grown trees can be purchased.

"As families prepare for the holidays, I want to encourage them to visit one of Mississippi's twenty-eight Christmas tree farms. Selecting a Genuine MS Christmas tree means you are not only supporting Mississippi farmers, but also the local and state economies as well," said Commissioner Andy Gipson. "It's an experience the whole family will enjoy. Consumers can also find an array of other Mississippi products for the holiday season from gift ideas to ingredients for special holiday meals at GenuineMS.com online."

For those who have never owned a live Christmas tree or need tips for caring for a live tree, MSChristmasTrees.com details how to select the best Christmas tree for your family, how to safely care for a Christmas tree, and how to dispose of your Christmas tree after the holidays.

Visit MSChristmasTrees.com to find the nearest Christmas tree farm and view videos. Consumers can also find a variety of products grown, raised, crafted, and made in Mississippi at GenuineMS.com.