



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

CINDY HYDE-SMITH
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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Agriculture Commissioner Meets with Leaders during Two-Day Tour of Mississippi Delta

Commissioner of Agriculture Cindy Hyde-Smith wrapped up a two-day tour of the Mississippi Delta where she met with farmers and agribusiness leaders to discuss agricultural related issues and policies.

During the tour, she addressed challenges faced by the agriculture industry and offered solutions to move the state's largest industry forward as she continues to promote agriculture on the regional and national levels through her roles as President of the Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture and the Southern US Trade Association.

“A large percentage of the state's row crops are produced in the Delta making agriculture the lifeblood of the small towns and rural communities throughout the region. The impact that agriculture has on our state goes beyond just farmers and their families; agriculture touches the lives of everyone with so many of our communities relying on the agricultural economy,” said Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Cindy Hyde-Smith. “The opportunity to speak with farmers and hear the challenges they face daily better equips me to promote and protect agriculture, one of my top priorities.”

During the course of the two days, Commissioner Hyde-Smith made stops in four locations starting in Anguilla and from there traveled to Greenville, Cleveland and Clarksdale. This is the first of several regional tours that Commissioner Hyde-Smith is planning across the state so that she can have the opportunity to hear the needs of the industry and work towards moving the agriculture industry forward.

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Photos attached.



Commissioner of Agriculture Cindy Hyde-Smith visited the Bank of Anguilla during her tour of the Mississippi Delta discussing agricultural related issues and policies. Pictured are (left to right) Mike Lamensdorf, Kevin Corban, Clark Carter, Commissioner Cindy Hyde-Smith, Matt Sharpe and Kit McCoy.



During her tour of the Mississippi Delta, Commissioner of Agriculture Cindy Hyde-Smith met with farmers and agribusiness leaders including (left to right) Johnny McRight, Tim Clements and Walton Gresham at the Downtown Grille in Greenville.



Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce wrapped up her two-day tour of the Mississippi Delta in Clarksdale at the First United Methodist Church where she discussed agriculture issues with farmers and local agriculture leaders including (left to right) Tripp Hayes, Roosevelt Lee, Bowen Flowers, Pete Hunter and Daniel Vassel.