



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

ANDY GIPSON  
COMMISSIONER

## **Press Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 20, 2018**

**Contact: Paige Manning, Director of Marketing and Public Relations**  
**Mississippi Department of Agriculture & Commerce**  
**Phone: (601) 359-1163**  
**E-mail: [paige@mdac.ms.gov](mailto:paige@mdac.ms.gov)**

### **Agriculture Commissioner 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 encourages those celebrating the holidays to make this Christmas ‘real’ 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 through its website [MSChristmasTrees.com](http://MSChristmasTrees.com). 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 are preparing for the holidays, I want to encourage them to visit one of Mississippi’s 26 Christmas tree farms. Selecting a Genuine MS Christmas tree means you are not only supporting our farmers but also the local economy as well,” said Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson. “Consumers can also find an array of other Mississippi products for the holidays from gift ideas to ingredients for special holiday meals on our website [GenuineMS.com](http://GenuineMS.com).”

For those who have never owned a live Christmas tree or need tips for caring for a live tree, [MSChristmasTrees.com](http://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.

Make this Christmas real — buy a Genuine Mississippi Christmas tree. Visit [MSChristmasTrees.com](http://MSChristmasTrees.com) to find the nearest Christmas tree farm and view two videos. Consumers can also find a variety of products grown, raised, crafted, and made in Mississippi at [GenuineMS.com](http://GenuineMS.com).

###