



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE
ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER**

PRESS RELEASE

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President of Southern Mississippi Trading Hosts Leaders of State's Timber Industry

JACKSON, Miss. - David Porter, President of Southern Mississippi Trading LLC, (SMT), recently hosted Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson and leaders in the Mississippi timber industry to discuss ways to expand markets both domestically and internationally for timber. The group toured the operation based in Waynesboro. SMT is a leading wholesale trading company specializing in lumber, panels and other building materials as well as industrial application products and closeouts.

“Timber is an important part of Mississippi’s \$1.2 billion forestry industry,” said Commissioner Gipson. “I appreciate David bringing this group together to discuss ways that we can explore expanding markets for Mississippi timber, which will benefit our land and timber owners.”

Those attending included Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson; Executive Director of the Mississippi Logging Association, David Livingston; Co-owner of Greentree, Gary Stewart; Lumber Sales Manager of Greentree, Bryan Netterville; Controller, SMT, George Jackson; and Timber Commerce Liaison for the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Ginger Williamson.

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Photos attached.



Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson and timber industry leaders met at Southern Mississippi Trading, LLC, in Waynesboro to discuss ways to expand markets both domestically and internationally for the industry. Pictured left to right are Lumber Sales Manager of Greentree, Bryan Netterville; President of Southern Mississippi Trading, David Porter; Executive Director of the Mississippi Logging Association, David Livingston; Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson; Controller, Southern Mississippi Trading, George Jackson; Timber Commerce Liaison for the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Ginger Williamson; and Co-owner of Greentree, Gary Stewart.



Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson (right) met with David Porter, President of Southern Mississippi Trading, to discuss marketing opportunities for the timber industry.