



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

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Commissioner Gipson Celebrates National Farmers Market Week**

**JACKSON, Miss.** - Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson invites farmers markets and the public across the state to join in celebrating National Farmers Market Week. This annual event highlights over 8,000 farmers markets across the nation and their role in local economies. Gipson joins the United States Department of Agriculture in proclaiming August 4-10 as National Farmers Market Week.

“Farmers markets are a great way for local farmers to sell direct to consumers, and they also provide increased access to fresh fruits and vegetables,” Gipson said. “The number of farmers markets in Mississippi has grown partly due to the appeal of knowing exactly where your food comes from and who grew it.”

The positive impact of these markets on their local and state economies is extraordinary. Locally grown, fresh produce, meats, and dairy products are not only increasingly important to individual citizens, but also to restaurant vendors. An increased number of retailers are sourcing local produce every day.

There are currently 85 known farmers markets in Mississippi with 34 being certified by the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce. This certification program serves to identify and promote markets where producers of Mississippi grown fruits, vegetables, plant materials and other agricultural products gather to sell their goods directly to consumers.

To find additional farmers markets in Mississippi, visit [www.msfarmersmarket.com](http://www.msfarmersmarket.com) or download the Mississippi Farmers Market mobile app.

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