



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
MISSISSIPPI FAIR COMMISSION**

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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Commissioner Gipson Announces State Fair's 'Great Pumpkin Search'

JACKSON, Miss. – Commissioner Andy Gipson announced the addition of the 'Great Pumpkin Search,' a largest pumpkin contest, to the 2019 Mississippi State Fair. This event will take place Saturday, October 5, at the Biscuit Booth on the Midway.

Weigh-in for pumpkins will be from 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. Entries will be judged by weight on a certified scale and the heaviest, Mississippi grown pumpkin wins. Immediately following weigh-in, Commissioner Andy Gipson will announce the winner of the 2019 Mississippi Great Pumpkin Search. The first place prize is a Mississippi State Fair Blue ribbon, certificate, and a Genuine MS gift bag.

"For the first time in recent memory, there will be a largest pumpkin contest at the state fair," said Commissioner Gipson. "I am so looking forward to seeing our great state's biggest and tastiest pumpkins contend for that cherished 1st place blue ribbon."

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS:

- Pumpkin **MUST** be Mississippi grown.
- Pumpkin **MUST** be sound, healthy, and undamaged. Must be free of rot, holes, and cracks through to the interior cavity. No soil or mud on the pumpkin.
- Regular fair admission/parking required for contestants.
- Check-in will be at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds – Gate #14.
- Contestants are to help with the weigh-off and with loading/unloading the pumpkins.
- **ONLY** one entry per contestant.

Entry forms are available in the Market Bulletin and online at www.mdac.ms.gov/fair/contest-forms. For additional information, download the Mississippi State Fair mobile app, or visit www.MsStateFair.com.

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