



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

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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Andy Gipson Inaugurated as Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce

JACKSON, Miss. – Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson was sworn in today by Chief Justice Michael Randolph during an inaugural ceremony at the Mississippi State Capitol. On November 5, 2019, Gipson won with 58.7 percent of the vote with more than half-a-million Mississippi voters choosing him. Gipson has served as Mississippi’s Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce since April 2, 2018, following an appointment by Governor Phil Bryant. Gipson serves as the state’s eighth Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce.

“I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the people of the great State of Mississippi for four more years. Agriculture is the state’s largest economic sector, and I am proud to continue working on behalf of Mississippi farmers and ranchers, large and small, to continue moving agriculture forward,” said Commissioner Gipson.

As a farmer, lawyer, pastor and former State Representative, Gipson looks forward to working with everyone in Mississippi to promote, market and strengthen agriculture and commerce in the state.

“Over the next four years, we will continue building on our accomplishments with a focus on developing and expanding domestic and international markets for Mississippi’s agriculture and timber products, expanding our agriculture workforce development initiative, and protecting consumers by ensuring fairness and equity in the marketplace,” said Commissioner Gipson.

Gipson has owned and managed a cattle operation in Simpson County for more than 20 years and a tree farm since 2004. He is a member of the Mississippi Cattlemen’s Association and the Simpson County Development Foundation. He serves as Vice President of the Southern United States Trade Association and Past President of the Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture. He is an active member of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture.

He and his wife, Leslie, have been married since 2001. They have four children - Joseph, Benjamin, Abigail and Sarah. They reside on their small working farm in Simpson County.

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Photo and cutline attached.



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