



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE – BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY**  
LESTER SPELL, JR., D.V.M., COMMISSIONER  
BUTCH ALPE, DIRECTOR

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**For Immediate Release**

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**Spell Announces Dates of Beekeeping Workshops**

<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Place</b>
May 7	Mississippi State University's Clay Lyle Entomology Complex
May 16-17	Mississippi Agriculture & Forestry Museum/National Agricultural Aviation Museum on Lakeland Drive in Jackson
June 5-6	Forrest County Extension Service, 952 Sullivan Drive, Hattiesburg

Mississippi Agriculture Commissioner Lester Spell has announced the dates for upcoming workshops that will be held statewide to promote, recruit, and educate the importance of beekeeping.

“Honey bees are important to our agricultural and horticultural crops,” said Spell. “Because the number of managed beehives in the state and nation are on the decline, we must do all we can to make it a viable and interesting hobby or vocation.”

In an effort to boost interest in beekeeping, which will enhance pollination of crops and wildlife dependent plants, the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce in cooperation with the Mississippi State University Extension Service and the Mississippi Beekeepers Association, have organized these short courses that will provide helpful insight and educational tools to those interested or involved in beekeeping.

The workshops will provide basic knowledge and hands-on experience needed to properly care for and manage bee colonies. Classroom sessions will be held each morning followed by hands-on training sessions inside bee hives each afternoon.

To register to attend or for more information, contact Harry Fulton, State Entomologist with the Bureau of Plant Industry at (662) 325-3390, toll free at 1-888-257-1285, or by email at [harry@mdac.state.ms.us](mailto:harry@mdac.state.ms.us). The workshops will be provided free of charge.

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