



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE
LESTER SPELL, JR., D.V.M.
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Andy Prosser, Bureau Director
(601) 359-1158
E-mail: andy@mdac.state.ms.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 22, 2010

What:

Workshop focusing on Retail Avenues and Alternatives for Sales of Fruit and Vegetables

When and Where:

**6:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 30, 2010
Pontotoc County Extension Office, Pontotoc, MS**

Workshop on Fruit and Vegetable Retail Sales for Mississippi Producers Announced

The opportunity for Mississippi fruit and vegetable producers to learn strategies for selling fresh fruits and vegetables through multiple outlets including on-farm sales, community supported agriculture ventures, and local restaurants is being made available on Tuesday, November 30, at 6:00 p.m. at the Pontotoc County Extension Office in Pontotoc, Mississippi. The upcoming Retail Avenues and Alternatives for Sales of Fruits and Vegetables Workshop is funded by the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce and co-sponsored by Mississippi State University Extension Service, Mississippi Hospitality and Restaurant Association, Mississippi Farmers Market, and the Mississippi Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association.

Mike Steede, a producer from Lucedale, will share his experiences on establishing successful on-farm and community supported agriculture ventures and the many advantages they bring. A representative from the Mississippi Restaurant and Hospitality Association will give growers tips on helpful avenues for selling fresh produce to local restaurants. Also, participants will be informed about food safety and Good Agriculture Practices/Good Handling Practices.

There is no charge to attend the workshop. Pre-registration is required. The registration deadline is November 23. Pre-registration forms can be found at <http://www.mdac.state.ms.us>. For additional information or to obtain a registration form, contact Paige Manning at (601) 359-1163 or paige@mdac.state.ms.us.

###