



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:

December 29, 2010

What: Mississippi Fruit and Vegetable Growers Conference and Tradeshow
When: January 13-14, 2011
Where: Natchez Convention Center, Natchez, Mississippi

Mississippi Fruit and Vegetable Growers Conference and Tradeshow Announced

As the 'buy local' trend continues to grow, so does the demand for locally-grown fruits and vegetables. Consumers are becoming more health conscious and aware of the benefits of buying fresh, locally-grown produce providing fruit and vegetable growers with opportunities to sell their products. The Mississippi Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association is hosting a two-day conference and tradeshow to educate both current and potential growers on many aspects of fruit and vegetable production from seed variety selection to marketing. The Mississippi Fruit and Vegetable Growers Conference and Tradeshow, held in conjunction with the Mississippi Agritourism Association and the Gulf South Blueberry Growers Association, will take place January 13-14, 2011, at the Natchez Convention Center in Natchez, Mississippi.

The Mississippi Fruit and Vegetable Growers Conference and Tradeshow will provide growers, both large and small, and backyard gardeners with a unique opportunity to hear the latest trends in the industry from the experts, visit with exhibitors from companies offering products and services necessary for fruit and vegetable production, and network with other growers. A variety of seminars, which will fit the diverse needs and interests of all growers, will be offered. Some of the topics which will be covered include agritourism, blueberry production, high tunnel production, production of cut-flowers, marketing through the internet, organic production, muscadines, nanofarming, irrigation and fertigation, food safety, strawberries, pest management, and various aspects of farm management. A more comprehensive list of topics and additional information about the conference can be found at www.msfruitandveg.com.

The Mississippi Fruit and Vegetable Growers Conference and Tradeshow will begin at 8:00 a.m. on January 13 and will conclude at 5:00 p.m. on January 14. The registration fee is \$90 for two days or \$65 for one day. A registration form can be obtained by visiting www.msfruitandveg.com or your local MSU County Extension Office. For additional information, call Tammy Scott at (662) 325-2701 or email tscott@pss.msstate.edu or info@msfruitandveg.com.

###