

Title 2: Agriculture and Commerce

Part 1: Rules of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

SUBPART 1-ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE

Purpose of this Subpart

100 In accordance with Section 25-43-2.104 of the Mississippi Administrative Procedures Law, this subpart describes the Department of Agriculture and Commerce's duties and responsibilities, the organization of the Department, and its methods of operation.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §25-43-2.104 (Rev. 2006).

Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce

101 The Commissioner of Agriculture is an officer of the executive branch of state government elected by the people pursuant to *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-9-1 The Department of Agriculture and Commerce is under the control and management of the Commissioner. The law provides that the Commissioner shall have a competent knowledge of agriculture; mining, manufacturing, statistics and general industries and he or she must be an experienced and practical agriculturist. The law charges the Commissioner with numerous duties in the areas of development and marketing of agriculture and commerce, regulation of related industries and investigation of agricultural crimes.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-1-1 *et seq.*

Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

102 The Department consists of a Deputy Commissioner and other staff who assist the Commissioner in carrying out the responsibilities of the office. The Department is divided into the following:

1. Administrative Services
  - a. Accounting
  - b. Purchasing
  - c. Personnel
  - d. Special Projects
2. Livestock Theft
3. Plant Industry
  - a. Pesticide
  - b. Plant
  - c. Seed
4. Regulatory Services
  - a. Consumer Protection

- b. Fruits and Vegetables
- c. Meat Inspection
- d. Petroleum
- e. Weights and Measures
- 5. Marketing Services
  - a. Farmers Market
  - b. Public Relations and Events
  - c. Sales and Community Development
  - d. Market Bulletin
- 6. Management Information Services
- 7. Museum

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-1-203.

Delegation of Authority

- 103 Authority to act on behalf of the Commissioner is delegated to the following positions:
- 1. Deputy commissioner serves as the principal deputy to the Commissioner and is delegated to act for the Commissioner on all Department matters.
  - 2. Bureau and Division Directors are delegated authority to act for the Commissioner on all matters within their assigned bureau or division.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-1-1 *et seq.*

Contacting the Department of Agriculture and Commerce

- 104 The Department of Agriculture and Commerce may be contacted in person, by U.S. Mail, Courier mail, e-mail, telephone, and telefacsimile. The Department of Agriculture and Commerce maintains and provides interactive services on the Internet at [www.mdac.state.ms.us](http://www.mdac.state.ms.us).
- 1. Location of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce-The Department maintains offices in Jackson and at Mississippi State University at the following locations:
    - a. Commissioner’s office and Department headquarters, 121 North Jefferson Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. This location houses Administrative Services, Livestock Theft, Management Information Services, Marketing Services, and Regulatory Services.
    - b. Robert H. McCarty Building, Stone Boulevard, Mississippi State, Mississippi 39762. This office houses the Bureau of Plant Industry.
    - c. Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum, 1150 Lakeland Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39216.
    - d. Mississippi Farmers Market, 929 High Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39202.
  - 2. The mailing addresses for the Department of Agriculture and Commerce are:
    - a. Post Office Box 1609, Jackson, Mississippi 39215
    - b. Post Office Box 5207, Mississippi State, Mississippi 39762

3. Courier Mail should be delivered to the street addresses listed above. The 121 North Jefferson Street is the primary mail distribution point.
4. The Department of Agriculture and Commerce telephone and facsimile numbers are:
  - a. Commissioner's Office and Main Headquarters (601-359-1100), (800) 551-1830, FAX (601) 354-6290
  - b. Bureau of Plant Industry (662) 325-3390, (888) 257-1285, FAX (662) 325-8397
  - c. Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum (601) 713-3365, (800) 844-8687, FAX (601) 982-4292
  - d. Mississippi Farmers Market (601) 354-6575, FAX (601) 354-7330

Source: *Miss. Code Ann.* §69-1-7.