

# 2019 MBA Agriculture Conference

**Tuesday, March 19, 2019**  
**Forestry Building, MS Agriculture & Forestry Museum**  
**1150 Lakeland Drive, Jackson**



**\*2018 Farm Bill**

**\*Crop Insurance**

**\*Commodity Markets**

**\*Tariffs, Other Trade Issues**

**\*Production Budgets**

**\*Mississippi Land Values, Rents**

**\*Other Important Ag Issues**

MISSISSIPPI  
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**TENTATIVE AGENDA**

- 8:30 a.m. Registration**
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome** – Hue Townsend, CEO, Guaranty Bank & Trust Co.  
Chair, MBA Agriculture Committee
- 9:15 a.m. Conference Overview** – Dr. Keith Coble, Mississippi State University
- 9:30 a.m. Commodity Pricing; Tariffs, Other Issues** – Dr. Josh Maples  
Mississippi State University
- 10:00 a.m. Production Budgets/Costs vs. Market Returns** – Dr. Josh Maples
- 10:30 a.m. Break**
- 10:45 a.m. Survey of Mississippi Land Values & Rents** – Dr. Keith Coble
- 11:30 a.m. LUNCH**  
**Remarks** – Commissioner Andy Gipson,  
MS Department of Agriculture & Commerce
- 1:00 p.m. Update on Crop Insurance Program** – Dr. Keith Coble
- 1:20 p.m. Overview 2018 Farm Bill** – Dr. Keith Coble
- 2:00 p.m. Implementation of Farm Bill in Mississippi** – Robert Carson, State Director,  
USDA Farm Service Agency
- 2:30 p.m. Questions & Answers/Open Discussion Re: Farm Bill, Other Issues**
- 3:00 p.m. Adjournment**

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## CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

### **Andy Gipson – Commissioner, Mississippi Department of Agriculture & Commerce**

Commissioner Gipson was sworn in on April 2, 2018, following his appointment by Governor Phil Bryant to lead the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. A farmer, attorney and pastor, Gipson served 10 years in the Mississippi House of Representatives, representing District 77 which includes parts of Simpson and Rankin counties. He was active in the House leadership, chairing the House Judiciary B Committee and being named 2018 Conservative Legislator of the Year. He has owned and managed a cattle operation in Simpson County for over 20 years and a tree farm since 2004. Commissioner Gipson received his bachelor's degree from Mississippi College and his law degree from Mississippi College School of Law. He has served as pastor of Gum Springs Baptist Church since 2011.

### **Dr. Keith Coble – Head of Department of Agricultural Economics, Mississippi State University**

Dr. Coble is a Giles Distinguished Professor and Head of the Agricultural Economics Department at Mississippi State University. His academic focus is on agriculture policy, insurance and agricultural data analysis, and he is president-elect of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association. Dr. Coble has extensive experience in helping develop and analyze USDA farm policy. He has testified on several occasions before Congressional Committees on agricultural policy, and he served as chief economist for the minority staff of the U.S. Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee during debate on the 2014 Farm Bill. Dr. Coble has chaired the "Big Ag Data" committee of the Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics, and he is currently active in the leadership of the non-profit Ag Data Coalition, which helps farmers control and manage agricultural data.

### **Dr. Josh Maples – Assistant Professor, Mississippi State University**

Dr. Maples is Assistant Professor on the extension faculty at Mississippi State University. He is involved in extensive research on making the most economical production and marketing decisions on the farm, with a focus on issues throughout livestock and meat supply chains. Dr. Maples also conducts research and analysis on commodity prices and markets. He regularly works with the media to provide market analysis and information to support livestock producers' decision-making processes. In the classroom at Mississippi State, he instructs Financial and Commodity Futures Marketing.

### **Robert A. (Bobby) Carson Jr. – State Executive Director, USDA Farm Service Agency**

A third-generation Quitman County farmer, Carson was appointed by President Trump as Mississippi executive director of the USDA Farm Service Agency in October 2017. Prior to his appointment, he managed a farming and ginning operation in the Mississippi Delta for 30 years. In his farming career, Carson has implemented conservation and wildlife enhancement programs into row crop production, and reorganized irrigation programs to become updated, cost-effective water conservation operations. He also has worked to incorporate wildlife management into row crop farming and promoted direct marketing from the producer to the manufacturer. Carson has served in leadership of many agriculture organizations, including the National Cotton Council and Delta Council. He serves on the Board of Directors of Citizens Bank & Trust Company in Marks.



# MISSISSIPPI BANKERS ASSOCIATION

[www.msbankers.com](http://www.msbankers.com)

### Registration Information

- MBA Members: \$250 per registrant
- Non-Members: \$500 for registrant

Registration fees include instruction, materials, refreshment breaks and lunch. Hotel reservations are NOT included in registration fees.

### Cancellation Policy

Register before March 12, if possible. Full registration fees will be refunded if a cancellation is received on or before March 19, 2019. After that date, a \$50 processing fee will be retained. No refunds will be granted for cancellations made the day of the conference. Substitutions are welcome at no charge.

### Hotel Information

Hotel reservations may be made by calling the Hilton Hotel at (601) 957-2800. Please reference the Mississippi Bankers Association when making your reservation to get the special rate of \$129. The attendee is responsible for room payment including taxes and expenses.

### More Information

Dress for the conference is business casual. We recommend that you bring a light sweater or jacket in the instance the room is cool. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 19. If you need additional information, please contact Lori at the MBA Office by calling 601-948-6366 or by emailing [IrRichardson@msbankers.com](mailto:IrRichardson@msbankers.com)



## 2019 Agriculture Conference

March 19, 2019

**Agriculture Museum**

**1150 Lakeland Drive—Forestry Bldg., Jackson**

PLEASE DUPLICATE FORM FOR EACH REGISTRANT

BANK/COMPANY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRANT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

BANK ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

(SEE REGISTRATION INFORMATION ABOVE FOR FEE BREAKDOWN)

\$250 For MBA Member Registration

\$500 For Non-Member Registration

Each individual registrant will receive a confirmation of registration via email. Please contact the MBA at (601) 948-6366 if you do not receive a confirmation within 48 hours.

TO REGISTER: Scan & Email to [IrRichardson@msbankers.com](mailto:IrRichardson@msbankers.com)

MAIL CHECKS TO: MBA; Attn: Lori Richardson, PO Box 37, Jackson, MS 39205



# Mississippi Bankers Association Program Partners



For more information contact  
Brooke McCoy, [bmccoy@msbankers.com](mailto:bmccoy@msbankers.com)