



2017

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# MISSISSIPPI

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**AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY &  
NATURAL RESOURCES**



**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™**  
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY  
AND VETERINARY MEDICINE



# **JIMMIE DICK CARTER**

## CHAMPION OF MS AGRICULTURE

At the age of 15, James R. “Jimmie Dick” Carter began his career as a farmer. His high school principal allowed him to plan his classes in the morning so he could farm in the afternoon. Carter and his family continue to farm diversified crops on 7,000 acres in Sharkey County. A 1950 MSU graduate, Carter and his family operate as Carter Brothers Farm. They have been in the agriculture business for over 70 years. Carter has repeatedly been recognized for his agricultural accomplishments including Mississippi Farmer of the Year, Mississippi Farm Bureau Vice President, Delta Council President, and MSU’s National Alumnus of the Year. The MSU Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine and MS Farm Bureau honor Mr. Carter as a champion of Mississippi agriculture.



*Photo by Roy Meeks, Leland, MS*

## MISSISSIPPI

# AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & NATURAL RESOURCES

(OVERVIEW)

36,200 farms

10.7 million acres of land farmed

\$26.7 billion value of farmland & buildings

19.7 million acres of forestland

14,000 miles of streams

640,000 acres of ponds & lakes

Top 5 enterprises in 2017

- poultry and eggs
- forestry
- soybeans
- cotton
- corn

Value of production figures were estimated in December 2017. These estimates may change as USDA releases updated information in 2018.

## MAKING A

# DIFFERENCE IN OUR STATE

(BY THE NUMBERS)

**\$7.56  
billion**

2017 **farm-gate** value of ag  
and forestry production  
(includes government pymts)

**\$16.41  
billion**

2017 value-added to  
the MS economy by ag  
and forestry production

**\$105.5  
million**

R&D expenditures by MSU  
in agricultural sciences -  
#12 national ranking

**3,566**

**Students enrolled**  
in Ag Division colleges  
at MSU, Fall 2017 -  
highest ever

**192,520**

**Farm Bureau  
members** served  
by the largest farm  
organization in the  
state



2017: ANOTHER  
**PRODUCTIVE  
YEAR**

**Soybean Yields** 53 bushels/acre\*

**Cotton Yields** 1,075 lbs/acre\*

**Peanut Yields** 4,100 lbs/acre\*

**Soybean Production** 115 million bushels\*

**Corn Yields** 189 bushels per acre\*

**Cotton Production** 1.4 million bales

**Broiler Production** \$2.52 billion\*  
(value)

**Egg Production** \$263 million\*  
(value)

All production and income estimates are subject to  
change as USDA releases updated information in 2018.

\* Record/Near record level

Mississippi is in the **Top 20**  
in the production of **15**  
**agricultural commodities**

- No. 1 in Catfish
- No. 3 in Pulpwood
- No. 3 in Sweet Potatoes
- No. 3 in Cotton
- No. 3 in Cottonseed
- No. 5 in Broilers
- No. 6 in Rice
- No. 7 in Peanuts
- No. 9 in Blueberries
- No. 11 in Pecans
- No. 12 in Soybeans
- No. 15 in Watermelons
- No. 17 in Hogs & Pigs
- No. 20 in Corn
- No. 20 in Eggs

Source: Mississippi Ag Statistics Service/National Ag Statistics Service, USDA



MISSISSIPPI

# FARMS & FARMERS

**Farm acreage** 10,700,000

**Forestry acreage** 19,700,000

## Demographics of farmers

### Race

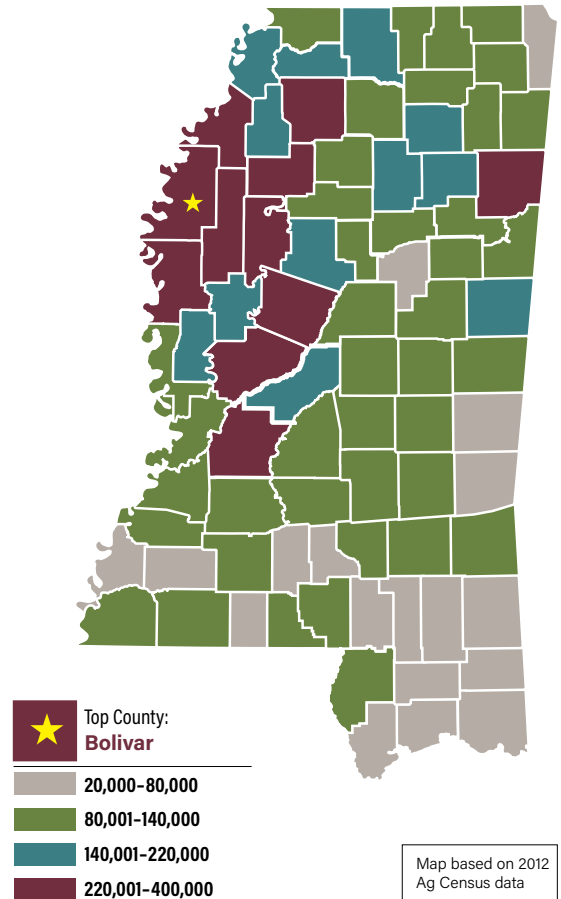
|                  |       |
|------------------|-------|
| White            | 86.0% |
| African American | 13.2% |
| Other            | 0.8%  |

### Gender

|        |       |
|--------|-------|
| Male   | 86.1% |
| Female | 13.9% |

**Average age** 60.4

## LAND IN FARMS



Map based on 2012  
Ag Census data



MISSISSIPPI

## FARMS & FARMERS

**Number of farms** 36,200

**Farms with \$1 million  
or more in sales** 1,900

**Value of farmland  
& buildings** \$26.7B

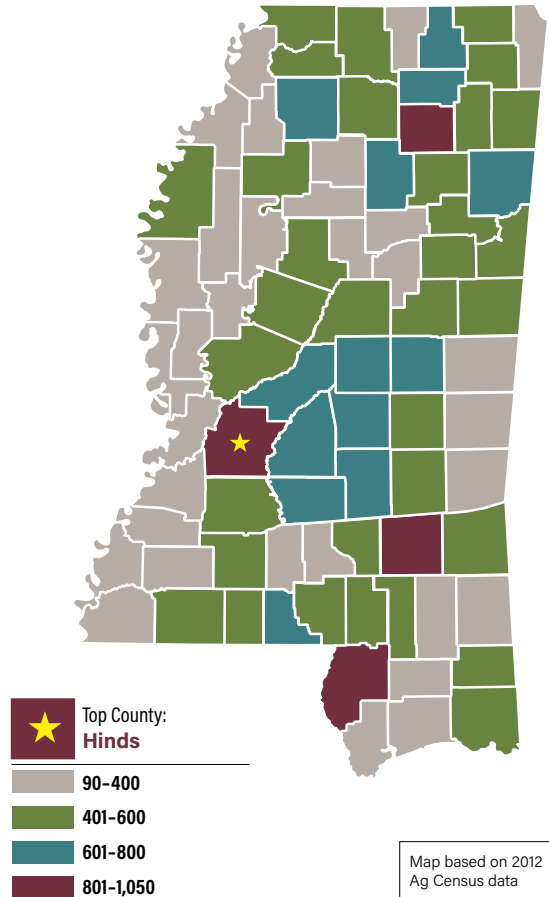
**Average size of farm (acres)** 296

**Principal operators'  
primary occupation**

**Farming** 16,355

**Other** 21,721

### NUMBER OF FARMS



Map based on 2012  
Ag Census data



## MISSISSIPPI BROILERS

**746,000,000** broilers  
produced in 2017

**1,430** farms

**\$2,517** million value of  
production in 2017

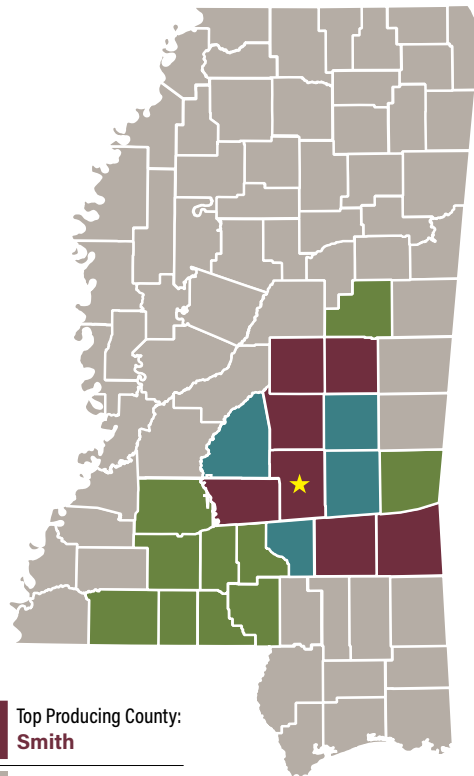


**\$290**

**MILLION**

ABOVE 2016  
VALUE OF  
PRODUCTION

### NUMBER OF BROILERS SOLD



★ Top Producing County:  
**Smith**

0-8,000,000

8,000,001-25,000,000

25,000,001-50,000,000

50,000,001-78,000,000

Map based on 2012  
Ag Census data



## MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY

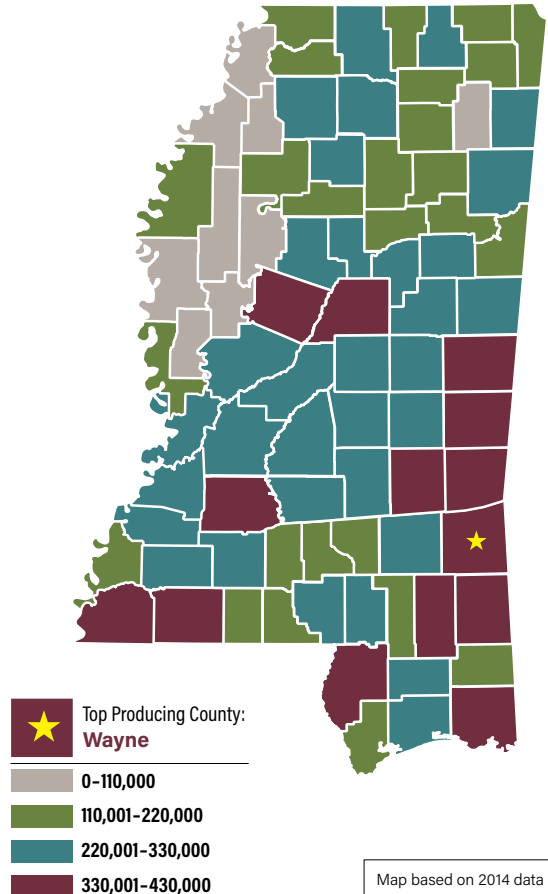
**19,700,000** acres

**125,000** forest landowners

**\$1,393** million value of  
production in 2017



## TIMBER ACREAGE







## MISSISSIPPI SOYBEANS

**115,010,000** bushels  
produced in 2017

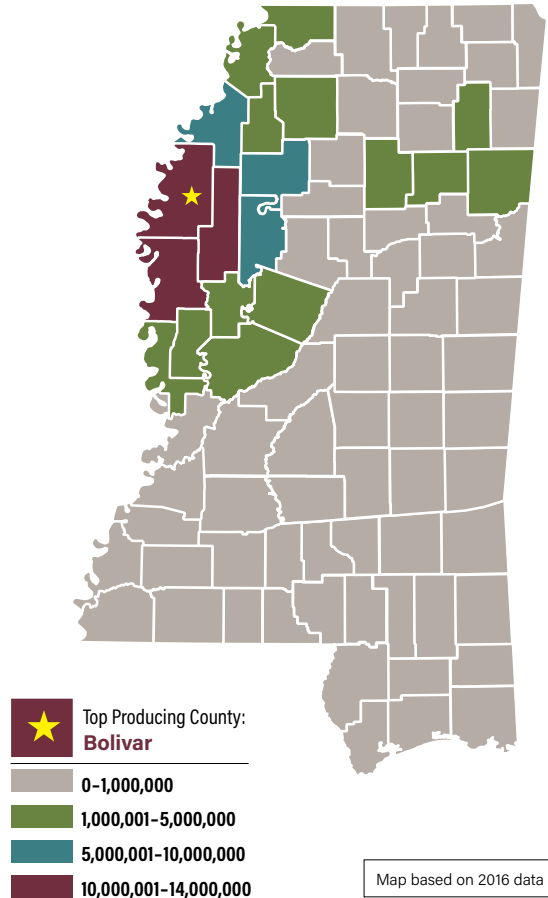
**3,274** farms

**\$1,115** million value  
of production in 2017



**\$150**  
**MILLION**  
ABOVE 2016  
VALUE OF  
PRODUCTION

## SOYBEANS BUSHELS





## MISSISSIPPI COTTON

**1,400,000** bales  
produced in 2017

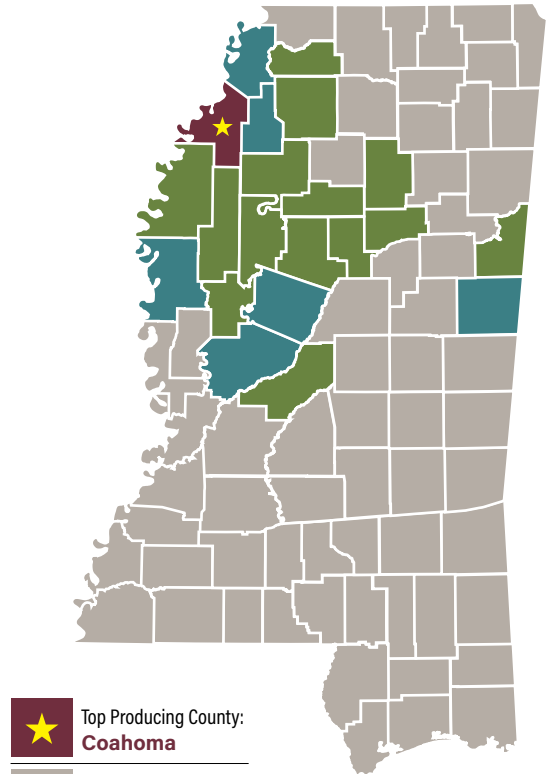
**824** farms

**\$562** million value of  
production in 2017



**\$143**  
**MILLION**  
ABOVE 2016  
VALUE OF  
PRODUCTION

## COTTON BALES



Map based on 2016 data



## MISSISSIPPI CORN

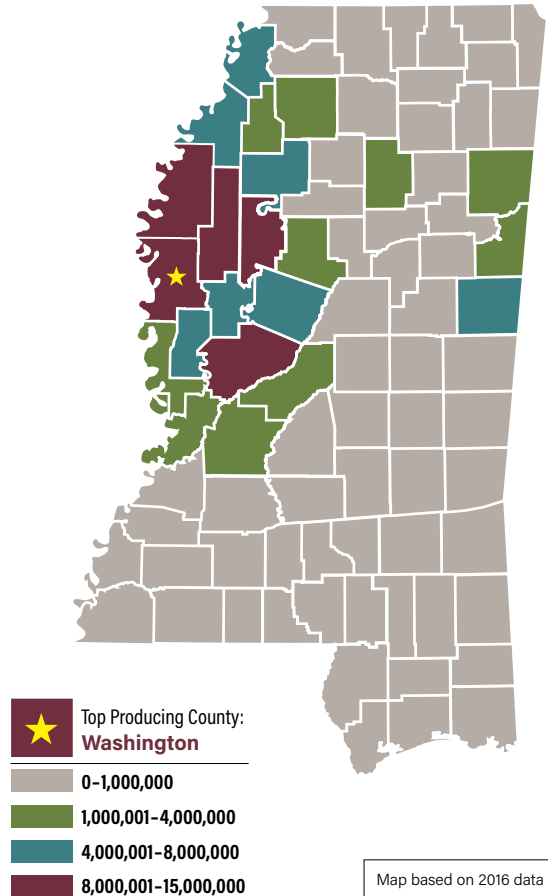
**94,500,000** bushels  
produced in 2017

**2,022** farms

**\$337** million value  
of production in 2017



## CORN BUSHELS





MISSISSIPPI  
**CATTLE  
& CALVES**

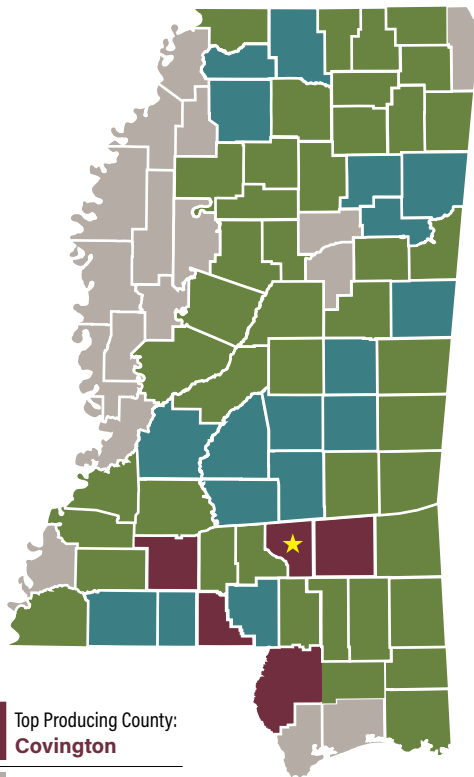
**890,000** head in 2017  
(1/1/17 inventory)

**15,940** farms

**\$285** million value of  
production in 2017



**CATTLE AND CALF INVENTORY**



 Top Producing County:  
**Covington**

 0-4,999

 5,000-14,999

 15,000-23,999

 24,000-56,000

Map based on 2017 data



## MISSISSIPPI CATFISH

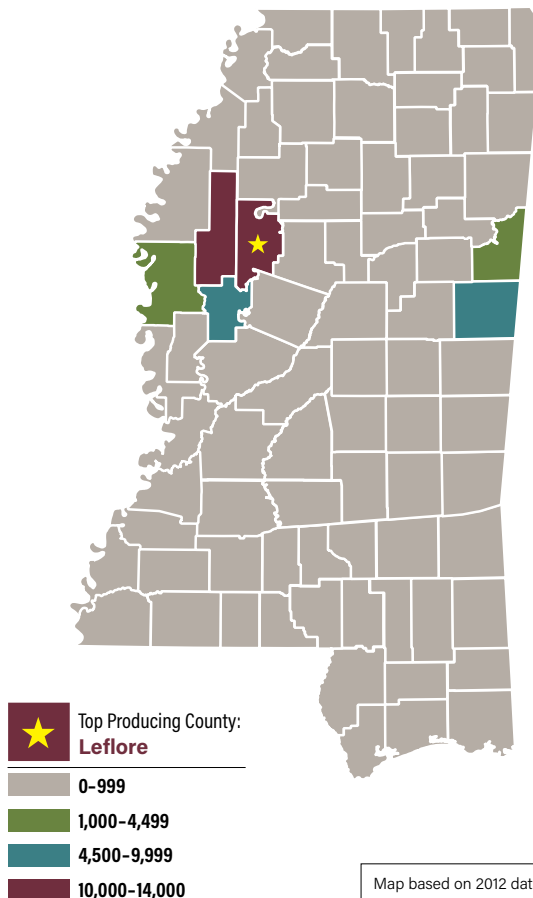
**155** operations

**34,700** acres of production

**\$181** million value  
of production in 2017



### CATFISH WATER ACRES





## MISSISSIPPI RICE

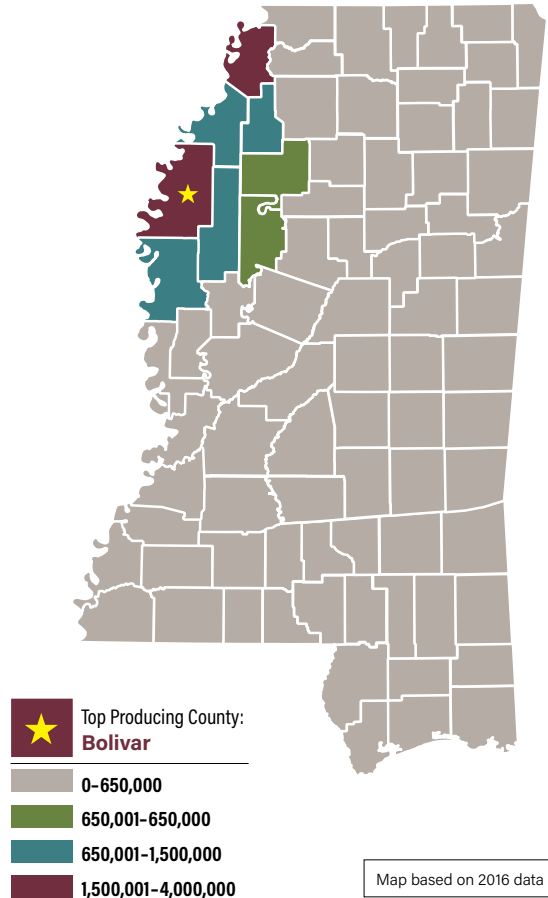
**8,436,000** hundredweight  
produced in 2017

**259** farms

**\$105** million value  
of production in 2017



## RICE HUNDREDWEIGHT





MISSISSIPPI  
**WHEAT**

**25,000** acres harvested in 2017

**1,450,000** bushels produced in 2017

**\$8** million value of production in 2017



MISSISSIPPI  
**HAY**

**610,000** acres harvested in 2017

**1.46** million tons produced in 2017

**\$116** million value of production in 2017





MISSISSIPPI  
**SWEET  
POTATOES**

**29,000** acres harvested in 2017

**4.93** million hundredweight  
produced in 2017

**89** farms

**\$123** million value of production in 2017



**\$1**  
**MILLION**  
ABOVE 2016  
VALUE OF  
PRODUCTION



MISSISSIPPI  
**HORTICULTURE  
CROPS**

**\$107** million value of production  
in 2017 for horticulture crops  
excluding sweet potatoes

Horticulture crops include  
vegetables, melons, potatoes,  
fruits, tree nuts, berries, nursery,  
greenhouses, floriculture,  
sod, and Christmas tree farms.



**\$2**  
**MILLION**  
ABOVE 2016  
VALUE OF  
PRODUCTION





## MISSISSIPPI EGGS

**1,395** million eggs  
produced in 2017

**276** farms with 100+ layers

**\$263** million value of  
production in 2017



**\$41**  
**MILLION**  
ABOVE 2016  
VALUE OF  
PRODUCTION



## MISSISSIPPI HOGS

**570,000** hogs and pigs  
(12/1/17 inventory)

**1,217,000** piglets born in 2017

**306** farms with hogs

**\$117** million value  
of production in 2017



**\$27**  
**MILLION**  
ABOVE 2016  
VALUE OF  
PRODUCTION



## MISSISSIPPI PEANUTS

**43,000** acres harvested in 2017

**176** million pounds produced in 2017

**128** farms

**\$33** million value of production in 2017



**\$7**  
**MILLION**  
ABOVE 2016  
VALUE OF  
PRODUCTION



## MISSISSIPPI DAIRY HERDS

**80** Grade A Dairy Herds  
(Estimated)

**9,000** milk cows in 2017

**\$26** million value of  
production of milk in 2017



**\$1**  
**MILLION**  
ABOVE 2016  
VALUE OF  
PRODUCTION



MISSISSIPPI  
**GRAIN  
SORGHUM**

**4,000** acres harvested in 2017

**288,000** bushels produced in 2017

**\$1.3** million value of production in 2017



MISSISSIPPI  
**HORSES**

**126,000** horses | **72 public** arenas

**\$1.15** billion total economic impact

**\$890** million value of depreciated investments

**39,500** jobs



Data based on 2008 study by Agricultural Economics, Mississippi State University



MISSISSIPPI  
**FISHING, HUNTING  
& WILDLIFE  
WATCHING**

**14,000** miles of streams

**345,000** acres of ponds

**295,000** acres of large lakes  
and reservoirs

**\$2.7** billion annual economic impact

**\$1.14** billion from hunting

**\$772** million from fishing

**\$829** million from wildlife watching

**66,171** jobs

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Data based on 2010 study by Forest and Wildlife Research Center, Mississippi State University.



Appreciation is expressed to the following individuals for their input: David Ammon, John Auel, Dominique Belcher, Karen Brasher, Alba Dinarte, Kevin Hudson, Kat Lawrence, Samantha Laird, Bob Williams, and Brian Williams.

# Mississippi Value of Production Estimates

## December 2017

by: Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine  
Mississippi State University

| Commodity              | 2016               | 2017    |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------|
|                        | in million dollars |         |
| Broilers/Eggs/Chickens | 2,458              | 2,788   |
| Forestry               | 1,514              | 1,393   |
| Soybeans               | 965                | 1,115   |
| Cotton                 | 419                | 562     |
| Corn                   | 448                | 337     |
| Cattle/Calves          | 296                | 285     |
| Catfish                | 215                | 181     |
| Sweet Potatoes         | 122                | 123     |
| Hogs                   | 90                 | 117     |
| Hay                    | 128                | 116     |
| Horticulture Crops     | 105                | 107     |
| Rice                   | 134                | 105     |
| Peanuts                | 26                 | 33      |
| Milk                   | 25                 | 26      |
| Wheat                  | 11                 | 8       |
| Govt. Programs / Misc. | 350                | 262     |
| Grand Total            | \$7,306            | \$7,558 |



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Source: MSU Extension Service and Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service. The 2017 government programs estimate is preliminary. Miscellaneous sales from 2012 Ag Census.