

Sarah Huckabee Sanders

Governor

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Wes Ward Secretary of Agriculture

Arkansas Department of Agriculture FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 10/18/2023 Contact: Ayden Massey, (501) 813-6012 ayden.massey@agriculture.arkansas.gov

Arkansas Grown Conference and Expo Scheduled for January 2024

LITTLE ROCK, AR – The Arkansas Department of Agriculture will partner with several Arkansas agricultural associations and organizations to host the second Arkansas Grown Conference and Expo on January 25-27, 2024, at the Hot Springs Convention Center.

The Arkansas Grown Conference and Expo is open to all parties interested in the Arkansas agriculture industry and will focus on farmers and producers who produce for the local food system. In January 2023, the Department hosted the first Arkansas Grown Conference and Expo with over 450 attendees and 70 vendors.

The three-day event will consist of workshops, speakers, off-site farm tours, networking opportunities, and a vendor trade show.

Partner organizations include the Arkansas State Horticulture Society, Arkansas Farmers Market Association, Arkansas Blackberry Growers Association, Arkansas Agritourism Association, Arkansas Association of Grape Growers, Arkansas Pecan Growers Association, Mid America Strawberry Growers Association, and the Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts.

Registration includes access to general sessions, workshops, and entrance to the expo. Opportunities for sponsorship and vendor booths are available. For more information, contact Beth Moore at <u>beth.moore@agriculture.arkansas.gov</u>.

To register and learn more about the Arkansas Grown Conference and Expo, visit <u>arkansasgrown.org</u> <u>/arkansas-grown-conference-expo/</u>.

The Arkansas Department of Agriculture is dedicated to the development and implementation of policies and programs for Arkansas agriculture, forestry, and natural resources to keep its farmers and ranchers competitive in national and international markets while conserving natural resources and ensuring safe food, fiber, and forest products for the citizens of the state and nation. Visit <u>agriculture.arkansas.gov/</u>. The Arkansas Department of Agriculture offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.