

## **What: Northeast MS Agri-tourism Inservice and Farm Tour-Sponsored by the Mississippi Association of Agricultural Agents**

**Where:** Tours will be conducted of several North Mississippi Agri-tourism farms:

**Who:** This is a core inservice for Area Agents, County directors and 4-H agents

Limited to 40 participants

**Date:** October 4, 2011

### **Agenda:**

9:00 Meet at NMREC for loading of tour bus

9:15 Depart for Madi Bell Farms-Houston (Scott Cagle)

Madi Bell Farm is a family owned agritourism enterprise located in Houston, MS. The farm offers a wide variety of animals for kids to pet and feed along with a concession stand, hay rides, and a pumpkin patch each fall. The farm is open daily during the month of October and by reservation throughout the year. Birthday parties and other group events are welcome to make reservations at any time. Madi Bell is owned and operated by Mr. Rayburn Parks.

12:00 Lunch and Tour of Wise Farms-New Albany (Stanley Wise)

Wise Family Farm located near Ecu, Mississippi, is a small 80 acre farm, producing vegetables and fruit for the local community and has operated a Fall Season Agritourism Enterprise since 2003. The farm has been in the Wise Family since 1926 and is operated by the late S.G. Wise Family. Wise Family Farm sells most of their produce on the farm with a limited amount going to the local farmers market. Their fall activity operates in October and includes a Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch, Farm Tour, Campfire Parties and weekend stage entertainment. They strive to connect the public to the farm by providing educational programs to schools and small groups upon request. Their main focus is to provide a family friendly farm experience to the public thru fun based agritainment activities. Their target markets are families and small groups who desire a fun farm-based outing on the weekends. In 2010, the farm added flower picking to their fall activity. In 2011, they added a High Tunnel for early season tomato production.

2:30 Tour of Keel Kreek Outdoors, owner Chris Russell (Stanley Wise and Ricky Ferguson)

<http://www.keelkreek.com/>

This guided hunt enterprise is nestled in the rolling and fertile creek bottoms of Northeast Mississippi and is one of deer hunting's best kept secrets. Since 2007 they have offered a limited number of hunts available to the public. You can book a hunt convenient to your schedule (Oct 2 –Jan 31<sup>st</sup>) at a fraction of the cost paid elsewhere. Children age 16 and under, who hunt at a reduced rate, may harvest any animal legal by state regulation. They also have special accommodations and rates for disabled hunters.

3:30 Depart for NMREC