

# Agriculture Tours

Sikeston and Southeast Missouri has some of the most fertile soil in the State of Missouri and is home to numerous farming operations. Whether your visiting in the spring or fall season you'll see a cornucopia of color and activity. Area crops are varied and include watermelon, corn, rice, fruit, cotton, soybeans and other row crops. Below are some suggested sites and tour options...

**Buffalo Ranch** - Buffalo can be viewed on Nancy St. in the Mini-Farms Subdivision off Hwy HH, Sikeston

**Jennings Farm (573) 667-5681** - 2504 County Hwy 824, Sikeston MO 63801. Their crops are located on County Hwy 824 & 480. From Sikeston go through Morehouse to County Hwy 840, then cross Hwy 60 over to County Hwy 824. Fall crops include cotton, rice and soybeans.

**Vanduser Gin (573) 471-1903** - 801 Hamilton St. Vanduser MO 63784. The gin is located at the intersection of Hwy ZZ & Main St. Crops include cotton; the gin is also surrounded by other row crops of corn and soybeans. The gin is open Monday-Thursday 8am to 4pm & Friday 8am to 12pm.

**Beggs Family Farms (573) 471-3879** - 2319 State Hwy U, Sikeston MO 63801

Crops include pumpkins, strawberries, corn and more. Attractions: pumpkins patch, corn maze, petting zoo, and country store.

**Bader Farms (573) 246-2528** - 38601 State Hwy WW, Campbell, MO 63933. Crops include peaches, strawberries, watermelon, cantaloupe, strawberries, blackberries, corn, apples and pecans.

**Kinnaman Orchard (573) 568-2959** - 24987 County Rd. 317, Bloomfield, MO 63825. Crops include flowers, nut trees, peaches, strawberries, blackberries, plums, corn, tomatoes and much more.

**Cates Orchard (573) 624-3949** - 13423 State Hwy WW, Dudley, MO 63936. Crops include peaches, nectarines, plums, apricots, apples and pears. Apple cider, sweet corn, pecans, pumpkins, tomatoes, squash, cucumbers, bell peppers. Open mid-June through October. Mon-Tues 4-6 pm, Thurs 4-6 pm, Fri 2-5 pm, Sat 9 am-4 pm

**Monsanto (573) 471-5606** - 2992 State Hwy V, Matthews MO 63867 Contact:: Andy Holm. Call in advance for tour information

**Pioneer Seed Co. (573) 748-7971**, 11426 US Highway 61, New Madrid, MO 63869. Call for tour information.

**Riceland Foods (573) 643-2241**, 918 New Madrid County Port, Marston, MO 63866. Farmer-owned cooperative providing marketing services for rice, soybeans and wheat. Rice, oil and lecithin products. Call for tour information.

## Points of Interest

*Sikeston Depot Museum*, (573) 481-9967, 116 W. Malone, Sikeston

*Veterans Park*, (573) 475-3725, Intersection of Linn & Campanella Streets., Sikeston

*Downtown Farmers' Market*, Corner of New Madrid & Front St, Sikeston. Open May-Oct. 7am-sellout

*Recreation Complex*, 501 Campanella St., Sikeston (573) 475-3725. Outdoor recreation park with fishing lake.

*Southeast Missouri Ag Museum*, Sikeston, (573) 471-9241521 Hwy 532 Bertrand, Antique farm equipment



### Did you know...

- The average dairy cow produces seven gallons of milk a day, 2,100 pounds of milk a month, and 46,000 glasses of milk a year.
- Soybeans are an important ingredient for the production of crayons. In fact, one acre of soybeans can produce 82,368 crayons.
- One pound of wool can make 10 miles of yarn. There are 150 yards (450 feet) of wool yarn in a baseball.
- Agriculture is one of the United States' most important industries, employing more than 24 million workers or 17% of the country's total workforce.



### Cotton Ginning Process

- Farmers use special harvester equipment to pick the cotton from the fields.
- Cotton is brought from the field to the gin in large modular wagons.
- Dirt, seeds, hulls & other particles are removed from the cotton as it runs through the cotton gin, also called ginning.
- The end product is clean cotton tightly pressed and tied into large bales.
- The bales are stacked in trucks & shipped to warehouses where they are distributed worldwide to millers to make fabric.

### What can you make from a bale of cotton?

Jeans - T-Shirts - Sheets - Diapers - shirts - Socks - Shorts - Handkerchiefs - Towels - \$100 bills

### How much does a bale of cotton weigh?

480 pounds



\*For hotels, restaurants, and amenities call the Sikeston Convention & Visitors Bureau at (888) 309-6591, (573) 471-2498 or [www.sikeston.net](http://www.sikeston.net)