

Illinois Livestock Dealer Charged by USDA

WASHINGTON, D.C., Feb. 13, 1997--Larreen Susan Becherer, doing business as Becherer Feeder Pig Company, Waterman, Illinois, has been charged by the U.S. Department of Agriculture with operating as a dealer subject to the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act without registering with the Secretary of Agriculture and obtaining an adequate bond or its equivalent, and with failing to pay the full purchase price of livestock.

Becherer has a right to a hearing on the federal administrative charges. If the charges are proven, she will be placed under a cease and desist order similar to a permanent injunction, barred from operating subject to the P&S Act, and may be ordered to pay a civil penalty.

The Packers and Stockyards Act is an antitrust, fair trade practice, and payment protection law. It is designed to ensure free and open competition, and to prevent unfair and deceptive practices in the marketing of livestock, meat, and poultry.

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Dana Stewart (202) 720-5091E-mail dstewart@gipsadc.usda.gov