

Syverson Consent Decision Final

WASHINGTON (July 6, 2001) - On June 12, 2001, Todd Syverson, d/b/a Syverson Livestock Brokers (Syverson), of Wanamingo, Minnesota, entered into a consent decision with the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA). Syverson operates as a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce for his own account and as a market agency buying livestock on commission.

Syverson admitted the jurisdictional allegations of an administrative complaint, waived an oral hearing, consented and agreed for the purpose of settling this proceeding, to the entry of this decision.

Under the terms of the decision, Syverson, has agreed to cease and desist from: (1) buying livestock from customers on the basis of false and incorrect purchase prices, weights, and designation of the buyer; (2) misrepresenting to customers that he was purchasing livestock for a packer on a hot carcass weight basis to be determined at the packing plant when the livestock was neither purchased on a hot carcass weight basis for the packer as agent, nor purchased for sale to the packer on a hot carcass weight basis; (3) issuing accounts of purchase or sale which fail to show the true and correct nature of the livestock transaction accounted for therein, including, but not limited to the true and correct purchase or sale price, the type of weight used for calculating payment, and the location where the livestock was sold; (4) preparing false invoices or other documents, including scale tickets and condemnation certificates, for the purpose of concealing or disguising fraudulent decreases in the amounts owed for livestock purchases, the identity of the livestock buyer and the actual number of cattle for which payment is owed; (5) misrepresenting to customers that he would sell their livestock for them at a livestock auction market and then selling their livestock for his own account and causing false records to be prepared showing a false prior purchase of the livestock by Syverson at a lower purchase price.

The order requires Syverson to keep and maintain accounts, records and memoranda that will fully and correctly disclose all transactions in his operation. Syverson is also suspended as a registrant under the Packers and Stockyards Act for a period of two years. However, a supplemental order may be issued terminating the suspension after 90 days upon demonstration to GIPSA that Syverson has made restitution in the total amount of \$13,151.45 to the dairy farmers named in the complaint.

The Packers and Stockyards Act is a fair trade practice and payment protection law that promotes fair and competitive marketing environments for the livestock, meat, and poultry industries.

#

GIPSA Release #42-01
Leah Akbar (202) 720-4998
Leah_L.Akbar@usda.gov