

Mandatory Price Reporting Programs Extended

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3, 2004 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced continuation of livestock mandatory price reporting as required by the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act of 1999. The program's authority has been extended through Sept. 30, 2005.

This program requires that packers electronically submit purchase and sale information to USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service. AMS is currently releasing over 100 daily, weekly or monthly reports under the program covering market transactions for fed cattle, swine, lamb, beef and lamb meat.

The program extension was passed by Congress as an amendment to the Livestock Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 1999 to modify the termination date for mandatory price reporting, and was signed by President Bush today. The extension also affects USDA's swine contract library. The Act required the department to establish a library or catalog of the types of contracts offered by packers to swine producers for the purchase of swine (including swine that are purchased for future delivery). USDA's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration maintains the swine contract library which is intended to aid in the price discovery process and provide equal access to market information for all market participants.

Most plants continued to provide this market data and information on a voluntary basis during the cessation of authority, which originally expired on Oct. 22. These voluntary efforts allowed for uninterrupted publication of meaningful market information.

Further information regarding livestock mandatory price reporting can be obtained from John Van Dyke, Chief, Livestock and Grain Market News, AMS Livestock and Seed Program, USDA STOP 0252, 1400 Independence Ave., SW; Washington, DC 20250-0252, telephone (202) 720 6231 or from the Internet at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsmnpubs/index.htm>.

Further information regarding the swine contract library can be obtained from Jay A. Johnson, Regional Supervisor, Des Moines Regional Office, GIPSA, Packers and Stockyards Programs, USDA, 210 Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309, or by telephone (515) 323 2579. Information on the Swine Contract Library can be obtained via the World Wide Web at: <http://scl.gipsa.usda.gov/>.

GIPSA Release #51-04

Jaime C. Adams (202) 720-0239
GIPSA press contact

George Chartier (202) 720-8998
AMS press contact