

## **GIPSA Charges Forester's 4-F Cattle Co., Inc. with Violations of the Packers and Stockyards Act**

WASHINGTON, July 17, 2007 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that Forester's 4-F Cattle Co., Inc. (Forester's), LaRue, Texas:

- Sold livestock on the basis of false and incorrect weights;
- Falsified scale tickets to support sales in which customers were billed for fraudulently increased weights; and
- Failed to pay sellers for livestock purchases within the time period required by the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act.

On June 25, 2007, GIPSA filed a complaint against Forester's. Forester's has 20 days to respond in accordance with the P&S Act. Failure to file an answer to GIPSA's complaint within the time allowed is considered an admission of the allegations. If the allegations are admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, Forester's may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the P&S Act, suspended and assessed a civil penalty.

Forester's is currently registered as a dealer, buying and selling livestock in commerce for its own account.

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

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