

USDA Schedules Public Meeting on Livestock and Poultry Growers Trust Provisions of the Packers and Stockyards Act

WASHINGTON, December 9, 2008 - USDA's Grain, Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) today announced that it will hold a public meeting to inform livestock or poultry producers who have done business with Agriprocessors Inc. of their rights under the livestock and poultry growers trust provisions of the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act.

GIPSA will provide information and forms necessary for filing claims on payments due by Agriprocessors and for filing a claim under the livestock and poultry grower's trust provisions of the P&S Act. Officials will also answer questions regarding claim processing.

Agriprocessors filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on November 4, 2008, in the Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of New York. Livestock sellers and poultry grower's rights may be affected by the bankruptcy proceedings.

The USDA/GIPSA meeting to provide information and answer questions will be in Dubuque, Iowa, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. The date and location is:

Dec. 15, 2008
Grand Harbor Resort's Platinum A Room
350 Bell Street
Dubuque, Iowa 52001

All of those with questions about the claim process are encouraged to attend.

If you are unable to attend this meeting, you can participate via an audio bridge by calling 877-812-4788, the participant pass code is 8645405. During the meeting you can send questions or comments to Gregory.A.Andrews@usda.gov.

If you are hearing and visually impaired, or have a condition that requires special assistance, please notify Mr. Andrews by Dec. 12. Mr. Andrews' contact information is: Greg Andrews, Legal Specialist, Midwestern Regional Office, Packers and Stockyards Program, United States Department of Agriculture, 210 Walnut Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50309-2110; e-mail Gregory.A.Andrews@usda.gov; phone (515) 323-2579; or fax (515) 323-2590.

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