

## USDA Publishes Swine Contract Library Final Rule

WASHINGTON, Apr. 5, 2010 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) published a final rule re-establishing the regulatory authority for the Swine Contract Library's continued operation. The rule also incorporates certain changes contained within the Reauthorization Act that impact the library, and makes other changes to enhance the library's overall effectiveness and efficiency in response to input from regulated entities and the public.

USDA also requested a 3-year extension of and revision to the currently approved information collection in support of the reporting and recordkeeping requirements for the Swine Contract Library program. This approval is required under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

On August 11, 2003, GIPSA implemented new Subtitle B of Title II of the P&S Act, which was added by the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act of 1999 (1999 Act), and established the Swine Contract Library. The statutory authority for the library lapsed on September 30, 2005. On October 5, 2006, the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Reauthorization Act reauthorized the 1999 Act until September 30, 2010, and also amended the swine reporting requirements of the 1999 Act.

GIPSA published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the *Federal Register* on October 26, 2009 (74 FR 54928), and invited interested parties to comment on the re-authorization of the Swine Contract Library regulations. GIPSA received no comments on the proposed rule during the comment period that ended on December 28, 2009.

The Final Rule was published in the April 2 *Federal Register*. Additional information is available in GIPSA's *Federal Register* notice at [archive.gipsa.usda.gov](http://archive.gipsa.usda.gov).

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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