

GIPSA Alleges Vermilion Ranch Co., dba Northern Livestock Video Auction Violated the Packer and Stockyards Act

WASHINGTON, June 3, 2010 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that Vermilion Ranch (Vermilion Ranch) Co., doing business as Northern Livestock Video Auction, Billings, Montana:

- sold cattle on two occasions in 2008, using a scale that had been rejected; and
- sold cattle on three occasions in 2008, using a scale that was made inactive in 2005 by the scale owner.

GIPSA filed a [complaint](#) against the Vermilion Ranch on May 27, 2010. If the allegations are admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, Vermilion Ranch may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the P&S Act, suspended, and assessed a civil penalty.

Vermilion Ranch is engaged in the business of buying and selling livestock in commerce for its own account as a market agency and is registered with the Secretary of Agriculture as a market agency selling livestock on commission.

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.

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GIPSA Release 57-10

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