

GIPSA Settles Cases Resulting in \$9,610 in Civil Penalties

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 2010 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) enforcement rules provide a mechanism to quickly resolve violations of the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act. GIPSA may offer an alleged violator the option of waiving their right to a hearing and entering into a stipulation agreement to quickly resolve alleged violations.

GIPSA recently settled cases resulting in \$9,610 in civil penalties.

Greg Wersal, dba Wersal Cattle, Morgan Minnesota, waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$3,150 after GIPSA found that he engaged in unfair and deceptive practices.

Bryan Bogie, Bryan Bogie Livestock, Inc., Paint Lick, Kentucky, waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$1,500 after GIPSA found that he failed to pay when due.

Eugene Barber & Sons, Inc, Lexington, Kentucky, waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$4,960 after GIPSA found that he failed to pay before the close of the next business on 17 payment transactions between January 6, 2010 and March 22, 2010.

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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