

GIPSA Enforcement Action

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,
Packers and
Stockyards
Administration

STOP 3601
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, D.C.
20250-3601

GIPSA Release 105-11

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GIPSA Settles Cases Resulting in \$8,500 in Civil Penalties

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3, 2011 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration’s (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 settled cases resulting in \$8,500 in civil penalties.

Robert Johnson, CEO, Allan Fallaw, Live Production Manager, Columbia Farms of Georgia, Inc., Leesville, S.C. -- waived their right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and agreed to pay a penalty of \$5,000 after GIPSA found that they failed to timely pay, when due, contract poultry growers.

Ronald C. Wachholz, Inc., Oshkosh, Wis. -- waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and agreed to pay a penalty of \$1,300 after GIPSA found that he failed to timely pay, when due, for livestock purchases.

Kendall Wilsted, Tehachapi, Calif. -- waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and agreed to pay a penalty of \$1,000 after GIPSA found that he operated with an inadequate financial instrument and inadequate records.

Cooper Farms, Inc., Ft. Recovery, Ohio -- waived their right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and agreed to pay a penalty of \$1,250 after GIPSA found that they failed to comply with contractual requirements.

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.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272(voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).