



Grain Inspection  
Packers and  
Stockyards Administration

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# News Release

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## **Patricia Loomis and Mercer Livestock Auction, Inc. Assessed \$750 Civil Penalty**

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16, 2017 – On Aug. 4, 2017, Patricia Loomis (Loomis) and Mercer Livestock Auction, Inc. (Mercer Livestock), Transfer, Penn., waived their right to a hearing and entered into a stipulation agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA). Loomis and Mercer Livestock paid a penalty of \$750 after GIPSA found that they failed to have their scale tested in the second half of 2016. The scale was used continually throughout the second half of 2016 and most of the first half of 2017 without being tested.

GIPSA enforcement rules provide a mechanism to quickly resolve violations of the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act. GIPSA may offer alleged violators the option of waiving their right to a hearing and entering into a stipulation agreement to quickly resolve alleged violations.

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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