| GIPSA | United States | Grain Inspection, | STOP 3601 |
|---------|---------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Press | Department of | Packers and | 1400 Independence Ave., SW |
| Release | Agriculture | Stockyards Administration | Washington, D.C. 20250-3601 |

GIPSA Release 200-12

Catherine M. Grasso 202-720-7201 Catherine.M.Grasso@usda.gov

GIPSA Alleges Wilson Horse & Mule Sale, Inc. Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act

WASHINGTON, July 26, 2012 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that Wilson Horse & Mule Sale, Inc., Cookeville, Tenn.:

- failed to properly maintain its custodial in that it was operating with custodial account shortages;
- its current liabilities exceeded its current assets; and
- misused shipper's funds in the custodial account to pay bank fees.

GIPSA filed a complaint against Wilson Horse and Mule Sale, Inc. on July 18, 2012. The complaint can be found on the GIPSA website: http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/psp/enforcement.html. If the allegations are admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, Wilson Horse & Mule Sale, Inc. may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act, suspended, and assessed a civil penalty.

Wilson Horse & Mule Sale, Inc. engaged in the business of conducting and operating Wilson Horse & Mule Sale, Inc., a posted stockyard under and subject to the P&S Act; engaged in the business of a market agency selling consigned livestock on a commission basis in commerce; and is registered with the Secretary of Agriculture.

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 and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Office of Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).