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 54-12

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GIPSA Settles a Case with Darol Hartzler, Hartzler Dairy Cattle Company Resulting in a \$3,265 Penalty

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17, 2012 – 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.

Darol Hartzler, Hartzler Dairy Cattle Company, Smithville, Ohio -- waived their right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and agreed to pay a penalty of \$3,265 after GIPSA found that they failed to issue timely payment for livestock.

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).