

**GIPSA
Press
Release**

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,
Packers and
Stockyards
Administration

STOP 3601
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Catherine M. Grasso 202-720-7201
Catherine.M.Grasso@usda.gov

**The Smithfield Packing Company, Inc.,
Has Been Assessed a Civil Penalty in the Amount of \$39,000**

WASHINGTON, Apr. 9, 2012 – On March 19, 2012, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) entered into a consent decision with The Smithfield Packing Company, Inc. (Smithfield), Smithfield, Va.

Smithfield has been ordered to cease and desist from:

- failing to maintain and operate scales to ensure accurate weights;
- making settlement and final payment for livestock purchased by Smithfield on a carcass weight or carcass grade and weight basis based on inaccurate hot carcass weights; and
- failing to maintain, and to have available at its facilities, a complete set of calibrated test weights to properly test the accuracy of its monorail scales.

Smithfield has also been assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$39,000.

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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