GIPSA Press

Release

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Department of
Agriculture

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration STOP 3601 1400 Independence Ave., SW

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GIPSA Release 145-12

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## GIPSA Alleges Milan Livestock Auction, Inc., also d/b/a Brookfield Sales Co., Wendell Fleshman and Linda Fleshman Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act

WASHINGTON, June 5, 2012 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that Milan Livestock Auction, Inc. (Milan Livestock), doing business as Brookfield Sales Co., Brookfield, Mo., Wendell Fleshman and Linda Fleshman:

- purchased livestock for another buyer and showed the buyer false invoices, inaccurate, or misleading purchase price, weight, and source entries for the livestock he purchased; and
- failed to keep and maintain accounts, records, and memoranda that fully and correctly disclosed all transaction involved in his business subject to the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act.

GIPSA filed a complaint against Milan Livestock, Wendell and Linda Fleshman on April 27, 2012. The complaint can be found on the GIPSA website: <a href="http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/psp/enforcement.html">http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/psp/enforcement.html</a>. If the allegations are admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, Milan Livestock, Wendell and Linda Fleshman may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the P&S Act, suspended, and assessed a civil penalty.

Milan Livestock managed and operated two livestock auction markets located in Brookfield and Milan Mo., and was engaged in the business of conducting and operating a posted stockyard subject to the provisions of the P&S Act; engaged in the business of a market agency selling consigned livestock in commerce on a commission basis at the stockyard; and is registered with the Secretary of Agriculture.

Wendell and Linda Fleshman were owners of Milan Livestock; corporate officers of Milan Livestock; corporate directors of Milan Livestock, responsible for the day-to-day direction, management, and control of Milan Livestock; and engaged in the business of a market agency subject to the provisions of the P&S Act.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for 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).

Milan Livestock Auction, Inc., d/b/a Brookfield Sales Co., Wendell Fleshman Linda Fleshman Page 2

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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