

**GIPSA
Press
Release**

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,
Packers and
Stockyards
Administration

STOP 3601
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, D.C.
20250-3601

GIPSA Release 45-12

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**Whispering Oaks Farms, LLC and Mike D. Esther
Have Been Assessed a Civil Penalty In the Amount of \$1,000**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9, 2012 – On January 25, 2012, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration entered into a consent decision with Whispering Oaks Farms, LLC (Whispering Oaks) and Mike D. Esther (Esther), Lebanon, Mo.

Whispering Oaks and Esther have been ordered to cease and desist from engaging in business in any capacity for which bonding is required under the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act without filing and maintaining an adequate bond.

Whispering Oaks and Esther have been assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,000.

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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