

**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 14-13

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**Luke Kottke, d/b/a Kottke Cattle Company
Has Been Assessed a \$32,000 Civil Penalty**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17, 2013 – On December 31, 2012, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration entered into a consent decision with Luke Kottke, doing business as Kottke Cattle Company, Wis.

Luke Kottke has been ordered to cease and desist from:

- failing to pay and failing to pay, when due, the full purchase price for livestock;
- issuing checks in payment for livestock without having and maintaining sufficient funds on deposit and available in the accounts upon which they are drawn to pay these checks when presented;
- buying and selling livestock in commerce without being properly registered with GIPSA; and
- buying and selling livestock in commerce without maintaining an adequate bond or bond equivalent.

Luke Kottke has been assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$32,000.

He was also prohibited from registering for a period of 15 days from the date of this order and thereafter until he submits a complete application to GIPSA and demonstrates adequate bond coverage or a bond equivalent. If this is demonstrated, any application for registration that he files with GIPSA will be processed in accordance with standard GIPSA procedures.

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.

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).