



# News Release

Release No.:

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## AMS Reaches a Consent Decision with JBS USA LLC

WASHINGTON, December XX, 2018 – The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) reached a consent decision with JBS USA LLC, also known as Swift Beef Company (JBS Swift), Greeley, Colo., for alleged violations of the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act. The consent decision was signed by Acting Chief Administrative Law Judge, Channing D. Strother on November 21, 2018.

AMS conducted an investigation that revealed JBS Swift failed to maintain the identity of beef carcasses purchased on a hot weight basis to ensure accurate payment to livestock sellers at its Grand Island, Nebraska, facility. Beginning sometime prior to December 14, 2017, and continuing until on or about March 31, 2018, JBS Swift failed to properly record the weights, grades, and prices of carcasses accurately on accountings issued to sellers.

The practice of failing to maintain a the identify of beef carcasses purchased on a carcass weight basis at its Grand Island beef plant resulting in paying livestock sellers on inaccurate hot carcass weights and prices is in violation of section of the Act and regulations.

JBS Swift was notified of such violations and immediately made adjustments to its plant computer program. JBS Swift paid a civil penalty of \$50,000 and consented to a cease and desist order to properly maintain the identity of each seller's livestock and the carcasses therefrom and to maintain sufficient records to substantiate the settlement of each transaction. Such records include maintaining correct and accurate scales that records accurate and correct weights on scale tickets, internal records, kill sheets or other accounting issued to sellers of livestock.

The Packers and Stockyards Division, which is in the AMS Fair Trade Practices Program, administers the P&S Act, a fair trade practice and payment protection law that promotes fair and competitive marketing environments for the livestock, meat, and poultry industries.

For further information about the Packers and Stockyards Act, contact Stuart Frank, Fair Trade Practices Program, Packers and Stockyards Division, at (515) 323-2586, or by email at [stuart.frank@usda.gov](mailto:stuart.frank@usda.gov).

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