



# United States Department of Agriculture



Grain Inspection, Packers and  
Stockyards Administration

Packers and Stockyards Programs

*Stacey Schofield, Sr. Marketing Specialist - Western Regional Office*

# *Who are we?*

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## USDA, GIPSA, PSP

- Packers & Stockyards Program is a federal program within the US Department of Agriculture
- Grain Inspection Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) became one administration in the 90's. We still operate as separate agencies
- Packers & Stockyards Programs (PSP) – regulates the Packers & Stockyards Act that was written in 1920, and is administrative law

# *Our Mission as an Organization*

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- PSP promotes fair business practices and competitive environments to market livestock, meat, and poultry. Through its oversight activities under the P&S Act, including monitoring programs, reviews, and investigations.
- PSP fosters fair competition, and provides payment protection. It also *guards against deceptive and fraudulent trade practices* that affect the movement and price of meat animals and their products.
- PSP's major enforcement areas are payment protection, unfair deceptive and fraudulent practices, and competition.

*“To protect and promote fair trade practices and competitive markets for livestock, meat, and poultry.”*



# *Agency Goals*

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- Inspect 100% of dynamic monorail scales for packers slaughtering more than 1,000 head/yr on a carcass basis.
- Increase partnerships with other state and federal agencies (ex., currently working with DOJ and CFTC on competition case, partnering with States on Scales and Weighing activity).

# *Who do we regulate?*

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- **Live Poultry Dealers** - Purchases live poultry, obtains live poultry under a poultry growing arrangement for slaughter.
- **Livestock Packers** – Buys livestock for slaughter, manufactures or prepares meats or meat food products for sale or shipment, or markets meats, meat food products, or livestock products in an unmanufactured form acting as a wholesale broker, dealer, or distribution.
- **Packer Buyers** – Buys livestock only for slaughter as an employee of a packer.
- **Livestock Auctions** - Sells livestock on a commission basis, or furnishes stockyard services.
- **Dealers & Order Buyers** - Buys and Sells livestock either on its own account or as the employee or agent of the vendor or purchaser.

# *Program and Industry*

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## ■ **P&S Program**

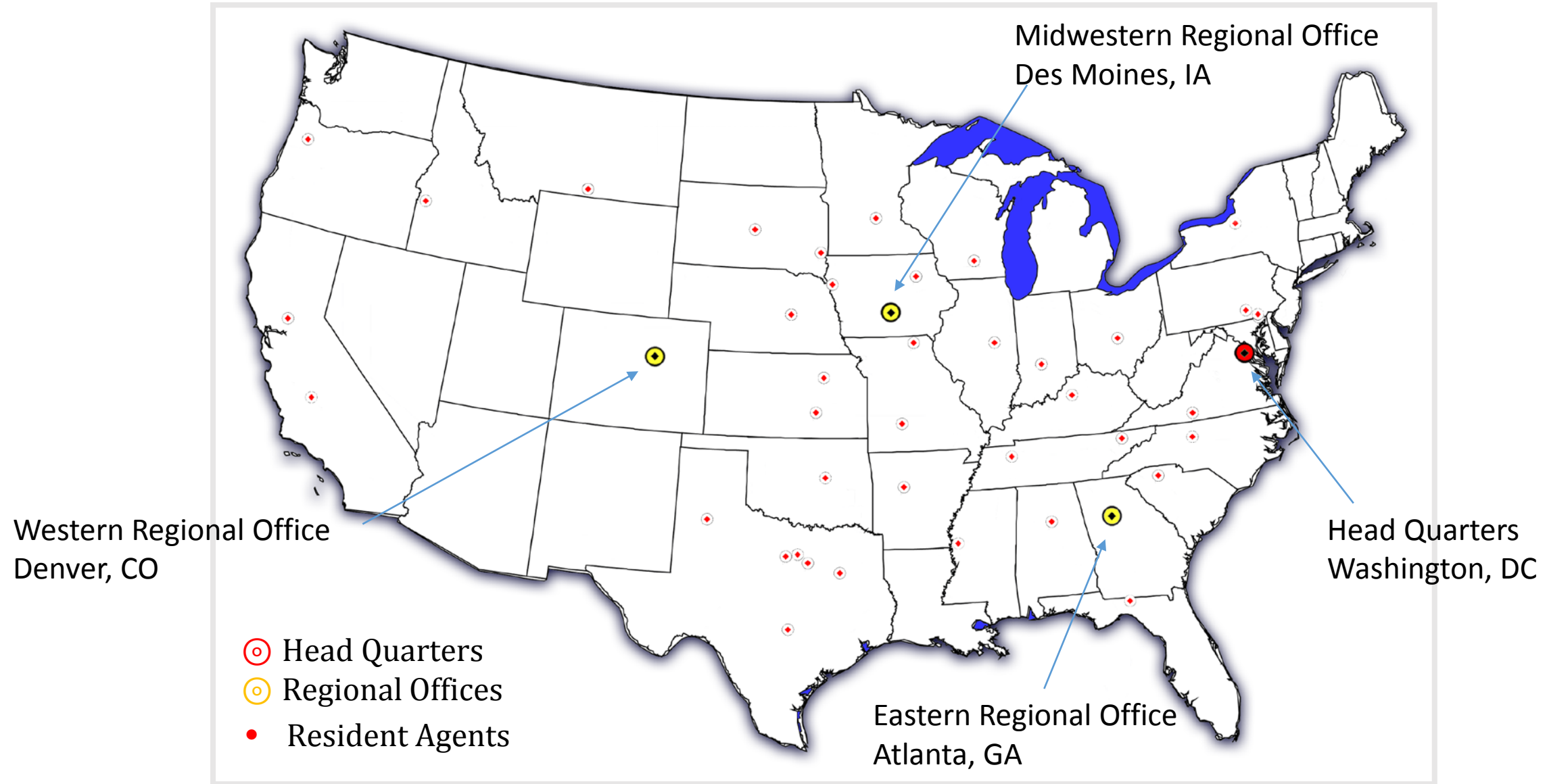
- 155 Employees
- Field – 3 Regional Offices (Denver, Des Moines & Atlanta) and Resident Agents
- Headquarters – Litigation & Economic Analysis Division

## ■ **Regulated Industry**

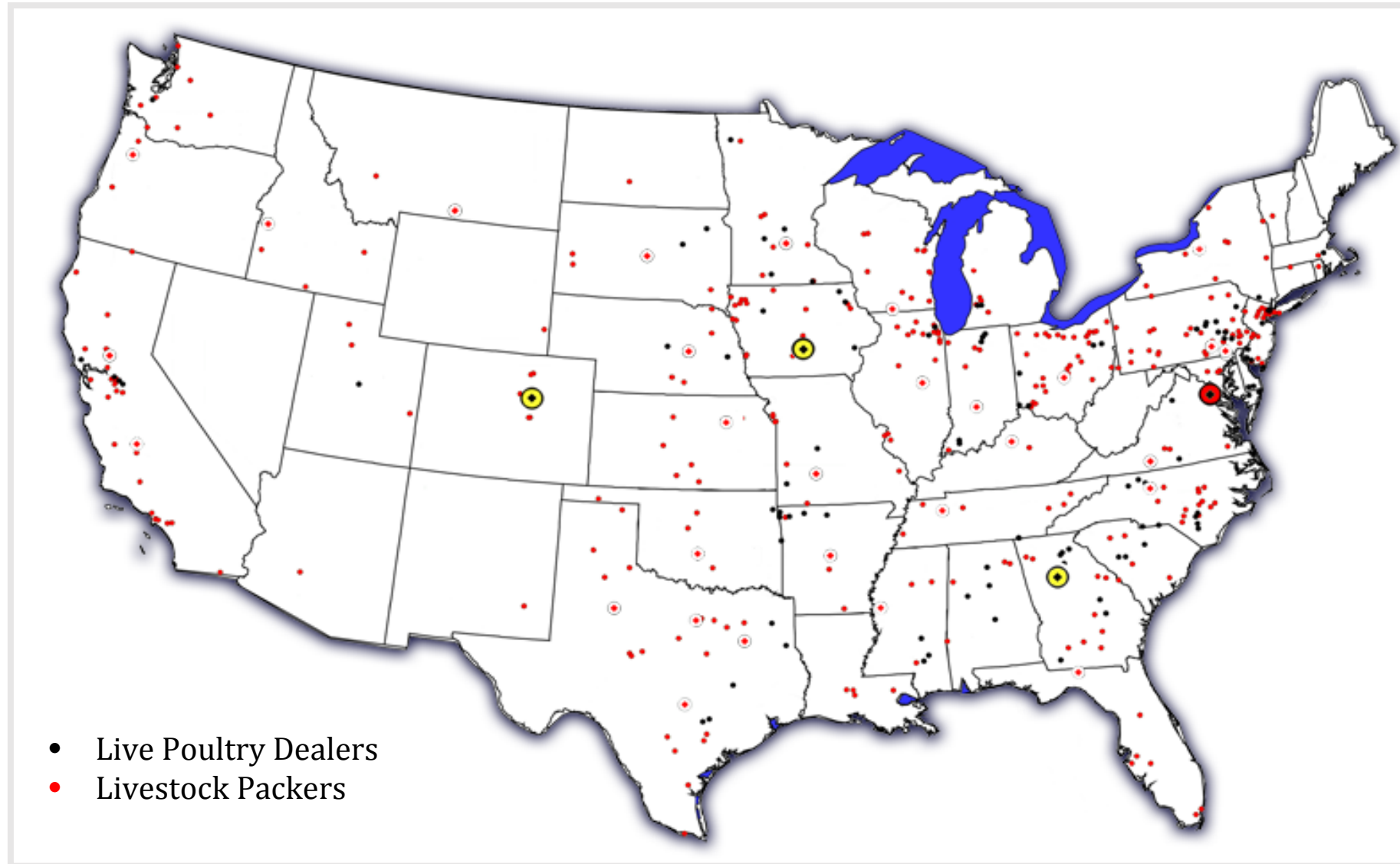
- 122 Live Poultry Dealers
- 403 Bonded Packers
- 1050 Packer Buyers
- 1190 Livestock Auctions
- 3523 Dealers & Order Buyers
- 2845 Scales

# *Packers and Stockyards Program*

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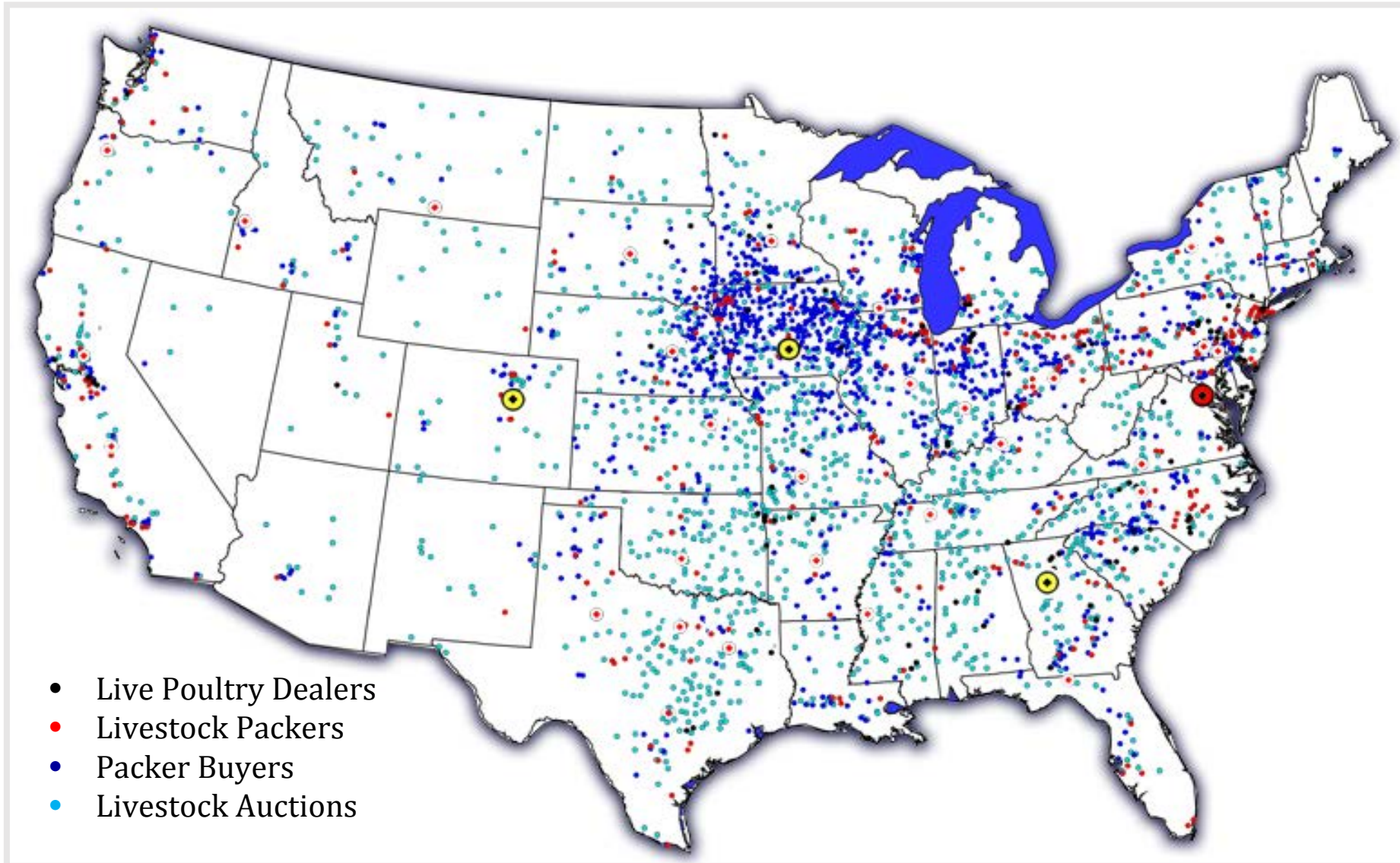
# Industry - Poultry & Livestock Packers





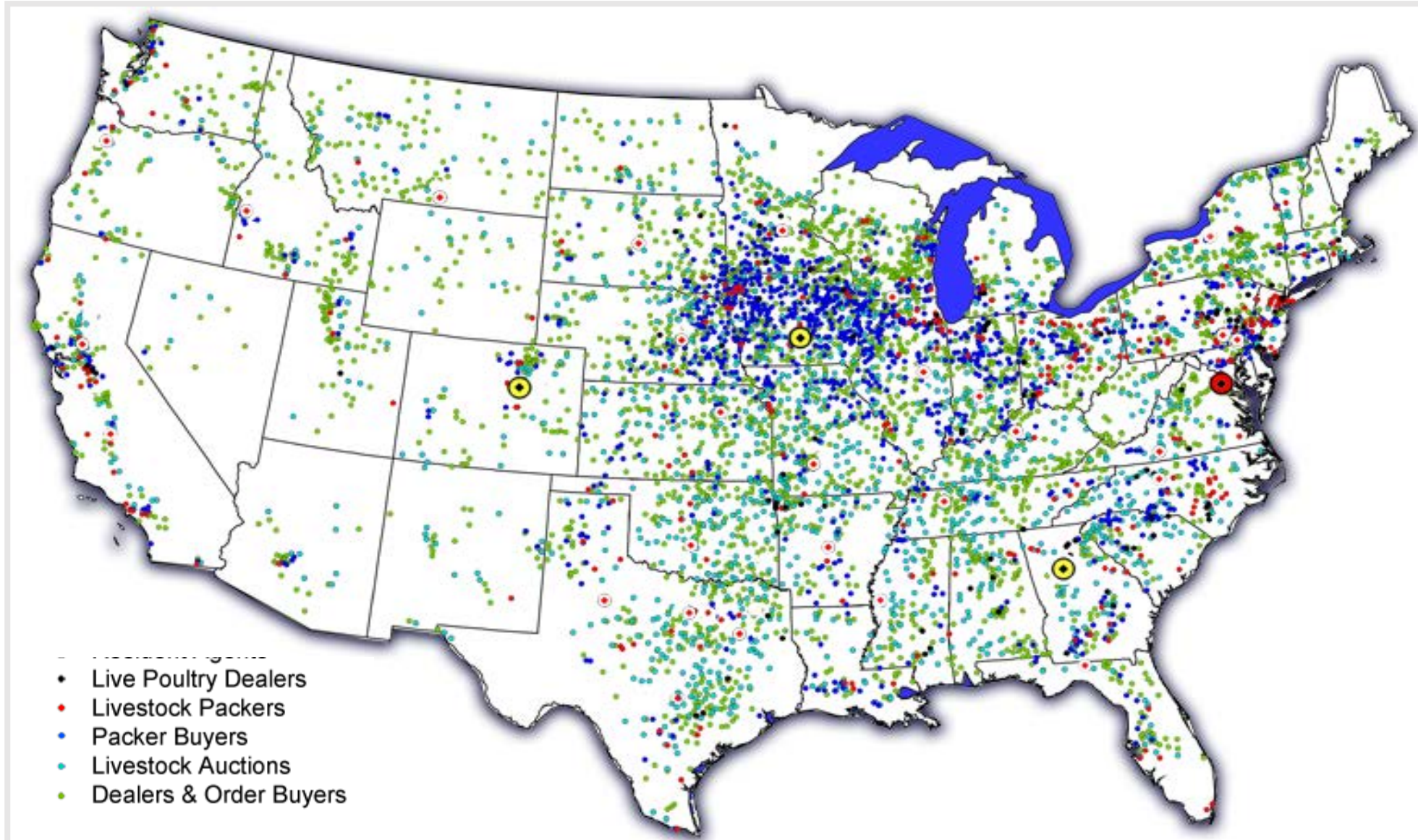
# *Industry - Livestock Auctions*

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# *Industry - Dealers and Order Buyers*

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# *What kind of scales does PSP regulate?*

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- Livestock
- Vehicle
- Hopper
- Onboard weighing
- Mono-rail



## *2016 Fiscal Year – Scale Program*

Number of Active Scales				
Region	Livestock	Monorail	Poultry & Feed	Total
WRO	565	79	89	733
MRO	873	86	122	1081
ERO	514	37	480	1031
Total	1952	202	691	2845

# *2016 Fiscal Year – Scale Program*

## Scale Tests Reviewed

Region	Accurate	Inaccurate	% Inaccurate
WRO	1393	15	1%
MRO	2518	64	3%
ERO	2326	23	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6237</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>2%</b>

# *2017 Goals*

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- Electronic submission of scale test
- Identification of serious weighing violations
- Uniformity of enforcement between regions
- “Recorded Record” regulation needs to match Handbook 44
- Yield Grade investigation

# *Economic Impact - Beef Example*

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- Assume 5,000 head / day or 10,000 weighments
- 6 days / week & 52 weeks / year
- Before (avg. error of .9 lb)
  - 2,808,000 lb / year
  - @ \$1.75/lb total value **\$4,914,000**
- After (avg. error of .05 lb)
  - 156,000 lb / year
  - @1.75/lb total value **\$273,000**