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**AUTHORIZATION TO USE  
MECHANICAL SAMPLER FOR SAMPLING**

|                                  |   |               |
|----------------------------------|---|---------------|
| Installed in: (Name of facility) | Mechanical Sampler Make & Model:          | Serial Number |
| City and State                   | Secondary Sampler (Divider) Make & Model: | Serial Number |

Commodity to be sampled:

All Grains       Coarse Grains       Small Grains       Powders   
(Groups 1 & 2)      (Except Corn)      (Group 1)      (Group 3)

Subject to the conditions listed below, authorization is issued to official inspection personnel to use the mechanical sampler for the official sampling of the commodities as indicated above. All interested parties shall be notified by FGIS when the authorization has been suspended or cancelled.

1. Facility management shall service and maintain the mechanical samplers in accordance with existing regulations and instructions under the U.S. Grain Standards Act and the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946.
2. Official personnel shall make daily or more frequent spot checks, when the samplers are in use for official sampling, to determine that the mechanical samplers are being serviced, operated, and maintained in an approved manner.
3. The mechanical samplers shall be secured or constantly manned by official personnel when they are used for official sampling.
4. All quantities in excess of the amounts required for the official inspection shall be returned to the carrier or the stream of grain or other commodity being sampled.
5. No changes in structure, accessories, location or operation of the mechanical samplers shall be made without specific written authorization from the FGIS Field Office Manager.
6. No manipulation of the commodities to be sampled or other efforts shall be made which would result in the above mechanical samplers failing to obtain and deliver a correct and representative sample.
7. The elevator manager acknowledges personal responsibility for the correct installation of the mechanical samplers.
8. This shall be signed by the manager or superintendent of the facility on behalf of the company that operates the elevator or plant in which the mechanical samplers are installed, and by the Agency or Field Office Manager whose personnel will attend the sampler.
9. The authorization shall be automatically suspended for noncompliance with any of the above conditions; but may be reinstated when corrective action has been taken and approved by the Field Office Manager.

|       |                       |                                |
|-------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| _____ | _____                 | _____                          |
| Date  | Location              | Facility Manager Signature     |
| _____ | _____                 | _____                          |
|       | Official Agency       | Agency Manager Signature       |
| _____ | _____                 | _____                          |
| Date  | Location              | Authorization Approved – USDA  |
| _____ | _____                 | _____                          |
| Date  | Field Office Location | Field Office Manager Signature |

Expires January 2015



## INSTRUCTIONS

a. Granting of Authorization. Upon notification of a successful test, the FGIS field office shall prepare and issue (or finalize) the Form FGIS-980, "Authorization to Use Mechanical Sampler for Sampling".

Fill in the header information:

The name of the facility, city and state where the facility is located.

The name of the sampler manufacturer, model name or number and the serial number.

The name of the secondary sampler (divider) manufacturer, model name or number and the serial number.

Insert a check mark on the appropriate commodity to be sampled.

The agreement shall be signed by the parties indicated for each signature line.

(1) The authorization is an agreement among representatives of the facility where the sampling system is installed, the testing office, the FGIS field office and any other persons or firms that may be directly involved.

(2) The agreement says that the sampler shall be installed, serviced, operated, and maintained following existing regulations.

b. Distribution of Form FGIS-980.

(1) The FGIS field office will distribute copies of the Form FGIS-980 to each person who has signed the authorization. A certificate is not issued for the authorization of a sampling system.