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# Requirements for Grain Warehouses: Minnesota



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## A National Agricultural Law Center Research Publication Requirements for Grain Warehouses: Minnesota

#### **Fast Find:**

1) Licensing: Minn. Stat. § 232.22

2) Bonding: Minn. Stat. §§ 223.17(7a); .28

3) Auditing: Minn. Stat. §§ 232.22(5); .24

4) Indemnity Fund: Minn. Stat. §§ 223.24; 232.22(3)

5) Failure/Liquidation: Minn. Stat. § 223.24(5)

6) Prompt Payment:

7) Penalties:

8) Lien:

Minn. Stat. Ch. 232 Minn. Stat. Ch. 223

Current with all legislation from the 2023 Regular Session.

Minn. Stat. § 223.01 to 223.12. [Repealed].

Minn. Stat. § 223.15. CITATION.

Sections 223.15 to 223.19 may be cited as the "Grain Buyers Act."

Minn. Stat. § 223.16. DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1.Applicability.

For the purpose of sections 223.15 to 223.23, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2.Bond.

"Bond" means an obligation acceptable to and running to the state, as obligee, for the purpose of indemnifying producers of grain against the breach of a contract by a grain buyer.

Subd. 2a.Cash sale.

(a) "Cash sale" means a sale that is not reduced to writing as a voluntary extension of credit contract and for which payment is tendered to the seller not later than the close of business on the next business day after the sale, either in cash or by check, or by mailing or wiring funds to the seller's account.

(b) For the purposes of this subdivision, "cash" means currency or an equivalent manner of payment including but not limited to a certified check; a cashier's check; and a postal, bank, or express money order in which the amount of payment is verified and secured before issuance.

Subd. 3.Commissioner.

"Commissioner" means the commissioner of agriculture or the commissioner's designee.

Subd. 3a.Electronic document.

"Electronic document" means a document that is generated, sent, received, or stored by electronic, optical, or similar means, including electronic data interchange, electronic mail, telegram, telex, or telecopy. "Electronic document" includes, but is not limited to, grain purchase contracts and voluntary extension of credit contracts.

Subd. 3b.Electronic signature.

"Electronic signature" means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record.

Subd. 3c.Failure.

"Failure" means a determination by the commissioner that a grain buyer or grain warehouse has failed to pay for delivered grain, breached a contract, breached more than one contract, or failed to redeliver stored grain to a producer.

Subd. 4.Grain.

"Grain" means all products commonly referred to as grain, including wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, rice, soybeans, emmer, sorghum, triticale, millet, pulses, dry edible beans, sunflower seed, rapeseed, canola, safflower, flaxseed, mustard seed, crambe, sesame seed, and other products ordinarily stored in grain warehouses.

Subd. 5.Grain buyer.

"Grain buyer" means a person who purchases grain for the purpose of reselling the grain or products made from the grain, with the exception of a person who purchases seed grain for crop production or who purchases grain as feed for the person's own livestock.

Subd. 6.Grain warehouse.

"Grain warehouse" means an elevator, flour, cereal or feed mill, malthouse or warehouse in which grain belonging to a person other than the warehouse operator is received for purchase or storage.

Subd. 7.

[Repealed, 2012 c 244 art 1s 83]

Subd. 8.



[Repealed, 1983 c 374s 22]

Subd. 9.Person.

"Person" means a corporation, company, joint stock company or association, partnership, firm or individual and includes their agents, trustees, assignees or duly appointed receivers.

Subd. 10.Private grain warehouse operator.

"Private grain warehouse operator" means a person licensed to operate a grain warehouse for the sole purpose of purchasing, handling, processing and shipping grain or its by-products who is not licensed by the commissioner to accept grain belonging to others for storage. "Private grain warehouse operator" includes any person licensed under the United States Warehouse Act, United States Code, title 7, chapter 10.

Subd. 11.Producer.

"Producer" means a person who grows grain on land owned or leased by the person.

Subd. 12. Public grain warehouse operator.

"Public grain warehouse operator" means a person operating a grain warehouse in which grain belonging to persons other than the grain warehouse operator is accepted for storage or purchase or who offers grain storage or warehouse facilities to the public for hire or a feed-processing plant that receives and stores grain, the equivalent of which it processes and returns to the grain's owner in amounts, at intervals, and with added ingredients that are mutually agreeable to the grain's owner and the person operating the plant.

Subd. 12a.Scale ticket.

"Scale ticket" means a memorandum issued by a grain elevator or warehouse operator to a depositor at the time grain is delivered, showing the weight and kind of grain.

Subd. 13.Semitrailer.

"Semitrailer" means a vehicle described in section 168.002, subdivision 30, used to haul grain.

Subd. 14.Trailer.

"Trailer" means a vehicle described in section 168.002, subdivision 35, used to haul grain.

Subd. 15.Truck.

"Truck" means a single unit vehicle described in section 168.002, subdivision 37, used to haul grain.

Subd. 16. Voluntary extension of credit contract.

"Voluntary extension of credit contract" means a contract for the purchase of a specific amount of grain from a producer in which the title to the grain passes to the grain buyer upon delivery, but the price is to be determined or payment for the grain is to be made at a date later than the date of delivery of the grain to the grain buyer. Voluntary extension of credit contracts include deferred or delayed payment contracts, unpriced sales, no price established contracts, average pricing contracts, and all other contractual arrangements with the exception of cash sales and grain storage agreements evidenced by a grain warehouse receipt.

#### Minn. Stat. § 223.17. LICENSES; BONDING; CLAIMS; DISBURSEMENTS.

Subdivision 1.Licenses.

An application for a grain buyer's license must be filed with the commissioner and the license issued before any grain may be purchased.

The applicant for a grain buyer's license shall identify all grain buying locations owned or controlled by the grain buyer and all vehicles owned or controlled by the grain buyer used to transport purchased grain. Every applicant for a grain buyer's license shall have a permanent established place of business at each licensed location. An "established place of business" means a permanent enclosed building, including a house or a farm, either owned by the applicant or leased by the applicant for a period of at least one year, and where the books, records, and files necessary to conduct the business are kept and maintained.

Subd. 1a.

[Repealed, 1986 c 322s 4]

Subd. 2.License renewal.

A license must be renewed annually. Beginning July 1, 1984, the commissioner may stagger the renewal dates of licenses issued under this chapter, subject to the policy expressed in section 116J.69, subdivision 2, clause (4). If a person receives more than one license from the commissioner, the licenses shall be issued at the same time, but only after all conditions for each license are met. Multiple licenses should be combined into one license if possible.

Subd. 3. Grain buyers and storage account; fees.

- (a) The commissioner shall set the fees for inspections under sections 223.15 to 223.22 at levels necessary to pay the expenses of administering and enforcing sections 223.15 to 223.22. The fee for any license issued or renewed after June 30, 2005, shall be set according to the following schedule:
  - (1) \$140 plus \$110 for each additional location for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are less than \$100,000;
  - (2) \$275 plus \$110 for each additional location for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are at least \$100,000, but not more than \$750,000;

- (3) \$415 plus \$220 for each additional location for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than \$750,000 but not more than \$1,500,000;
- (4) \$550 plus \$220 for each additional location for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than \$1,500,000 but not more than \$3,000,000; and
- (5) \$700 plus \$220 for each additional location for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than \$3,000,000.
- (b) In addition to the license fee required under paragraph (a), a grain buyer must pay to the commissioner an annual examination fee for each licensed location, as follows:

Bushel Capacity	Examination Fee		
Examinations without a grain measure	\$	100	
Less than 150,001	\$	300	
150,001 to 250,000	\$	425	
250,001 to 500,000	\$	545	
500,001 to 750,000	\$	700	
750,001 to 1,000,000	\$	865	
1,000,001 to 1,200,000	\$	1,040	
1,200,001 to 1,500,000	\$	1,205	
1,500,001 to 2,000,000	\$	1,380	
More than 2,000,000	\$	1,555	

- (c) The fee for any supplemental examination required by the commissioner under section 223.23 is \$55 per hour per examiner.
- (d) A licensed grain buyer meeting the annual examination requirements under section 223.23 is exempt from the fees under paragraph (b) if the annual examination is conducted by the Agricultural Marketing Service of the United State Department of Agriculture.
- (e) A penalty amount not to exceed ten percent of the fees due may be imposed by the commissioner for each month for which the fees are delinquent.
- (f) There is created the grain buyers and storage account in the agricultural fund. Money collected pursuant to sections 223.15 to 223.23 shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the grain buyers and storage account. Money in the account, including interest, is appropriated to the commissioner for the administration and enforcement of sections 223.15 to 223.23.

Subd. 4.

MS 2022 [Repealed, 2023 c 43 art 2s 142]

Subd. 5.Cash sales; manner of payment.

For a cash sale of a shipment of grain, the grain buyer shall tender payment to the seller in cash, by check, or by wiring or mailing payment to the seller's account. The grain buyer must tender payment as required under this subdivision not later than the close of business on the next day after the sale of the shipment, or within 48 hours after the sale of the shipment, whichever is later.

Subd. 5a.Grain purchases from unlicensed producers.

No grain buyer may refuse to purchase grain from a producer solely because the producer is not bonded or is not licensed by the commissioner; provided, that any producer who buys grain from other producers shall be licensed and bonded as required by this chapter.

Subd. 6.Financial statements.

- (a) Except as allowed in paragraph (c), a grain buyer licensed under this chapter must annually submit to the commissioner a financial statement prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The annual financial statement required under this subdivision must also:
  - (1) include, but not be limited to the following:
    - (i) a balance sheet;
    - (ii) a statement of income (profit and loss);
    - (iii) a statement of retained earnings;
    - (iv) a statement of changes in financial position; and
    - (v) a statement of the dollar amount of grain purchased in the previous fiscal year of the grain buyer;
  - (2) be accompanied by a compilation report of the financial statement that is prepared by a grain commission firm or a management firm approved by the commissioner or by an independent public accountant, in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants;
  - (3) be accompanied by a certification by the chief executive officer or the chief executive officer's designee of the licensee, and where applicable, all members of the governing board of directors under penalty of perjury, that the financial statement accurately reflects the financial condition of the licensee for the period specified in the statement;
  - (4) for grain buyers purchasing under \$7,500,000 of grain annually, be reviewed by a certified public accountant in

accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and must show that the financial statements are free from material misstatements; and

- (5) for grain buyers purchasing \$7,500,000 or more of grain annually, be audited by a certified public accountant in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and must include an opinion statement from the certified public accountant.
- (b) Only one financial statement must be filed for a chain of warehouses owned or operated as a single business entity, unless otherwise required by the commissioner. All financial statements filed with the commissioner are private or nonpublic data as provided in section 13.02.
- (c) A grain buyer who purchases grain immediately upon delivery solely with cash; a certified check; a cashier's check; or a postal, bank, or express money order is exempt from this subdivision if the grain buyer's gross annual purchases are \$1,000,000 or less.
- (d) The commissioner shall annually provide information on a person's fiduciary duties to each licensee. To the extent practicable, the commissioner must direct each licensee to provide this information to all persons required to certify the licensee's financial statement under paragraph (a), clause (3).

Subd. 6a. Suspension, revocation, or refusal to issue license.

- (a) If a license applicant or a licensee fails to furnish financial statements the commissioner may refuse to issue or renew the license or may suspend the license.
- (b) The commissioner may refuse to issue or renew a license or may suspend a license upon determining, based upon the financial statement filed under this section or other financial information obtained by the commissioner, that the applicant or licensee is not financially able to properly perform the services and operate the business for which the license is issued.
- (c) When a license is suspended the licensee shall surrender the license to the commissioner. An applicant or licensee may request an administrative hearing subject to chapter 14 within 15 days after the commissioner suspends a license or refuses to issue or renew a license under clause (b) to determine whether the license should be issued, renewed, or revoked. If no request is made within 15 days after suspension, the commissioner shall revoke the license.

Subd. 7.Breach of contract.

A producer claiming to be damaged by a breach of a contract for the purchase of grain by a grain buyer may file a written claim with the commissioner. The claim must state the facts constituting the claim. If a claim is valid, the commissioner may immediately suspend the license, in which case the licensee shall surrender the license to the commissioner. Within 15 days the licensee may request an administrative hearing subject to chapter 14 to

determine whether the license should be revoked. If no request is made within 15 days, the commissioner shall revoke the license.

Subd. 7a.Bond requirements.

For entities licensed under this chapter and chapter 232, the bond requirements and actions against the bond are governed under section 223.28.

Subd. 8.

MS 2022 [Repealed, 2023 c 43 art 2s 142]

Subd. 9.Defaults; violations.

It is a violation under this chapter if the commissioner finds, after an investigation is conducted, that a complaint is valid or that a licensee is in violation of the provisions of this chapter.

## Minn. Stat. § 223.175. WRITTEN VOLUNTARY EXTENSION OF CREDIT CONTRACTS; FORM.

A written confirmation required under section 223.177, subdivision 2, and a written voluntary extension of credit contract must include those items prescribed by the commissioner by rule. A contract shall include a statement of the legal and financial responsibilities of grain buyers and sellers established in this chapter. A contract shall also include the following statement in not less than ten point, all capital type, framed in a box with space provided for the seller's signature: "THIS CONTRACT CONSTITUTES A VOLUNTARY EXTENSION OF CREDIT. THIS CONTRACT MAY NOT BE COVERED COMPLETELY BY THE GRAIN INDEMNITY ACCOUNT." If a written contract is provided at the time the grain is delivered to the grain buyer, the seller shall sign the contract in the space provided beneath the statement. A transaction that does not meet the provisions of a voluntary extension of credit, including the issuance and signing of a voluntary extension of credit contract, is a cash sale.

## Minn. Stat. § 223.177. PURCHASE BY VOLUNTARY EXTENSION OF CREDIT CONTRACTS.

Subdivision 1.Indication of intention.

Every grain buyer who intends to purchase grain by voluntary extension of credit contracts shall indicate the intention to do so annually to the commissioner on a form provided by the commissioner.

Subd. 2.Oral contracts.

Any grain buyer entering into a voluntary extension of credit contract orally or by phone shall give or mail to the seller a written confirmation conforming to the requirements of section 223.175 within 30 days of entering the voluntary extension of credit contract. Written confirmation of oral contracts must meet the requirements of subdivision 3.

Subd. 3.Contracts reduced to writing.

A voluntary extension of credit contract must be reduced to writing by the grain buyer, mailed or given to the seller, and signed by both buyer and seller within 30 days of the date of delivery of the grain. The form of the contract shall comply with the requirements of section 223.175. A grain buyer may use an electronic version of a voluntary extension of credit contract that contains the same information as a written document and that conforms to the requirements of this chapter to which a seller has applied an electronic signature in place of a written document. There must not at any time be an electronic and paper voluntary extension of credit contract representing the same lot of grain.

Subd. 4. Grain, rights, or proceeds held.

A licensed grain buyer purchasing grain by voluntary extension of credit contracts shall at all times maintain grain, rights in grain, or proceeds from the sale of grain totaling 90 percent of the grain buyer's obligation for grain purchased by voluntary extension of credit contracts. That amount must be evidenced or represented by one or more of the following:

- (1) grain owned and actually held by the grain buyer in a grain warehouse owned or controlled by the grain buyer;
- (2) rights in grain evidenced or represented by warehouse receipts issued by a state or federally licensed grain warehouse;
- (3) cash on hand or cash held on account in federally or state licensed institutions;
- (4) short-term investments held in time accounts with federally or state licensed institutions;
- (5) balances on grain margin accounts;
- (6) voluntary extension of credit contracts for grain shipped to a processor or terminal as purchaser, less any payment or advance that has been received;
- (7) an irrevocable letter of credit, as defined in section 336.5-102; or
- (8) other evidence of proceeds from the sale of grain acceptable to the commissioner.

Subd. 5. Value of grain.

For the purpose of computing the dollar value of inventories of voluntary extension of credit obligations, the value of grain must be figured at the current market price on the day of delivery.

Subd. 6.Transfer of title.

The title to grain delivered on a voluntary extension of credit contract transfers to the grain buyer upon delivery.

Subd. 7.Storage charges prohibited.



No storage charges may be charged with respect to grain purchased on voluntary extension of credit contracts.

Subd. 8.Records.

A grain buyer shall keep sufficiently detailed books and records of voluntary extension of credit contracts and evidences of grain, rights in grain, and the proceeds from the sale of grain so as to clearly show compliance with this section. The commissioner or the commissioner's authorized agent may inspect these books and records to determine whether grain buyers are complying with the provisions of this chapter, and for this purpose the commissioner may enter upon any public or private premises during regular business hours.

Minn. Stat. § 223.18. [Repealed].

Minn. Stat. § 223.19. RULES.

The commissioner may make rules pursuant to chapter 14 to carry out the provisions of sections 223.15 to 223.28.

Minn. Stat. § 223.20. REGULATION OF GRAIN BUYERS AND GRAIN STORAGE.

The commissioner may create a separate division within the Department of Agriculture for the purpose of administering this chapter and chapter 232.

Minn. Stat. § 223.21. ATTORNEY GENERAL; ENFORCEMENT.

The attorney general, upon request of the commissioner, shall assist the commissioner in enforcing this chapter.

Minn. Stat. § 223.22. INVESTIGATION; EDUCATION.

Subdivision 1.Legislative investigation.

The legislature recommends that the standing committees of the house of representatives and senate with jurisdiction over agriculture investigate methods of protecting producers when marketing grain using voluntary extension of credit contracts, including establishment of a state administered trust fund, private insurance, or reinsurance, and methods which grain buyers can use to protect themselves and grain producers from grain price fluctuations.

Subd. 2.Education.

The commissioner shall make every effort to inform grain producers and grain buyers of the protections and exposures which result from application of this chapter.

Minn. Stat. § 223.23.

A licensed grain buyer is subject to an annual examination conducted by the commissioner or the Agricultural Marketing Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. Examinations must include a measurement of all grain owned and maintained by the grain buyer. The commissioner may



require supplemental examinations of a grain buyer as the commissioner deems necessary.

#### Minn. Stat. § 223.24. GRAIN INDEMNITY ACCOUNT.

Subdivision 1.Establishment.

The grain indemnity account is established in the agricultural fund. The grain indemnity account shall consist of grain indemnity premiums, money from any other source, and interest.

#### Subd. 2. Account; appropriation.

- (a) Money in the grain indemnity account, including interest, is appropriated to the commissioner to pay valid claims and to administer this section.
- (b) The commissioner shall direct payments from the grain indemnity account only for the following purposes:
  - (1) the payment of valid claims;
  - (2) the payment of grain indemnity premium refunds;
  - (3) the payment of administrative expenses under paragraph (c);
  - (4) the payment of legal fees and legal expenses under subdivision 7; or
  - (5) the payment of a trustee appointed under subdivision 6.
- (c) The commissioner shall allocate money from the grain indemnity account to a separate administrative expenses account to pay or reimburse the agency for grain indemnity account expenses. Administrative expenses under this paragraph include the actual cost of processing payments and refunds, enforcement, record keeping, ordinary management and investment fees connected with the operation of the grain indemnity account, and legal expenses.

#### Subd. 3. Eligibility.

A producer is eligible to receive a grain indemnity payment from the commissioner if the producer sold grain to a grain buyer as defined in this chapter or stored grain with a public grain warehouse operator under chapter 232 and the producer is damaged by the grain buyer's or public grain warehouse operator's failure to pay for or redeliver grain.

#### Subd. 4.Application.

- (a) A producer asserting eligibility under subdivision 3 must file a completed claim with the commissioner. The producer must state the facts constituting the claim and all other information required by the commissioner.
- (b) Upon receiving a claim, the commissioner must promptly determine the validity of the claim and notify the claimant of the commissioner's determination.

(c) An aggrieved party may appeal the commissioner's determination by requesting, within 15 days, that the commissioner initiate a contested case proceeding under chapter 14.

#### Subd. 5.Payment limitation.

- (a) For each failure as defined by section 223.16, subdivision 3c, the commissioner must pay the eligible producer:
  - (1) the amount equal to the value of the grain sold on cash sale, grain assigned to warehouse receipt, or grain assigned to open storage less than 180 days from the deposit;
  - (2) the amount equal to the value of grain sold up to \$300,000, or the lesser of \$750,000 or 75 percent of the amount owed to the seller for a contract in excess of \$300,000 for a deferred or delayed payment contract for which a price has been established when the contract originated within 120 days of the breach of contract;
  - (3) the lesser of \$750,000 or 75 percent of the amount owed to the seller for a voluntary extension of credit contract for which no price has been established when the contract originated within 180 days of the breach of contract;
  - (4) the lesser of \$500,000 or 50 percent for an open storage assignment or a voluntary extension of credit contract when the open storage assignment or contract originated between 181 days and 18 months from the failure; or
  - (5) the lesser of \$250,000 or 25 percent for an open storage assignment or a voluntary extension of credit contract when the open storage assignment or contract originated between 19 months and 36 months from the failure.
- (b) Claims filed more than 36 months from the failure are not eligible for payment.
- (c) For the purposes of this subdivision, multiple breaches of contract with a single entity constitute one failure.
- (d) If a grain buyer holds both a Minnesota grain buyer license, as defined in chapter 223, and a license with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) under the United States Warehouse Act, a seller may only file a claim with the grain indemnity account if the seller sold grain as a cash sale or under a voluntary extension of credit contract. The commissioner must deny any claims for stored grain from a seller that holds both a Minnesota grain buyer license and a license with the USDA under the United States Warehouse Act.
- (e) If valid claims exceed the amount of money available in the grain indemnity account, the commissioner must pay claims to

producers in the order that the claims were received. When additional money becomes available, the commissioner must resume issuing grain indemnity payments to each eligible producer until each producer receives the maximum amount payable under paragraph (a).

(f) If the grain indemnity account balance is insufficient to pay refunds under section 223.26 and valid claims exist, once money is deposited into the grain indemnity account, the commissioner must issue pending refunds for grain indemnity premium payments before issuing payments to claimants.

#### Subd. 6.Court order.

- (a) The commissioner may apply to a district court for an order appointing a trustee or receiver to manage and supervise the operations of a grain buyer or public grain warehouse operator in default. The commissioner may participate in any resulting court proceeding as an interested party.
- (b) The commissioner may recover the cost of the appointed trustee using money appropriated under subdivision 2.

#### Subd. 7. Debt obligation; subrogated claim.

- (a) Money paid by the commissioner to satisfy a valid claim constitutes a debt obligation of the grain buyer or public grain warehouse operator in default. The commissioner may take action against the grain buyer or public grain warehouse operator to recover the amount of any claim payment plus reasonable costs, attorney fees, and interest computed at the rate provided in section 270C.40. The commissioner must deposit any amount recovered under this subdivision in the grain indemnity account.
- (b) As a condition of payment from the commissioner, a producer must subrogate the producer's interest in any claims against the grain buyer or public grain warehouse operator, including any rights to any grain bond claims, to the commissioner in an amount equal to any claim payment or payments that the producer received under this section. The surety for any claims against the grain bond must make payments to the grain indemnity account.
- (c) The commissioner may recover any debt to the grain indemnity account from a member of the board or management who acted negligently or fraudulently.

#### Minn. Stat. § 223.25.

#### Subdivision 1.Charges.

(a) Except as provided in subdivision 3, producers of grain must be charged a grain indemnity premium as determined and published by the commissioner not to exceed 0.2 percent of the price on all marketed grain that is sold to a grain buyer as defined in chapter 223.

(b) The grain indemnity premiums required under this section are in addition to any other fees or assessments required by law.

Subd. 2.Collection and submission of grain indemnity premiums.

- (a) Each producer must pay to the commissioner a grain indemnity premium of not more than 0.2 percent of the net proceeds from all grain sold by the producer to a grain buyer purchasing grain in Minnesota. When a producer sells grain to a grain buyer, the grain buyer must deduct the grain indemnity premium from the proceeds of the sale and pay the grain indemnity premium to the commissioner on behalf of the producer.
- (b) When purchasing grain from a producer, a grain buyer must deduct the grain indemnity premium described in paragraph (a) from the proceeds of the sale and notify the producer of the amount of the deduction in writing. The grain buyer must forward the grain indemnity premium to the commissioner for deposit into the grain indemnity account on behalf of the producer as described in this subdivision.
- (c) A grain buyer must clearly indicate the grain indemnity premiums collected under paragraph (b) in the grain buyer's books and records. A grain buyer must retain books and records containing the grain indemnity premiums for at least three years. A grain buyer must make the grain buyer's books and records available for inspection by the commissioner during regular business hours. The department must take steps reasonably necessary to verify the accuracy of the grain indemnity premiums as recorded in the grain buyer's books and records. Any record or portion thereof seized or copied by the commissioner is private or nonpublic data as provided in section 13.02, except that the commissioner may disclose data to aid in the law enforcement process.
- (d) A grain buyer must submit grain indemnity premiums collected under paragraph (a) to the commissioner for the purpose of financing or contributing to the financing of the grain indemnity account by:
  - (1) January 31 for grain indemnity premiums collected during the months of July, August, September, October, November, and December; and
  - (2) July 31 for grain indemnity premiums collected during the months of January, February, March, April, May, and June.

Subd. 3. Amount in grain indemnity account; basis for suspension and reinstatement of grain indemnity premium collection.

- (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), the grain indemnity premiums required under this section must be collected until the grain indemnity account contains more than \$15,000,000 as of June 30 of any given year.
- (b) The commissioner must not require the collection of additional grain indemnity premiums until the amount in the grain indemnity account drops below \$8,000,000. In a year when the commissioner determines that the grain indemnity account is at or below



\$8,000,000, the commissioner may reinstate the collection described in this section. If the account contains at least \$8,000,000, the commissioner may, after holding a public meeting, suspend premium payments for all producers in the event of economic hardship.

(c) The commissioner shall announce the intention to collect the premiums described in this section by May 1 with collection to begin July 1 until the grain indemnity account contains at least \$15,000,000. The commissioner must notify the public of the commissioner's intent to reinstate collection of additional grain indemnity premiums through publication in the State Register and by notifying each licensee of the licensee's obligation to collect premiums.

#### Minn. Stat. § 223.26.

- (a) A producer that has paid a grain indemnity premium under section 223.25 may receive a refund of that premium from the grain indemnity account by submitting a written demand for a refund to the commissioner, delivered personally or by first-class mail within 12 months after the producer paid the grain indemnity premium.
- (b) The commissioner must prepare a distributable flyer explaining how a producer can opt out of the grain indemnity program and must post the flyer on the Department of Agriculture website. A licensed business must make the flyers available for anyone visiting the licensed business.
- (c) A producer must submit a demand for a refund of a grain indemnity premium under paragraph (a) on a demand for refund form developed by the commissioner. The commissioner must make the form available to a licensee, producer, or member of the public upon request.
- (d) If a producer is entitled to a refund of a grain indemnity premium under this section, the commissioner must pay the refund within 90 days of receiving the demand for a refund. If the grain indemnity account balance is insufficient to pay refunds under this subdivision and valid claims exist, the commissioner must issue refunds for grain indemnity premium payments before issuing payments to claimants once money is deposited into the grain indemnity account.
- (e) If the commissioner announces grain indemnity premiums as required under section 223.25, subdivision 3, by June 30, the commissioner must send a notice to each producer who requested a refund of a grain indemnity premium during the previous three fiscal years. The notice must inform the producer of the deadline for and method of submitting a demand for a refund to the commissioner under paragraphs (a) and (c) and the method for reentering the grain indemnity program under paragraph (f).
- (f) A producer that receives a refund of a grain indemnity premium under paragraph (a) is not entitled to participate in the grain indemnity program or to receive any payment under this section unless the



producer reenters the grain indemnity program by meeting all of the following conditions:

- (1) the producer must submit a request for reentry into the grain indemnity program to the commissioner. The producer must submit the request on the form required by the commissioner and must deliver the request to the commissioner;
- (2) the producer's request must be approved by the commissioner; and
- (3) the producer must pay into the grain indemnity account all grain indemnity premiums that were refunded to the producer and interest on the refunds as determined by the commissioner.
- (g) A producer that reenters the grain indemnity program under paragraph (f) is eligible to be reimbursed for claims under the grain indemnity program for any breach of contract that occurs at least 120 days after reentry.
- (h) A producer is not eligible for a refund of a grain indemnity premium under this section if the producer has received payment from the grain indemnity account for a valid claim within the preceding 36 months.

#### Minn. Stat. § 223.27.

- (a) In addition to any other penalty or remedy provided by law, a person who knowingly or intentionally commits any of the following is subject to civil penalties under section 18J.10:
  - (1) refusing or failing to collect any grain indemnity premiums as required under section 223.25;
  - (2) refusing or failing to pay to the commissioner any grain indemnity premiums collected under section 223.25;
  - (3) making a false statement, representation, or certification, or knowingly failing to make a required statement, representation, or certification in a record, report, or other document required under this chapter or filed with the commissioner; or
  - (4) resisting, preventing, impeding, or interfering with the commissioner in the performance of the commissioner's duties under this chapter.
- (b) In addition to the civil penalty described in paragraph (a), the commissioner in an enforcement action for a violation described in paragraph (a), clause (1) or (2), must order the grain buyer to pay into the grain indemnity account any grain indemnity premiums collected by the grain buyer that the grain buyer owes to the grain indemnity account and may order the grain buyer to pay interest on the amount that the grain buyer owes to the grain indemnity account.

#### Minn. Stat. § 223.28. GRAIN BONDS; NEW LICENSE HOLDERS.

- (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), before the commissioner issues a grain buyer or public grain warehouse operator license, a person who has not been licensed to buy grain or operate a public grain warehouse in the previous licensing period must file with the commissioner a grain bond in a penal sum of \$100,000. A grain bond must remain in effect for the first three years of the license.
- (b) A grain buyer who purchases grain immediately upon delivery solely with cash; a certified check; a cashier's check; or a postal, bank, or express money order is exempt from this subdivision if the grain buyer's gross annual purchases are \$1,000,000 or less.
- (c) The commissioner may require a supplemental bond in an amount prescribed by the commissioner based on the financial statements required in section 223.17, subdivision 6.
- (d) A grain bond must be on a form provided by the commissioner.
- (e) A grain bond required under paragraphs (a) and (c) must provide for the payment of any loss caused by the grain buyer's failure to pay upon the owner's demand, including loss caused by the grain buyer's failure to pay within the time required. The grain bond must be conditioned upon the grain buyer being duly licensed.
- (f) A grain bond required under paragraphs (a) and (c) that is obtained by a public grain warehouse operator must be conditioned that the public grain warehouse operator issuing a grain warehouse receipt is liable to the depositor for the delivery of the kind, grade, and net quantity of grain called for by the receipt. A grain bond must be conditioned upon the operator being duly licensed.
- (g) A grain bond must not be cumulative from one licensing period to the next. The maximum liability of the grain bond must be the grain bond's face value for the licensing period.
- (h) A grain bond must be continuous until canceled. To cancel a grain bond, a surety must provide 90 days' written notice of the grain bond's termination date to the licensee and the commissioner.
- (i) Upon the commissioner's determination that a claim is valid, the surety for any claims against the grain bond must make payments to the grain indemnity account.

Minn. Stat. § 232.01. Subdivisions renumbered, repealed, or no longer in effect.

Minn. Stat. § 232.02 to 232.05. [Repealed].

Minn. Stat. § 232.06. Subdivisions renumbered, repealed, or no longer in effect.

Minn. Stat. § 232.07 to 232.19. [Repealed].

Minn. Stat. § 232.20. GRAIN STORAGE ACT; CITATION.

Sections 232.20 to 232.24 may be cited as the "Grain Storage Act."

Minn. Stat. § 232.21

Subdivision 1.Applicability.

For the purpose of sections 232.20 to 232.24, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2.Bond.

"Bond" means an acceptable obligation, running to the state as obligee, for the purpose of indemnifying depositors and producers of grain against breach of contract by a public grain warehouse.

Subd. 3. Commissioner.

"Commissioner" means the commissioner of agriculture or the commissioner's designee.

Subd. 4.

[Repealed, 2012 c 244 art 1s 83]

Subd. 5.

[Repealed, 1982 c 508s 12]

Subd. 6.Depositor.

"Depositor" means a person who is the owner or legal holder of an outstanding grain warehouse receipt, grain bank receipt or open scale ticket marked for storage on which a receipt is to be issued, representing any grain stored in a public grain warehouse.

Subd. 6a.Electronic document.

"Electronic document" means a document that is generated, sent, received, or stored by electronic, optical, or similar means, including electronic data interchange, electronic mail, telegram, telex, or telecopy. "Electronic document" includes, but is not limited to, warehouse receipts, grain purchase contracts, and voluntary extension of credit contracts.

Subd. 6b.Electronic grain warehouse receipt.

"Electronic grain warehouse receipt" means an electronic version of a grain warehouse receipt issued or transmitted to a depositor by a grain warehouse



operator under the provisions of section 232.23 in the form of an electronic document. An electronic grain warehouse receipt is a negotiable instrument except as provided in section 232.23, subdivision 11.

Subd. 6c.Electronic signature.

"Electronic signature" means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record.

Subd. 7.Grain.

"Grain" means any product commonly referred to as grain, including wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, rice, soybeans, emmer, sorghum, triticale, millet, pulses, dry edible beans, sunflower seed, rapeseed, canola, safflower, flaxseed, mustard seed, crambe, sesame seed, and other products ordinarily stored in grain warehouses.

Subd. 7a.Grain bank.

"Grain bank" means a feed-processing plant that receives and stores grain it processes and returns to the grain's owner in amounts, at intervals, and with added ingredients that are mutually agreeable to the grain's owner and the person operating the plant. Grain bank does not include a seed cleaning plant.

Subd. 8.Grain warehouse.

"Grain warehouse" means an elevator, flour, cereal or feed mill, malthouse or warehouse in which grain belonging to a person other than the grain warehouse operator is received for purchase or storage.

Subd. 9. Grain warehouse receipt.

"Grain warehouse receipt" means a formal record issued to a depositor by a grain warehouse operator under the provisions of section 232.23. A grain warehouse receipt is a negotiable instrument except as provided in section 232.23, subdivision 11.

Subd. 10.Person.

"Person" means a corporation, company, joint stock company or association, partnership, firm or individual, including their agents, trustees, assignees or duly appointed receivers.

Subd. 11.Producer.

"Producer" means a person who grows grain on land owned or leased by the person.

Subd. 12. Public grain warehouse operator.

"Public grain warehouse operator" means:

(1) a person operating a grain warehouse in which grain belonging to persons other than the grain warehouse operator is accepted for storage or purchase;



- (2) a person who offers grain storage or grain warehouse facilities to the public for hire; or
- (3) a feed-processing plant that receives and stores grain, the equivalent of which it processes and returns to the grain's owner in amounts, at intervals, and with added ingredients that are mutually agreeable to the grain's owner and the person operating the plant.

Subd. 13.Scale ticket.

"Scale ticket" means a memorandum showing the weight and kind of grain which is issued by a grain elevator or warehouse operator to a depositor at the time the grain is delivered.

Subd. 14. Open storage.

"Open storage" means grain or agricultural products received by a warehouse operator from a depositor for which warehouse receipts have not been issued or a purchase made and the records documented accordingly.

Subd. 15. Temporary storage.

"Temporary storage" means grain stored in outdoor piles or suitable structures, which are not in use for the entirety of the license period.

#### Minn. Stat. § 232.22. LICENSES, BONDING CLAIMS, DISBURSEMENTS.

Subdivision 1.Licenses.

An application for a public grain warehouse operator's license must be filed with the commissioner and the license issued before the purchase or storage of grain may be commenced. All grain warehouses located within the same home rule charter or statutory city or town and owned and operated by the same person may be covered by a single license.

Subd. 2.Renewal.

A license must be renewed annually. If a business receives more than one license from the commissioner, the licenses shall be issued at the same time, but only after all conditions for each license are met. The licenses may be combined into one joint license.

Subd. 3. Fees; grain buyers and storage account.

(a) There is created in the agricultural fund an account known as the grain buyers and storage account. The commissioner shall set the fees for examinations, certifications, and licenses under sections 232.20 to 232.24 at levels necessary to pay the costs of administering and enforcing sections 232.20 to 232.24. All money collected pursuant to sections 232.20 to 232.24 shall be paid by the commissioner into the state treasury and credited to the grain buyers and storage account. Money in the account, including

interest, is appropriated to the commissioner for the administration and enforcement of sections 232.20 to 232.24.

- (b) All money collected pursuant to chapter 231 shall be paid by the commissioner into the grain buyers and storage account. Money in the account is appropriated to the commissioner for the administration and enforcement of chapter 231.
- (c) The fees for a license to store grain are as follows:
  - (1) for a license to store grain, \$110 for each home rule charter or statutory city or town in which a public grain warehouse is operated;
  - (2) in addition to the license fee required under clause (1), a person with a license to store grain in a public grain warehouse is subject to an examination fee for each licensed location, as follows:

Bushel Capacity	<b>Examination Fee</b>		
Less than 150,001	\$	300	
150,001 to 250,000	\$	425	
250,001 to 500,000	\$	545	
500,001 to 750,000	\$	700	
750,001 to 1,000,000	\$	865	
1,000,001 to 1,200,000	\$	1,040	
1,200,001 to 1,500,000	\$	1,205	
1,500,001 to 2,000,000	\$	1,380	
More than 2,000,000	\$	1,555	

- (3) the fee for supplemental examinations required by the commissioner under section 232.24 is \$55 per hour per examiner.
- (d) A penalty amount not to exceed ten percent of the fees due may be imposed by the commissioner for each month for which the fees are delinquent.

Subd. 4.

MS 2022 [Repealed, 2023 c 43 art 2s 142]

Subd. 5. Statement of grain in storage; reports.

(a) Every public grain warehouse operator shall keep in a place of safety complete and accurate records and accounts relating to any grain warehouse operated. The records shall reflect each commodity received and shipped daily, the balance remaining in the grain warehouse at the



close of each business day, a listing of all unissued grain warehouse receipts in the operator's possession, a record of all grain warehouse receipts issued which remain outstanding and a record of all grain warehouse receipts which have been returned for cancellation. Copies of grain warehouse receipts or other documents evidencing ownership of grain by a depositor, or other liability of the grain warehouse operator, shall be retained as long as the liability exists but must be kept for a minimum of three years.

(b) Every public grain warehouse operator must maintain in the grain warehouse at all times grain of proper grade and sufficient quantity to meet delivery obligations on all outstanding grain warehouse receipts.

Subd. 6.

MS 2022 [Repealed, 2023 c 43 art 2s 142]

Subd. 6a.

MS 2022 [Repealed, 2023 c 43 art 2s 142]

Subd. 7.

MS 2022 [Repealed, 2023 c 43 art 2s 142]

#### Minn. Stat. § 232.23. DUTIES OF PUBLIC GRAIN WAREHOUSE OPERATOR.

Subdivision 1.Discrimination prohibited.

- (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), a public grain warehouse operator must receive for storage, so far as the capacity of the grain warehouse will permit, all sound grain tendered in warehouseable condition without discrimination against any person tendering the grain.
- (b) The requirements in paragraph (a) do not apply to storage capacity owned by producers that is managed by the public grain warehouse operator but is not under the same ownership as the grain warehouse.

Subd. 2. Scale tickets.

A public or private grain warehouse operator, upon receiving grain, shall issue a scale ticket for each load of grain received. Scale tickets shall contain the name, location and the date of each transaction, weight, volume, kind of grain, signature of warehouse operator, and be consecutively numbered. Electronic scale tickets do not require a signature. A duplicate copy of each scale ticket shall remain in the possession of the public or private grain warehouse operator as a permanent record. The original scale ticket shall be delivered to the depositor upon receipt of each load of grain. Each scale ticket shall have printed across its face "This is a memorandum, nonnegotiable, possession of which does not signify that settlement has or has not been consummated." The scale ticket shall state specifically whether the grain is received on contract, for storage, for shipment or consignment or sold. If the grain is received on contract or sold, the price shall be indicated on the scale

ticket. All paper scale tickets shall be dated and signed by the public or private grain warehouse operator or the operator's agent or manager.

Subd. 3.Grain delivered considered stored.

All grain delivered to a public grain warehouse operator shall be considered stored at the time of delivery, unless arrangements have been made with the public grain warehouse operator prior to or at the time of delivery to apply the grain on contract, for shipment or consignment or for cash sale. Grain may be held in open storage or placed on a warehouse receipt. Warehouse receipts must be issued for all grain held in open storage within six months of delivery to the warehouse unless the depositor has signed a statement that the depositor does not desire a warehouse receipt. The warehouse operator's tariff applies for any grain that is retained in open storage or under warehouse receipt. All grain in temporary storage must be owned and exclusively maintained by the licensee. Grain assigned to a grain bank is considered stored grain.

Subd. 4. Form of grain warehouse receipt.

- (a) A grain warehouse receipt must be in duplicate, contain the name and location of the grain warehouse, and be delivered to the depositor or the depositor's agent. Grain warehouse receipts shall be consecutively numbered as prescribed by the commissioner and state the date of deposit, except where the deposit of a certain lot for storage is not completed in one day. In that case, the grain warehouse receipt, when issued, shall be dated not later than Saturday of the week of delivery.
- (b) A grain warehouse receipt shall contain either on its face or reverse side the following specific grain warehouse and storage contract: "This grain is received, insured and stored through the date of expiration of the annual licenses of this grain warehouse and terms expressed in the body of this grain warehouse receipt shall constitute due notice to its holder of the expiration of the storage period. It is unlawful for a public grain warehouse operator to charge or collect a greater or lesser amount than the amount filed with the commissioner. All charges shall be collected by the grain warehouse operator upon the owner's presentation of the grain warehouse receipt for the sale or delivery of the grain represented by the receipt, or the termination of the storage period. Upon the presentation of this grain warehouse receipt and payment of all charges accrued up to the time of presentation, the above amount, kind and grade of grain will be delivered within the time prescribed by law to the depositor or the depositor's order."
- (c) A grain warehouse receipt shall also have printed on it the following:

"Redemption	of Receipt
-------------	------------

Received from,	the sum of \$	or	bushels i	n full s	atisfactio	n of
the obligation represen	ited by this grain	wareho	use receip	ot.		

Gross price per bushel \$......



#### Warehouse operator

This redemption shall be signed by the depositor or the depositor's agent in the event that the grain represented is redelivered or purchased by the public grain warehouse operator. Signature of this redemption by the depositor constitutes a valid cancellation of the obligation embraced in the storage contract."

- (d) A warehouse receipt for dry edible beans must state the grade of the dry edible beans delivered to the grain warehouse and the redelivery charge required under subdivision 10a, paragraph (a).
- (e) An electronic version of a grain warehouse receipt generated by a vendor licensed and approved by the United States Department of Agriculture that contains the same information as the paper version of a grain warehouse receipt may be issued instead of a paper document. The electronic version of a grain warehouse receipt carries the same rights and obligations as the paper version. At no time may a paper receipt and an electronic receipt represent the same lot of grain. Redemption of an electronic version of a warehouse receipt may be accomplished by the warehouse receipt holder applying an electronic signature registered and authenticated by a vendor credited by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Subd. 5. Void agreements; penalty.

A provision or agreement in a grain warehouse receipt not contained in subdivision 4 is void. The failure to issue a grain warehouse receipt, as directed, or the issuance of slips, memoranda or other forms of receipt embracing a different grain warehouse or storage contract is a misdemeanor, and no slip, memorandum or other form of receipt is admissible as evidence in any civil action. Nothing in sections 232.20 to 232.24 requires or compels any person operating a flour, cereal or feed mill or malthouse doing a manufacturing business, to receive, store or purchase at the mill or malthouse any kind of grain.

Subd. 6.Liability.

A public grain warehouse operator is liable to the depositor for the delivery of the kind, grade, and net quantity of grain called for by the grain warehouse receipt or scale ticket marked "store."

Subd. 7. Grain not received.

No public grain warehouse operator may issue a grain warehouse receipt for grain not actually received into the grain warehouse.

Subd. 8. Record of grain warehouse receipts.

A receipt record stating the grain warehouse receipt number and date of deposit, gross weight, dockage and net weight shall remain in the possession of the public grain warehouse operator issuing the grain warehouse receipt and shall be open for inspection by the commissioner or interested parties.

Subd. 9. Warehouse operator shall keep record.

A public grain warehouse operator must keep a proper record of all grain received, stored or shipped, stating the weight, grade, dockage, and the name of the owner.

Subd. 10.Delivery of grain.

- (a) On the redemption of a grain warehouse receipt and payment of all lawful charges, the grain represented by the receipt is immediately deliverable to the depositor or the depositor's order, and is not subject to any further charge for storage after demand for delivery has been made and proper facilities for receiving and shipping the grain have been provided. If delivery has not commenced within 48 hours after demand has been made and proper facilities have been provided, the public grain warehouse operator issuing the grain warehouse receipt is liable to the owner in damages not exceeding two cents per bushel for each day's delay, unless the public grain warehouse operator makes delivery to different owners in the order demanded as rapidly as it can be done through ordinary diligence, or unless insolvency has occurred.
- (b) If a disagreement arises between the person receiving and the person delivering the grain at a public grain warehouse in this state as to the proper grade or dockage of any grain, an average sample of at least three quarts of the grain in dispute may be taken by either or both of the persons interested. The sample shall be certified by both the owner and the public grain warehouse operator as being true samples of the grain in dispute on the delivery day. The samples shall be forwarded in a suitable airtight container by parcel post or express, prepaid, with the name and address of both parties, to a United States Department of Agriculture authorized grain inspection program, who shall, upon request, examine the grain, and determine what grade or dockage the samples of grain are entitled to under the inspection rules. Before the results of the inspection are released to the person requesting the inspection, the person shall pay the required fee. The fee shall be the same as that required for similar services rendered by the grain inspection program.

Subd. 10a.Redelivery of dry edible beans.

- (a) A public grain warehouse shall deliver dry edible beans to a holder of a warehouse receipt after the warehouse receipt holder pays a redelivery charge and the charges accrued until the time the warehouse receipt is surrendered to the grain warehouse operator. The dry edible beans must be dry and processed to acceptable standards for canning and packaging use. The redelivery charge may not exceed \$3 per net hundredweight of the dry edible beans. The commissioner may determine the maximum redelivery charge by rule, after receiving a petition to change the redelivery charge signed by at least 25 dry edible bean processors, producers, and public warehouse operators.
- (b) A grain warehouse operator shall deliver dry edible beans in bags or in bulk as requested by the warehouse receipt holder. The warehouse receipt holder shall furnish the bags if dry edible beans are to be bagged.
- (c) A grain warehouse operator shall grade the dry edible beans if requested by the warehouse receipt holder. The grain warehouse operator may determine grade by United States Department of Agriculture standards, Northharvest standards, or Michigan Bean Shippers Association standards. The warehouse receipt holder shall pay grading fees.

#### Subd. 11. Termination of storage contract.

Storage contracts on grain being stored at public grain warehouses terminate on the expiration date of the storage license under which the grain warehouse operates. The expiration date must be plainly imprinted on each grain warehouse receipt issued by a public grain warehouse operator. Grain storage may be terminated by the depositor at any time before the expiration date by the payment or tender of all legal charges and the surrender of the grain warehouse receipt together with a demand for delivery of the grain or notice to the public grain warehouse operator to sell the grain. In the absence of a demand for delivery, order to sell or mutual agreement for the renewal of the storage contract, entered prior to the expiration of the original storage contract, the public grain warehouse operator shall, upon the expiration of the contract, and after notification by registered letter to the depositor, sell the stored grain at the local market price on the close of business on that day, deduct from the proceeds of the sale all legal accrued charges, and pay the balance of the proceeds to the depositor upon surrender of the grain warehouse receipt.

#### Subd. 12.New grain warehouse receipt.

Upon the payment of all legally accrued charges and the return of the grain warehouse receipt, the public grain warehouse operator and the depositor may by mutual consent enter into an agreement for renewal of the grain storage. When the agreement is made, the warehouse operator shall issue a new grain warehouse receipt to the owner and cancel the former grain warehouse receipt by endorsing on it the words "Canceled by the issuance of grain warehouse receipt No...," and inserting the number of the new grain warehouse receipt in the blank space. The canceled grain warehouse receipt shall be signed by the warehouse operator and the depositor.

Subd. 13.Unauthorized sale of grain.

Except as provided in subdivision 11, no warehouse operator may sell or dispose of or deliver out of store any grain stored without the express authority of the depositor and the return of the grain warehouse receipt.

Subd. 14. Pooling prohibited.

It is unlawful for a public grain warehouse operator or the operator's agent to enter into a contract, agreement, combination or understanding with any other public grain warehouse operator whereby the amount of grain to be received or handled by the grain warehouses is equalized or pooled between the grain warehouses, whereby the profits or earnings derived from the grain warehouses is equalized, pooled or apportioned or whereby the price to be paid for any kind of grain at the grain warehouses is fixed or in any manner affected. Each continued day of the contract, agreement, combination or understanding is a separate offense.

Subd. 15.Closing or destruction of grain warehouse.

- (a) In case of loss or destruction by fire or other cause for the closing of a public grain warehouse, the licensee shall immediately notify the Department of Agriculture in writing.
- (b) Whenever a grain warehouse is closed for more than 48 consecutive hours, not including Sundays and legal holidays, the grain warehouse operator shall advise all patrons of the closing by posting conspicuously at each entrance a notice showing the date of reopening and giving the name and telephone number of a person authorized to act as agent for the purpose of making redeliveries, purchases or conducting other grain warehouse business.

Subd. 16.Insurance required.

The operator of a public grain warehouse must keep all grain in the grain warehouse fully insured against loss by fire, windstorm and extended coverage risks and shall furnish the Department of Agriculture with evidence it requires that the insurance is in force.

#### Minn. Stat. § 232.24. SCHEDULE OF INSPECTION, FINANCIAL REPORTS.

Subdivision 1. Schedule of examination.

A licensee under sections 232.20 to 232.24 is subject to an examination annually conducted by the commissioner or the Agricultural Marketing Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. The commissioner may require supplemental examinations of a licensee as the commissioner deems necessary.

Subd. 2. Financial reports.

A licensee under sections 232.20 to 232.24 must provide to the commissioner a copy of the financial report that satisfies the requirements under section 223.17, subdivision 6.

Subd. 3.

[Repealed, 2012 c 244 art 1 s 83]

Minn. Stat. § 232.25. [Repealed].

