

United States Department of Agriculture Federal Grain Inspection Service AUTHORIZATION TO USE MECHANICAL SAMPLER FOR SAMPLING		FORM APPROVED OMB NO. 0581-0309 According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0581-0309. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 5 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.	
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
_____	_____	_____
Date	Official Agency	Agency Manager Signature
_____	_____	_____
Date	Location	Authorization Approved – USDA
_____	_____	_____
Date	Field Office Location	Field Office Manager Signature

Instructions for Completing FGIS 980

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".

1. Fill in the header information:
2. The name of the facility, city and state where the facility is located.
3. The name of the sampler manufacturer, model name or number and the serial number.
4. The name of the secondary sampler (divider) manufacturer, model name or number, and the serial number.
5. Insert a check mark on the appropriate commodity to be sampled.
6. The agreement shall be signed by the applicable parties indicated for each signature line.
 - a. The authorization is an agreement among representatives of the facility where the sampling system is installed, the testing office, FGIS and any other persons or firms that may be directly involved.
 - b. The agreement says that the sampler shall be installed, serviced, operated, and maintained following existing regulations.

B. Distribution of Form FGIS 980.

FGIS will return a copy of the completed Form FGIS-980 to the testing office for further distribution. A certificate will not be issued for the authorization of a sampling system.