

Chapter Ag 120

SCALES AND SCALE PITS

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History: Chapter Ag 120 as it existed on August 31, 1975 was repealed and a new chapter Ag 120 was created effective September 1, 1975.

Ag 120.01 Definitions. (1) "Department" means the state of Wisconsin department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection.

(2) "Scale" includes scales known in the commercial field as vehicle, livestock, or grain dump scales, but does not include scales used exclusively for highway construction under supervision by the division of highways, state of Wisconsin department of transportation.

(3) "Person" includes individuals, partnerships, corporations, firms and associations.

(4) "Scale service company" means a person engaged in the business of selling, servicing, or installing scales.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1975, No. 236, eff. 9-1-75; correction in (1) made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 6, Stats., Register, December, 1985, No. 360.

Ag 120.02 Prohibitions. (1) No scale service company or other person shall install or relocate a scale without a written permit from the department. Application for such permit shall be made in writing on forms provided by the department. A copy of the construction plan for installing or relocating a scale shall accompany each application for a permit, unless a master set of construction plans fully setting forth construction details has been filed with the department and are separately identified by plan numbers. Applications may describe a construction plan by referring to its plan number if such plan has been approved by and is on file with the department. Any deviations from construction plans on the master set shall be separately described in any application. No permit shall be issued for plans not meeting the requirements of this chapter, except as provided under s. Ag 120.04. No scale service company or other person may deviate from minimum requirements on plans approved under permit without the express approval of the department in writing. The department shall grant or deny a permit application within 20 business days after the application is filed with the department, provided that the application is accompanied by all requisite information and documentation.

(2) Scales not constructed in accordance with technical specifications and requirements under this chapter shall be restricted to noncommercial service use until technical specifications and requirements have been met and the scale has been tested by the department and complies with acceptance tolerances.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1975, No. 236, eff. 9-1-75; am. (1), Register, December, 1985, No. 360, eff. 1-1-86.

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Ag 120.03 Pit construction; minimum requirements. (1) Except as otherwise authorized by the department under s. Ag 120.04, no scale shall be installed or relocated unless constructed in accordance with the following requirements:

(a) A clearance of not less than 6 feet (1.8 m) shall be provided from the finished floor line of the scale pit to the top edge of the pit coping, or a clearance of not less than 48 inches (1.2 m) from the finished floor line of the scale pit to the bottom of the "I" beam of the scale bridge.

(b) Main load bearing piers shall be constructed of reinforced concrete poured monolithic with the walls, or tied to the walls with $\frac{1}{2}$ inch (1.2 cm) reinforcing rods. The side walls, except for livestock scales, shall be not less than 12 inches (30 cm) in thickness, and the end walls not less than 16 inches (40 cm) in thickness. End walls for vehicle scales shall be constructed with a step at the upper outer edge to provide support for concrete approaches. The step shall be at least 6 inches (15 cm) by 6 inches (15 cm). All pit walls shall be constructed of reinforced concrete. Vertical $\frac{1}{2}$ inch (1.2 cm) reinforcing rods shall be placed on no more than 12 inch (30 cm) centers and horizontal $\frac{1}{2}$ inch (1.2 cm) reinforcing rods on no more than 18 inch (45 cm) centers.

(c) Scale walls and piers shall rest on footings which extend at least 12 inches (30 cm) below the frost line, or on a reinforced base slab, not less than 12 inches (30 cm) in thickness, and be otherwise constructed in a manner which will withstand loading and prevent frost heaving.

(d) Pit floors shall be constructed of concrete and in such a manner that will permit them to be kept well drained and reasonably dry.

(e) The top inside edge of pit walls shall be framed with a structural steel angle iron coping. The angle iron shall be at least 2 inches (5 cm) by 2 inches (5 cm) by $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (.6 cm), and be constructed with welded projections to provide for anchoring in the concrete at 4 foot intervals. The frame shall be welded at the joints to prevent minor cracking of the pit walls.

(f) Deck clearance of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch (1.2 cm) minimum or $\frac{3}{4}$ inch (1.8 cm) maximum shall be provided between the scale deck and the coping of pit walls.

(g) Mechanical indicating elements shall be placed on reinforced concrete footings or metal structural members with sufficient strength to prevent deflection.

(h) At least a 27 inch (70 cm) clearance shall be provided on one side of the transverse lever in the pit neck.

(i) An adequate pit entrance shall be provided, either by a square opening of not less than 22 inches (58 cm) by 22 inches (58 cm) in the pit neck or through a circular opening of 24 inches (60 cm) in diameter in the scale deck, or by an entrance through the pit wall of not less than 36 inches (90 cm) wide with the top no lower than the main girders and the bottom approximately even with the pit floor.

(j) Approaches for vehicle scales shall be on the same plane as the scale platform and extend for at least 10 feet (3 m) on both ends of the scale. Approaches shall be constructed of reinforced concrete and be of the same width as the scale platform.

(k) A concrete test weight unloading platform at least 8 feet (2.4 m) by 10 feet (3 m) shall be constructed and maintained in connection with livestock scales, located in such close proximity to the livestock scale and on the same level as the scale and approaches thereto, which will readily permit the lowering of test weights from the test truck directly onto such concrete platform for movement of test weights to the scale deck.

(2) New or relocated installations shall comply with acceptance tolerances until such time as an official department test is made. Department test shall be made within 90 days after notice has been received that the scale has been placed into operation.

(3) This subsection shall not apply to scale pits constructed prior to the effective date of this chapter, or to scale pits constructed under a special permit as provided in s. Ag 120.04.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1975, No. 236, eff. 9-1-75.

Ag 120.04 Installation of scales under special permit. Special permits for the installation or relocation of scales, including pitless scales, deviating from specific requirements under this chapter may be issued by the department where it can be demonstrated that the scale meets service requirements within acceptance tolerances. Applications for a permit authorizing deviations shall include full and detailed construction plans together with a statement setting forth the specific reasons why such deviations are necessary or desirable. The department may impose such limitations or conditions on the construction and use of such scales as it may consider necessary.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1975, No. 236, eff. 9-1-75.

Ag 120.05 Report of installation or relocation. (1) Any scale service company or other person installing or relocating a scale shall, within 5 days after completion thereof, report such installation or relocation on forms provided by the department.

(2) Each report of the installation or relocation of a scale shall contain such information as the department may require, including:

(a) The brand name, model or serial number, capacity, sectional capacity, the name of the manufacturer and the department permit number;

(b) The date and place of the installation or relocation;

(c) A statement of whether or not a sale of a scale was involved, and if a sale was involved, the name and address of the seller and buyer, and the date of sale.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1975, No. 236, eff. 9-1-75.