

CHAPTER 215A

MOISTURE-MEASURING DEVICES

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215A.1 Definitions.

As used in [this chapter](#):

1. “*Agricultural products*” means any product of agricultural activity which is tested for moisture content when offered for sale, processing, or storage.
2. “*Department*” means the Iowa department of agriculture and land stewardship.
3. “*Moisture-measuring devices*” means any device or instrument used by any person in proving or ascertaining the moisture content of agricultural products.
4. “*Person*” means an individual, corporation, partnership, cooperative association, or two or more persons having a joint or common interest in the same venture and shall include the United States, the state, or any subdivision of either.
5. “*Secretary*” means the secretary of agriculture.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §215A.1]

[2012 Acts, ch 1023, §157](#)

Further definitions, see [§189.1](#)

215A.2 Inspection by department.

The department shall inspect or cause to be inspected at least annually every moisture-measuring device used in commerce in this state, except those belonging to the United States or the state, or any subdivision of either, except as herein provided. The department may inspect or cause to be inspected at the convenience of the department any moisture-measuring device upon a request in writing from the owner thereof.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §215A.2]

215A.3 Rules adopted — hearing.

The department is charged with the enforcement of [this chapter](#) and, after due publicity and due public hearing, is empowered to establish rules, regulations, specifications, standards, and tests as necessary in order to secure the efficient administration of [this chapter](#). Publicity concerning the public hearing shall be reasonably calculated to give interested parties adequate notice and adequate opportunity to be heard. In establishing such rules, regulations, specifications, standards, and tests the department may use the specifications and tolerances established in [section 215.18](#), and shall use the specifications and tolerances established by the United States department of agriculture as of November 15, 1971, in chapter XII of GR instruction 916-6, equipment manual, used by the United States department of agriculture grain inspection, packers and stockyards administration. The department may from time to time publish such data in connection with the administration of [this chapter](#) as may be of public interest.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §215A.3]

[95 Acts, ch 216, §25](#)

215A.4 Officer assigned to act.

The department may at its discretion designate an employee or officer of the department to act for the department in any details connected with the administration of [this chapter](#).

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §215A.4]

215A.5 Marking with seal.

If an inspection or comparative test reveals that the moisture-measuring device being inspected or tested conforms to the standards and specifications established by the

department, the department shall cause the same to be marked with an appropriate seal. Any moisture-measuring device which upon inspection is found not to conform with the specifications and standards established by the department shall be marked with an appropriate seal showing such device to be defective, which seal shall not be altered or removed until said moisture-measuring device is properly repaired and reinspected. The owner or user of such device shall be notified of such defective condition by the department or its properly designated employees on an inspection form prepared by the department.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §215A.5]

Referred to in [§215A.6](#), [215A.9](#)

215A.6 Procedure when device rejected.

1. Any defective moisture-measuring device, while so marked, sealed, or tagged, as provided in [section 215A.5](#), may be used to ascertain the moisture content of agricultural products offered for sale, processing, or storage, only under the following conditions:

a. The person shall keep a record, open to inspection, of every commercial sample of agricultural products inspected by the tagged device, showing that an adjustment was made on all such agricultural products tested.

b. The device shall be repaired to comply with [section 215A.5](#) within a period of thirty days, and the department thereupon notified.

2. If, upon reinspection, the device is again rejected under the provisions of [section 215A.5](#), such device shall be sealed and shall not be used until repaired and reinspected.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §215A.6]

[2009 Acts, ch 41, §263](#)

215A.7 Located where visible to public.

Every device used to ascertain the moisture content of agricultural products offered for sale, processing, or storage shall be used in a location visible to the general public and the detailed procedure for operating a moisture-measuring device shall be displayed in a conspicuous place close to the moisture-measuring device.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §215A.7]

215A.8 Untested devices not to be used — exception.

No person shall use or cause to be used any grain moisture-measuring device which has not been inspected and approved for use by the department; except, a newly purchased grain moisture-measuring device may be used prior to regular inspection and approval if the user of such device has given notice to the department of the purchase and before use of such new device.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §215A.8]

215A.9 Inspection fee.

1. The department shall charge, assess, and cause to be collected at the time of inspection an inspection fee in accordance with the fee schedule established pursuant to [section 214.3, subsection 2](#).

2. A fee of fifteen dollars shall be charged for each device subject to reinspection under [section 215A.5](#). All moneys received by the department under the provisions of [this chapter](#) shall be handled in the same manner as appropriated receipts as defined in [section 8.2](#), and shall be used for the administration and enforcement of the provisions of [this chapter](#).

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §215A.9]

[90 Acts, ch 1084, §12](#); [92 Acts, ch 1239, §40](#); [2018 Acts, ch 1041, §127](#); [2024 Acts, ch 1185, §154](#)

215A.10 Penalty.

Every person who uses or causes to be used a moisture-measuring device in commerce with knowledge that such device has not been inspected and approved by the department in accordance with the provisions of [this chapter](#) shall be guilty of a simple misdemeanor.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §215A.10]