

## Frequently Asked Questions?

### **1. What is the difference between a State Licensed and Federal Licensed facility?**

A Mississippi Licensed facility is licensed by the state Department of Agriculture and Commerce and must comply with the Mississippi Grain Warehouse Law (Sections 75-44-1, *et seq.*), and the Mississippi Grain Dealers Law (Section 75-45-301, *et seq.*) Chapters 44 . A Federally licensed facility must meet the licensing requirements outlined by the United States Warehouse Act.

### **2. What is AMS and what does the AMS Federal Grain Inspection Service do?**

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) administers programs that create domestic and international marketing opportunities for U.S. producers of food, fiber, and specialty crops. The AMS Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) establishes and maintains official U. S. standards for grain inspection and weighing, providing oversight for the program.

### **3. Who is the official grain inspector for the State of Mississippi?**

Midsouth Grain Inspection Services (MGIS) is an Official USDA Designated Grain Inspector Agency with offices in Memphis, TN, Stoneville, MS and Little Rock, AR. The Agency's territory covers Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee, and parts of Alabama. MGIS provides official inspections, weighing, and official commercial inspection service.

### **4. Who does Midsouth Grain Inspection Services serve?**

Services are provided to producers, grain elevators, insurance companies, and other official agencies.

### **5. What tests are performed by Midsouth Grain Inspection Services?**

Midsouth Grain Inspection Services performs mycotoxin tests such as: Aflatoxin, Vomitoxin, and Fumonison on official and unofficial samples. MGIS also performs proteins on wheat, protein and oil on soybeans, and protein, oil, and starch on corn. MGIS grades wheat, soybeans, corn, and sorghum.

### **6. Who tests the grain at the state elevator where I deliver my grain?**

A grain inspector who is employed by the grain elevator.

### **7. Do Federally licensed facilities in Mississippi have a state or federal inspector on site?**

No. Simply because the elevator is federally licensed does not mean a federal inspector is on site.

### **8. If a grain producer disagrees with the grade received from the purchaser, what options does the producer have?**

If a grain producer disagrees with the grade received from the purchaser of the grain, the producer can request an official grade by the state's authorized grain inspection agency. The producer can then submit a "split" sample to the state's authorized grain inspection agency.

### **9. What should the producer expect when requesting an official grade?**

The producer should:

1. Ask the purchaser to have the sample graded by an official inspector with the State's official inspection agency
2. Be willing to pay for the official grade

3. Stipulate whether it's to be a full official grade or a factor only official grade (damage, moisture, foreign material). Limiting factors will expedite the process.

**10. What if the grain elevator refuses to permit an official grade?**

The producer should review the terms of the contract and examine how the elevator handles official grades or grade disputes. State law entitles the producer to an official grade.

**11. Am I required to sell my grain to the elevator if I don't agree with the grade?**

The producer should review the terms of the contract and examine how the elevator handles official grades or grade disputes. Depending on the contractual arrangement with the purchaser, the seller may not be obligated to sell the load or and may be able to take the grain to another elevator where it will be graded upon delivery.

**12. Can I have my grain graded prior to delivery to the elevator?**

Yes, prior to delivery to the elevator, the producer can have the grain graded by an Official USDA Designated Grain Inspection Service. The official inspection service will obtain a sample that is representative of the load, analyze the sample and issue an "official inspection certificate". The inspection service can "seal" the trailer to secure the load. That certificate can then be presented to the elevator upon delivery for payment based on the "official inspection".

**13. Is the elevator required to use the "official inspection" as the final grade for payment to the producer?**

The purchaser can purchase or not purchase the grain. However, if the purchase is made, the official grade must be used.

**14. Where can I get additional information?**

Additional information can be found at The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyard Administration (GIPSA) website at: <https://fgis.gipsa.usda.gov/>

**15. Who can I contact at Midsouth Grain Inspection Services or the USDA Federal Grain Inspection Service in Mississippi?**

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