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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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**Mandatory:** These items will be an automatic tag/failure if not addressed before we arrive.

- Scale Deck:** Needs to be clean and free of debris so we can see the condition of the deck boards/scale surface. We will not drive the skid steer onto a deck that is in a weakened condition. If we cannot see your scale deck we will not put our skid steer on your scale.
- Scale Ramps:** Approach ramps must be level and constructed with solid fill material. Ramps must be smooth to prevent excessive rocking and bouncing of skid steer when it is accessing your scale. If your scale has three inches, or more, of a difference in height between the scale deck and the ramp we will not be able to get onto the scale safely. Metal frame work and rubber mats at the entrance to the scale can be slick and may prevent us from getting onto your scale. Scale ramps need to be installed prior to our arrival.
- Beam Box:** This needs to be clean so we can operate and zero the scale. There can be no wasps, bees, spiders, or rodent nests of any kind. Make sure slide mechanisms move freely.
- Corrals:** NO livestock where we need to access the scale. It is not our responsibility to move your animals.
- Alleyways:** They need to be clear for access with our skid steer. There should be nothing piled in the way. No panels, no pallets, no fencing material, no water/feed tubs, no hoses, no tools and no animals. All weeds and vegetation that obstruct our view of the ground need to be removed.
- Gates:** Open or easily opened.
- Digital Scales:** Digital units must be fully charged or a power supply provided. Weights & Measures will not provide power for your equipment.

Digital Scale Owner: We will be at your scale on \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.

**Recommended:** Many scales fail because they are dirty. It is in your best interest to make sure your scale is its best condition. Remember, scale rechecks are costly.

- Scale Edges: They need to be clean of rocks, dirt, sticks, dried animal waste, etc. so the scale deck moves without binding. A bound up scale will not weigh correctly.
- Underneath Scale Deck: This needs to be clean so there is nothing clogging the scale mechanisms or causing the scale to hang up. Be sure to clean the beams and rails under the scale deck. Dirt and animal waste build up and rodent nests need to be cleaned out.
- Scale Frame: Nothing tied to the scale and nothing leaning against the scale. Do not forget to check overhead, as well. No panels, no pallets, no fencing material, no water/feed tubs, etc. Items tied to the scale frame can cause erroneous scale readings.
- Ranch or Scale Owner Representative Present or Readily Available: With the costs associated with a revisit it is recommended that a representative be present or readily available. This is particularly advantageous if the scale is geography separated from the ranch office.