

**34-237. Drying, cleaning and safekeeping of grain; removal and sale of out of condition grain, notice.** (a) Any public warehouseman on the written request of the owner of any grain stored in a private bin, upon the surrender of the receipt, or receipts, therefor, may be permitted to dry, clean or otherwise change the condition or value of any such lot of grain; but in such case it shall only be delivered as such separate lot, without reference to the grade it may be made by such process of drying or cleaning.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prevent any warehouseman from removing grain within such warehouseman's warehouse for its preservation or safekeeping, but no warehouseman shall be held liable for damage to grain stored in special bins by heating, unless such damage be caused by the act of the warehouseman. In case any public warehouseman shall discover that any portion of the grain stored in a special bin in such warehouseman's warehouse is out of condition or becoming so, and it is not in such warehouseman's power to preserve the same, the warehouseman shall immediately give notice to the owner, if known, and, if not known, by public notice by advertising in a newspaper of general circulation in the city in which such warehouse is situated, and by posting a notice on the warehouse bulletin board or other public place of its actual condition, as near as the warehouseman can ascertain. The warehouseman shall state in such notice the kind and grade of grain and the bin in which it is stored, and shall also state in such notice the receipts outstanding upon which such grain will be delivered, giving the numbers, amount and date of each, and shall give the name of the party for whom such grain was stored, the date it was received and the amount of it, and the enumeration of receipts and identification of grain so described shall embrace as near as possible the quantity of grain contained in such bins, and such grain shall be delivered upon return and cancellation of such receipts, and the unreceipted grain upon the request of the owner or holder of the receipt or receipts.

(c) Nothing herein contained shall be held to relieve the public warehouseman from exercising proper care and vigilance in preserving such grain after such publication of its condition, but such grain shall be kept separate and apart from all direct contact with other grain, and shall not be mixed with other grain while in store in such warehouse. Any public warehouseman guilty of any act or neglect, the effect of which is to depreciate property stored in the public warehouse under the warehouseman's control, shall be liable on the warehouseman's bond or letter of credit therefor to the person damaged thereby.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed so as to permit any public warehouseman to deliver any grain stored in a special bin or by itself, as provided in this act, to any but the owners of the lot, or holder of the warehouse receipt, or receipts. In case the grain declared out of condition as herein provided for shall not be removed from store by the owner or holder of the warehouse receipt, or receipts, thereof within 20 days from the date of the notice of its being out of condition, it shall be lawful for the public warehouseman where the grain is stored to sell the same at public auction for account of said owner, or holder, of the warehouse receipt, or receipts, by giving 10 days' notice by advertising in a newspaper (daily, if there is such) published in the city or town where such public warehouse is located.

**History:** L. 1931, ch. 194, § 15; L. 1970, ch. 156, § 4; L. 2000, ch. 30, § 5; Mar. 30.