

Requirements for Scales Used in Value-Added Retail Sales

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Scales used to weigh produce for commercial sale in Tennessee must be “approved” and “registered.”

First, approved scales. Various manufacturers of scales are approved by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA). You can contact TDA and ask for a copy of the list of “approved” scale dealers/companies and to see if a particular set of scales came from such a company. If not, the people at the TDA may be able to “approve” your scales when they “inspect” them. “Approved” scales must have a “sticker” on them.

Second, registered scales. There is an annual registration fee for scales payable to TDA. The amount of this fee is directly related to the size of the scales. Scales that can weigh between 0 and 2,500 pounds have a \$5.00 registration fee, and scales that can weigh more than 2,500 pounds have a \$75.00 registration fee. TDA can be contacted at 615-837-5109 or 1-800-626-2631 and request an inspection of your scales. “Registered scales” are checked once a year. It is the responsibility of the scales owner to have them registered and inspected. Scales must be accurate within 3/100 of a pound at 30 pounds.