



September 13, 2013

Registration and Title Bulletin # 033-13 Policy and Procedure

TO: All County Tax Assessor-Collectors

SUBJECT: **HB 3256 – Eligibility for Farm License Plates and Excess Weight Permits**

PURPOSE

To inform you of the eligibility requirements for issuance and renewal of farm license plates and the issuance of excess weight permits for farm vehicles by **walk-in customers**. This RTB does not apply to applications submitted by mail, online, or at a sub-contractor location.

DETAILS

Prior to the passage of HB 3256, TxDMV adopted rules relating to eligibility for farm license plates, as described in RTB #010-13. The previous RTB required an applicant for Farm Trailer/Semitrailer, Farm Truck, or Farm Truck Tractor license plates to present a current Texas Agricultural and Timber Exemption Registration Number issued by the Comptroller.

HB 3256 codifies and expands this requirement. Effective September 1, 2013, an application for farm license plates, renewal of existing farm license plates, and application for excess weight permits for farm motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers requires the applicant to present proof of a Texas Agricultural and Timber Exemption Registration Number.

Proof of the Texas Agricultural and Timber Exemption Registration Number may consist of:

- the permit issued by the Comptroller;
- a copy of the permit issued by the Comptroller; or
- verification through the Comptroller's website.

COUNTY ACTION

When accepting an initial application for farm license plates or an excess weight permit for any farm vehicle, verify the Texas Agricultural and Timber Exemption Registration Number as described above.

If the applicant presents a card, or copy of the card, issued by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts as proof, the card must be:

- legible;
- current;
- contain a registration number; and
- in the legal name of the person, or DBA (Doing Business As), in which the vehicle is or will be registered pursuant to Transportation Code, Sec. 502.146.

If the person does not have a card on them, or the card does not meet the above criteria, you may verify proof of eligibility through the Comptroller's website at <https://ourcpa.cpa.state.tx.us/regagexsearch/>.

We also placed a link to the "Ag and Timber Number Search" under "Useful Links" on the TAC Hub <http://www.txdmv.gov/tax-assessor-collectors/useful-links>.

Currently, this registration number is only captured in the Title Application Event (Sales Tax TTL012 Screen) when Exempt Reason "Farm/Ranch" is selected. The department will implement technology changes in the future to capture the registration number in RTS, IVTRS, and WebSub.

Until further programming can be implemented, the Registration Number will only be required for walk-in applicants renewing farm plates in your offices. As programming changes are made, we will advise when the Registration Number will be required for online and mail-in renewals.

CONTACT

If you have any questions, please contact your local TxDMV Regional Service Center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Randy Elliston". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Randy Elliston, Director
Vehicle Titles and Registration Division

Attachment