

Correct Tare Determination for Bulk Items Weighed on Store Scales

Last Revision: January 30, 2014

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 [ATCP 91.02\(4\)](#)
 [ATCP 90.04\(1\)\(a\)](#)

Background

What is the minimum tare that a store should be using on their scale when weighing bulk commodities?

Wis. Admin. Code ATCP 91.02(4) which states that the weight of a bulk commodity sold by weight may not include the weight of the containers or wrappers, if any, in which those commodities are sold. Wis. Admin. Code ATCP 90.04(1)(a) which states that the declaration of net quantity shall clearly and conspicuously disclose the net quantity of the consumer commodity contained in that package, exclusive of wrappers and other material packaged with the commodity. In most scenarios, store devices are reading in .01 lb scale divisions.

Policy

Negative weight errors $\geq 0.6d$ result in a failure of the store to take appropriate tare for the bulk commodity. This applies to all bulk commodities.

Inspectors/Sealers should advise store personnel that this issue could cause package failures even though the store personnel cannot visibly see the tare weight on their scale. It may also be made known to store personnel that it is the recommendation of Weights and Measures officials that all packaged product receive at least a minimum of 1d for tare. New inspectors must team up with experienced inspectors.

(NOTE* When using the Winwam package checking program to record results for a single item, if the inspection passes but should fail due to insufficient tare being taken, then the “label fail” box must be checked in order to change the result of the inspection from pass to fail).

Effective Date: January 31, 2008
Revised: January 28, 2010