**Harvest Flow Chart**

**Start Here**

Is today during the WOY fieldwork period?

- Yes
  - Maturity Code 6 or 7?
    - Yes
      - Conduct Final Pre-Harvest Visit (regardless of when farmer will harvest). Follow Form B instructions.
    - No
      - Make regular Form B counts and clips based on maturity.

- No

Remember to keep in touch with the farmer!

Is the farmer going to harvest soon?

- Yes
  - Conduct Final Pre-Harvest Visit no more than 3 days before farmer harvest. Follow Form B instructions.
- No

**Shipping Lab Samples**

Interviewer’s Manual (IM) Pages 525-526

**ID Tags**

- Complete all lines of identification—this is extremely important!
- Date on the ID Tag must match the date on the Form B (or E).
- Code 3/4/5—use Yellow ID Tag. Per visit, you will use ONE tag per sample (both units).
- Code 6/7—final pre-harvest visit—use Pink ID Tag. Per sample, you will use TWO tags: one for each unit.
- Gleaning—use Pink ID Tag. Per sample, you will use ONE tag (both units).

Read the “Shipping Don’ts and Do’s” on page 526 in the Interviewer’s Manual.

**Form E—Gleaning**

Interviewer’s Manual (IM) Pages 601-607

- Sample numbers evenly divisible by 4.
- Gleaning samples are identified with a label on the sample Kit Envelope and a blue Form E will be in the Sample Kit Envelope.
- Gleaning should take place as soon as possible after harvest. No later than three days after harvest is complete.
- If sample field has been disked or plowed, add 5 paces to the original number of paces used for the Form B layout.
- Unit layout includes a 5 foot buffer zone and the gleaning area which is one wheat frame wide and 3 rows (and middles—up to fourth row) deep.

**Tyvek Envelope**

- Make sure you have properly secured the completed ID Tag(s) on the outside of the paper bags with a rubber band.
- Place paper bags inside the white Tyvek envelope.
- Close the envelope and seal.
- Add the UPS label (to St. Louis). Write down the tracking number on the Form B and on the back of the Sample Kit Envelope.
- Take sample to UPS drop-off or schedule a pickup.

**Form A and Grid Map**

Interviewer’s Manual (IM) Pages 301-316

- Explain survey purpose. Obtain permission to lay out the sample unit, make monthly counts, and clip a few heads.
- Verify name & address. Record starting and ending times.
- Verify acres of wheat intended to be harvested for grain. Item 1 (filled in by office) as reported during the March Ag Survey. If incorrect, do not change but please write detailed notes.
- With the operator, draw each wheat field on the grid map. Number the fields North to South, West to East. Think top to bottom, left to right, like you are reading this handout!
- Complete Table A by writing in the acreages of each field and the cumulative acreage totals. Verify total acreage.
- The sample field is the first field whose accumulated total is greater than or equal to the selected acres. Enter the selected field number in the small table and circle the field number in Table A.
- Complete remainder of Form A.

**What If…..?**

**Q** A respondent has multiple samples?

- A) You will have multiple Sample Kit Envelopes and multiple Form A’s. Complete the inside of ONE Form A and the back of ALL Form A’s with the operator. Later, copy the inside of the completed Form A to all of the other Form A’s.
- B) A respondent has multiple samples? Copy the inside of the completed Form A to all of the other Form A’s. You will have multiple Sample Kit Envelopes and multiple Form A’s.

**Q** The respondent has NO wheat for grain harvest on his entire farm? (Did not plant wheat OR did plant wheat but was grazed out, cut for hay, abandoned, etc)

- A) Write detailed notes on the Form A. Return the Sample Kit Envelope to office.

**Survey Purpose:**

Field observations and lab samples collected during the Wheat Objective Yield Survey are used in USDA wheat yield forecasts during the crop season.
When completing Form A, you will ask about pesticide applications at the sampled field. If yes, obtain name and latest field to lay out and mark Unit 2. Start your paces 1.5 feet outside the plowed edge of the field. Walk parallel to the longer side of the field and in the same direction you were traveling for the first unit. Turn at a right angle and walk 30 more paces into parallel with the longer side of the field and in the same direction you were traveling for the first unit. Again using blue stakes. It's also a good idea to move the frame to measure and mark the second and third rows. Label the count area with many stalks left tine touching the U1 stake and crosses three drill rows.

 Lay out the Count Area (red stakes) – place your wheat frame to the right of the yardstick. Working from outside the unit, carefully slip the wheat frame into Row 1 through the base of the plants with the inside corner of the left tine touching the U1-R1 stake. The times of the frame may divide a plant with many stalks—do not move stalks in and out of the frame. Place a red stake in the inside corner of the right time to finish marking Row 1. Lift and move the frame to measure and mark the second and third rows. Label the stakes (U1-R1, U2-R2, etc).

 Lay out the Clip Area (blue stakes) – move to the right of the count area and re-insert the frame with the left tine just inside the count area, touching the red stake. Place a blue stake inside the right tine to mark Row 1 of Clip Area A. Mark all three rows. Repeat to lay out Clip Area B immediately to right of the first clip area, again using blue stakes. It’s also a good idea to go ahead and mark the halfway points for your 1st and 2nd clip.

 Unit 2 – Starting from the last pace required for Unit 1, walk 30 more paces parallel with the longer side of the field and in the same direction you were traveling for the first unit. Turn at a right angle and walk 30 more paces into field to lay out and mark Unit 2.

 **WHAT IF…..?**

 Q) You have trouble determining the starting corner (odd-shaped fields)? — A) Review IM pg 415

 Q) You encounter a blank area while walking your paces? — A) Review IM pg 411

 Q) You reach end of field with paces still left to take? — A) Review IM pg 411 (the bounce back) record on Form B.

 Q) Field is broadcast? — A) Review IM pg 409

 Q) Field is a center-pivot field? — A) Review IM pg 416

 **COUNTS & CLIPS**

 **Q7—# of Stalks in Recent Row - Maturity 1 or 2, start here.**

 **Q8—# of Heads in Late Boot - Maturity 3—7, start here.**

 **Q9a—# of Emerged Heads on All Stalks—count when spikelets are seen through the split in the sheath leaf or beyond.**

 **Q9b—# of Detached Heads in Unit—only on Final Pre-Harvest visit.**

 **Date on ID Tags MUST be SAME as date on corresponding Form B.**

 **Use YELLOW ID Tag for Code 3/4/5. Use PINK ID Tag for Code 6/7.**

 **STAGES OF MATURITY**

 **Code 1 – Pre-Fill**

 Tillers are only an inch or two high. There is no swelling in the stalks and no flag leaf present.

 **Counts Only**

 **Code 2 – Flag or Early Boot**

 Stalks are starting to joint and joints can be seen easily. A flag leaf is present and the collar of the flag leaf has emerged above the top foliage leaf. The enclosed head is located below the collar of the top foliage leaf.

 **Code 3 – Late Boot**

 Swelling has occurred above the top foliage leaf. The sheath is split and the head is partially or wholly emerged. The emerged head will show a fully clear liquid turning milky white.

 **Code 4 – Milk**

 Kernels are soft, moist, and filled with a milky liquid. Plant is still generally green.

 **Code 5 – Soft Dough**

 Grains can be crushed and the contents are soft and can be kneaded like dough. The plant has changed to a golden tint; the stalk is smooth and shiny. Only the upper-most leaves are swollen and green, the lower leaves being shrunken and brownish.

 **Code 6 – Hard Dough**

 Grain is firm and can be dented with the thumbnail, but not easily crushed. The leaves are dry and shrunk.

 **Code 7 – Ripe**

 Straw is full and brittle. The grain is hard and breaks into fragments when crushed. Harvest is expected very soon.
**COMPLETE**

First Visit: You visited the field, laid out the sample units, and completed the Form B for both units

Future Visits: You will return to this field to record measurements for both units and complete another Form B until the sample units are mature enough to perform pre-harvest procedures and send the sample to the National Lab for processing.

2—Farmer Harvested for Grain BEFORE Unit was Laid Out.

First Visit: The farmer harvested the sampled field for grain before sample units were laid out.

There will be no future visits to this sample.

3—Farmer Harvested for Grain AFTER Units were Laid Out

After First Visit: The enumerator was able to complete at least one Form B in a previous survey month, but the field was harvested prior to the following month’s visit for enumeration and/or pre-harvest sample collection.

No future visits will be required to this sample.

4—Enumerator Harvested or Both Units are Blank

Pre-Harvest: When the sample field is in MATURITY CODE 6 or 7. Perform pre-harvest procedures for each sample unit, package and send the samples to the National Lab according to specifications outlined in the manual.

No future visits will be required to this sample.

5—Field partially destroyed and both units destroyed

Any Visit: The sampled field and/or both units have been destroyed to the point where the field can no longer be harvested for grain. This commonly occurs in instances where the sampled field was damaged from weather, fire, or vandalism.

No future visits will be required to this sample.

6—Lost Sample—Field NOT Harvested for Grain

The sampled field will not be harvested for grain. The field will be used for purposes other than grain (grazing, silage/other forage, hay, abandoned, etc.).

No future visits will be required to this sample.

7—Refusal

Any visit: The farmer refused to participate in the survey during the Form A interview or decided they no longer wished to participate after samples were laid out in the field.

No future visits will be required to this sample.

8—Inaccessible

Any visit: The sampled field was inaccessible for the current survey period.