

Registration and Permitting of Farm Vehicles 10/4/2017

Farm Vehicles Staying in the State

Farm vehicles that are used by the owner or producer of livestock or farm products to transport the livestock, farm products, or supplies used to produce the farm products in *intrastate* commerce (i.e. within the boundaries of the state) are exempt from commercial motor vehicle registration. Vehicles that fall into this category should continue to register the vehicle as an exempt farm vehicle. A commercial driver's license is not required to operate a farm vehicle. A non-commercial class A driver's license is required to operate a semi-tractor with a trailer regardless of farm registration. A non-commercial class C driver's license is required to operate all other farm trucks.

Annual Overweight Agricultural Permit

KLA was a key member of a coalition of agricultural organizations that successfully lobbied during the 2017 Kansas legislative session to increase the legal weight limit on trucks. Haulers may now haul up to 90,000 lbs. pulling a triple-axle semi-trailer on non-interstate highways. The semi and trailer configuration must be consistent with the federal bridge formula for six-axle trucks. When operating above 85,500 lbs., haulers are limited to carrying agricultural inputs, farm supplies, biofuels, feed, raw or processed agricultural commodities, livestock, raw meat products intended by the shipper for further processing, or farm products. The annual permit is available for purchase online at <u>www.k-trips.com</u>. You do NOT have to be a farm registered vehicle to obtain this permit. Other state's weight restrictions apply when out-of-state.

Farm Vehicles Traveling Outside the State

Farm vehicles that are used by the owner or producer of livestock or farm products to transport the livestock, farm products, or supplies used to produce the farm products in *interstate* commerce (i.e. across state lines) are also exempt from registration as a commercial motor vehicle. However, other federal regulations and permits apply to farm vehicles traveling across state lines depending on the weight of the vehicle which may require the use of a commercial driver's license.

U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Number

All farm vehicles crossing state lines that have a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) over 10,000 pounds must obtain a USDOT number. The number must be posted on both sides of the truck along with the farm name. Trucks over 54,000 pounds should also post "Farm Truck – Not

For Hire" on both sides of the truck. In 2014, USDOT is waiving the fee for a USDOT number. After 2014, the fee for a number will be approximately \$300. USDOT numbers are for life and can be activated and de-activated as necessary. A USDOT number can be obtained at this website: <u>https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/registration</u>

Unified Carrier Registration (UCR) Fee

All farm vehicles required to have a USDOT number crossing state lines must also pay an annual UCR fee. Registration under the UCR cannot occur until 24 hours after you have obtained a USDOT number. Information about UCR registration can be found at: <u>www.ucr.in.gov</u>.

International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) Compliance

All farm vehicles crossing state lines that have a GVWR of greater than 26,000 pounds must comply with IFTA, which apportions the motor fuel use tax among the states. For frequent interstate crossings, the farm vehicle operator will need to register the vehicles, display decals on the vehicles, comply with record keeping requirements, and file an IFTA tax return. A temporary permit is available for infrequent interstate travelers to avoid decals and record keeping requirements. More information on IFTA can be found at: https://www.ksrevenue.org/mfifta.html

Federal Safety Regulations

Farm vehicles traveling across state lines will be exempt from most federal safety regulations pertaining to controlled substance testing; medical cards; hours of service; inspection, repair, and maintenance recordkeeping; and commercial drivers license requirements if they meet one of two criteria. A farm vehicle traveling across state lines with a GVWR of less than 26,001 pounds is exempt. A farm vehicle traveling across state lines with a GVWR of greater than 26,001 pounds operating within 150 air miles of the producer's farm or ranch is also exempt. A farm vehicle traveling across state lines with a GVWR of greater than 26,001 pounds operating within 150 air miles of the producer's farm or ranch is also exempt. A farm vehicle traveling across state lines with a GVWR of greater than 26,001 pounds operating within 150 air miles of the producer's farm or ranch is also exempt. A farm vehicle traveling across state lines with a GVWR of greater than 26,001 pounds operating within 150 air miles of the producer's farm or ranch is also exempt. A farm vehicle traveling across state lines with a GVWR of greater than 26,001 pounds operating outside of 150 air miles of the producer's farm or ranch is subject to all commercial motor carrier regulations.

All farm vehicles travelling across state lines, must still meet other federal safety laws that require functional lights and brakes and the vehicle to be free of any alcohol or other controlled substance.

A vehicle registered as a commercial motor vehicle or something other than a farm vehicle may enjoy the farm exemption while traveling across state lines by qualifying as a covered farm vehicle and filling out the form found here: <u>https://www.ksrevenue.org/pdf/tr600.pdf</u>

If you have further questions about how to register or permit your farm vehicle, please call the KLA offices at (785) 273-5115.