



FarmRaise Passport

45Z Farmer Documentation Starter Kit

The 45Z Clean Fuel Production Credit pays for low-carbon-intensity crops, but the credit is only as strong as the documentation behind it.

45Z in one paragraph

The 45Z Clean Fuel Production Credit rewards fuel producers for using lower-carbon-intensity feedstocks. This means the lower the carbon intensity, the bigger the credit. To claim the credit, there needs to be proof on how the crop was grown with which practices, on which fields, and when. That proof starts with what is documented on the farm.

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What to document, practice by practice

Practice	What to record	Why it matters for 45Z
Cover crops	Species, planting date, termination date, and acres by field.	Carbon intensity scoring depends on cover crop presence and duration which means exact dates matter.
No-till / reduced till	Tillage pass records (or absence of passes) by field and by season.	Tillage intensity is a direct input to the carbon intensity calculation.
Nutrient management	Fertilizer source, rate, timing, and application method by field.	Nitrogen management affects emissions calculations and is a common audit point.
Field identity	Field boundaries, acreage, and a consistent field ID used every season.	Practices have to trace back to a specific, identifiable field, not just a farm total.
Data & sequencing	Planting and harvest dates for the crop tied to the claim.	Practice timing (e.g., cover crop before cash crop) is often part of the qualifying criteria.

The rule of thumb

If a practice impacts carbon intensity, it needs a date, a field, and a number attached to it. A general “we’ve been doing cover crops for years” will not be good enough. Specific, field-level, dated records are what turns a claim into a defensible one.

Built to hand directly to growers

Co-ops, SWCDs, extension programs, and self-funded ag companies: this page is designed to go straight into a grower's hands at enrollment, a field day, or a one-on-one visit.

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