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LISA SMITH, COUNTY RECORDER  
MADISON COUNTY IOWA

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### FARM LEASE

THE IOWA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Official Form No. 135

Recorder's Cover Sheet

**Preparer Information:** (Name, address and phone number)

Jane E. Rosien, 223 E. Court Avenue, P.O. Box 67, Winterset, Iowa 50273-0067  
Phone: (515) 462-4912

**Taxpayer Information:** (Name and complete address)

Nelson L. Treece, 16 Division Street, Bangor, Maine 04401

**Return Document To:** (Name and complete address)

Jane E. Rosien, 223 E. Court Avenue, P. O. Box 67, Winterset, Iowa 50273-0067

✓ Steve Berch, 2403 Peru Rd, Peru, IA 50222

**Grantors:**

Nelson L. Treece

**Grantees:**

Steve Berch

**Legal description:** See Page 2

**Document or instrument number of previously recorded documents:** N/A



# FARM LEASE - CASH OR CROP SHARES

THIS LEASE ("Lease") is made between Nelson L. Treece

16 Division Street, Bangor, Maine 04401 ("Landlord"), whose address for the purpose of this Lease is Steve Berch, and address for the purpose of this Lease is 2403 Peru Road, Peru, Iowa 50222, ("Tenant"), whose

THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. **PREMISES AND TERM.** Landlord leases to Tenant the following real estate situated in Madison County, Iowa (the "Real Estate"):

Tract 1: The West 63½ acres of the North One-half (½) of the Southeast Quarter (¼) and the West 63½ acres of the South one-half (½) of the Northeast Quarter (¼) of Section Thirty-four (34), Township Seventy-five (75) North, Range Twenty-eight (28) West of the 5th P.M., Madison County, Iowa; and,

Tract 2: Commencing at a point 33 rods West of the Northeast Corner of the South One-half (½) Southeast Quarter (¼) of Section Thirty-four (34), Township Seventy-five (75) North, Range Twenty-eight (28) West of the 5th P.M., and running thence West to the Northwest Corner of said 80 acre tract, thence South to the Southwest corner of the North One-half (½) of the Northeast Quarter (¼) of Section Three (3), Township Seventy-four (74) North, Range Twenty-eight (28) West of the 5th P.M., thence East on the South line of said North One-half (½) of the Northeast Quarter (¼) of said Section Three (3), Township Seventy-four (74) North, Range Twenty-eight (28) 106 rods, thence in a Northeasterly direction to the point of beginning.

and containing 250 (total)(tillable) acres, more or less, with possession by Tenant for a term of 1 years to commence on March 1, 2014, and end on March 1, 2015. The Tenant has had or been offered an opportunity to make an independent investigation as to the acres and boundaries of the premises. In the event that possession cannot be delivered within fifteen (15) days after commencement of this Lease, Tenant may terminate this Lease by giving the Landlord notice in writing.

2. **RENT.** Tenant shall pay to Landlord as rent for the Real Estate (the "Rent"):

a. Total annual cash rent of \$ 12,206 payable, unless otherwise agreed, as follows: \$ 6,103.00 on 1st day of March, 2014, \$ 6,103.00 on 1st day of September, 2014, and \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_; or

b. Crop share- \_\_\_\_\_ % of corn, \_\_\_\_\_ % of soybeans, and \_\_\_\_\_ % of other crops raised on the Real Estate.

All Rent is to be paid to Landlord at the address above or at such other place as Landlord may direct in writing. Rent must be in Landlord's possession on or before the due date. Participation of this farm in any offered program by the U.S. Department of Agriculture or any state for crop production control or soil conservation, the observance of the terms and conditions of this program, and the division of farm program payments, requires Landlord's consent. Payments from participation in these programs shall be divided 0 % Landlord 100 % Tenant. Governmental cost-sharing payments for permanent soil conservation structures shall be divided 100 % Landlord 0 % Tenant. Crop disaster payments shall be divided 0 % Landlord 100 % Tenant.

~~3. **LANDLORD'S LIEN AND SECURITY INTEREST.** As security for all sums due or which will become due from Tenant to Landlord, Tenant hereby grants to Landlord, in addition to any statutory liens, a security interest as provided in the Iowa Uniform Commercial Code and a contractual lien in all crops produced on the premises and the proceeds and products thereof, all contract rights concerning such crops, proceeds and/or products, all proceeds of insurance collected on account of destruction of such crops, all contract rights and U.S. government and/or state agricultural farm program payments in connection with the above described premises whether such contract rights be payable in cash or in kind, including the proceeds from such rights, and any and all other personal property kept or used on the real estate that is not exempt from execution. Tenant shall also sign any additional forms required to validate the security interest in government program payments.~~

~~Tenant shall not sell such crops unless Landlord agrees otherwise. Tenant shall notify Landlord of Tenant's intention to sell crop at least three (3) business days prior to sale of the crop (with business days being described as Monday through Friday, except any Iowa or federal holidays). Tenant shall pay the full rent for the crop year in which the crop is produced, whether due or not, at the time of sale pursuant to Landlord's consent to release Landlord's security interests. Upon payment in full Landlord shall release Landlord's lien on the crop produced in that crop year on the premises. The parties agree that by the Landlord releasing the lien as to the crop in one year, the Landlord in no way releases the lien or agrees to release the lien in any prior or subsequent year.~~

~~Tenant shall sign and deliver to Landlord a list of potential buyers of the crops upon which Landlord has been granted a security interest in this lease. Unless Landlord otherwise consents, Tenant will not sell these crops to a buyer who is not on the potential list of buyers unless Tenant pays the full rent due for the crop year to the Landlord at or prior to the date of sale. Landlord may give notice to the potential buyers of the existence of this security interest.~~

~~Landlord is further granted the power, coupled with an interest, to sign on behalf of Tenant as attorney in fact and to file one or more financing statements under the Iowa Uniform Commercial Code naming Tenant as Debtor and Landlord as Secured Party and describing the collateral herein specified. Tenant consents to the financing statement being filed immediately after execution of this Lease.~~

**4. INPUT COSTS AND EXPENSES.** Tenant shall prepare the Real Estate and plant such crops in a timely fashion as may be directed by mutual agreement (Landlord) (Tenant). Tenant shall only be entitled to pasture or till those portions of the Real Estate designated by Landlord. All necessary machinery and equipment, as well as labor, necessary to carry out the terms of this lease shall be furnished by and at the expense of the Tenant. The following materials, in the amounts required by good husbandry, shall be acquired by Tenant and paid for by the parties as follows:

	% Landlord	% Tenant
(1) Commercial Fertilizer . . . . .	0	100
(2) Lime and Trace Minerals . . . . .	0	100
(3) Herbicides . . . . .	0	100
(4) Insecticides . . . . .	0	100
(5) Seed . . . . .	0	100
(6) Seed cleaning . . . . .	0	100
(7) Harvesting and/or Shelling Expense . . . . .	0	100
(8) Grain Drying Expense . . . . .	0	100
(9) Grain Storage Expense . . . . .	0	100
(10) Other . . . . .	0	100

Phosphate and potash on oats or beans shall be allocated 100 % the first year and 0 % the second year, and on all other crops allocated 100 % the first year and 0 % the second year. Lime and trace minerals shall be allocated over one years. If this Lease is not renewed, and Tenant does not therefore receive the full allocated benefits, Tenant shall be reimbursed by Landlord to the extent Tenant has not received the benefits. Tenant agrees to furnish, without cost, all labor, equipment and application for all fertilizer, lime, trace minerals and chemicals \_\_\_\_\_.

**5. PROPER HUSBANDRY; HARVESTING OF CROPS; CARE OF SOIL, TREES, SHRUBS AND GRASS.** Tenant shall farm the Real Estate in a manner consistent with good husbandry, seek to obtain the best crop production that the soil and crop season will permit, properly care for all growing crops in a manner consistent with good husbandry, and harvest all crops on a timely basis. In the event Tenant fails to do so, Landlord reserves the right, personally or by designated agents, to enter upon the Real Estate and properly care for and harvest all growing crops, charging the cost of the care and harvest to the Tenant, as part of the Rent. Tenant shall timely control all weeds, including noxious weeds, weeds in the fence rows, along driveways and around buildings throughout the premises. Tenant shall comply with all terms of the conservation plan and any other required environmental plans for the leased premises. Tenant shall do what is reasonably necessary to control soil erosion including, but not limited to, the maintenance of existing watercourses, waterways, ditches, drainage areas, terraces and tile drains, and abstain from any practice which will cause damage to the Real Estate.

Upon request from the Landlord, Tenant shall by August 15 of each lease year provide to the Landlord a written listing showing all crops planted, including the acres of each crop planted, fertilizers, herbicides and insecticides applied showing the place of application, the name and address of the applicator, the type of application and the quantity of such items applied on the lease premises during such year.

Tenant shall distribute upon the poorest tillable soil on the Real Estate, unless directed otherwise by Landlord, all of the manure and compost from the farming operation suitable to be used. Tenant shall not remove from the Real Estate, nor burn, any straw, stalks, stubble, or similar plant materials, all of which are recognized as the property of Landlord. Tenant may use these materials, however, upon the Real Estate for the farming operations. Tenant shall protect all trees, vines and shrubbery upon the Real Estate from injury by Tenant's cropping operation or livestock.

Tenant shall maintain accurate yield records for the real estate, and upon request, during or after lease term, shall disclose to Landlord, all yield base information required for participation in government programs.

**6. DELIVERY OF GRAIN.** If this lease is a crop share lease, Tenant, without cost to Landlord, shall deliver Landlord's grain pursuant to request, at reasonable times, to the elevator at \_\_\_\_\_ or elsewhere at no further distant point.

**7. LANDLORD'S STORAGE SPACE.** If this lease is a crop share lease, Landlord reserves \_\_\_\_\_ % of all crib and granary space for storage of the rent share crops.

## 8. ENVIRONMENTAL.

a. Landlord. To the best of Landlord's knowledge to date:

- i) Neither Landlord nor, Landlord's former or present tenants, are subject to any investigation concerning the premises by any governmental authority under any applicable federal, state, or local codes, rules, and regulations pertaining to air and water quality, the handling, transportation, storage, treatment, usage, or disposal of toxic or hazardous substances, air emissions, other environmental matters, and all zoning and other land use matters.
- ii) Any handling, transportation, storage, treatment, or use of toxic or hazardous substances that has occurred on the premises has been in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local codes, rules, and regulations.
- iii) No leak, spill release, discharge, emission, or disposal of toxic or hazardous substances has occurred on the premises.
- iv) The soil, groundwater, and soil vapor on or under the premises is free of toxic or hazardous substances except for chemicals (including without limitation fertilizer, herbicides, insecticides) applied in conformance with good farming methods, applicable rules and regulations and the label directions of each chemical.

Landlord shall hold Tenant harmless against liability for removing solid waste disposal sites existing at the execution of this Lease, with the exception that Tenant shall be liable for removal of solid waste disposal sites to the extent that the Tenant created or contributed solid waste disposal site at any time.

Landlord shall assume liability and shall indemnify and hold Tenant harmless against any liability or expense arising from any condition which existed, whether known or unknown, at the time of execution of the lease which is not a result of actions of the Tenant or which arises after date of execution but which is not a result of actions of the Tenant.

Landlord shall disclose in writing to Tenant the existence of any known wells, underground storage tanks, hazardous waste sites, and solid waste disposal sites. Disclosure may be provided by a properly completed groundwater hazard statement to be supplemented if changes occur.

b. Tenant. Tenant shall comply with all applicable environmental laws concerning application, storage and handling of chemicals (including, without limitation, herbicides and insecticides) and fertilizers. Tenant shall apply any chemicals used for weed or insect control at levels not to exceed the manufacturer's recommendation for the soil types involved. Farm chemicals (**may**) (**may not**) be stored on the premises for more than one year. Farm chemicals for use on other properties (**may**) (**may not**) be stored on this property. Chemicals stored on the premises shall be stored in clearly marked, tightly closed containers. No chemicals or chemical containers will be disposed of on the premises. Application of chemicals for agricultural purposes per manufacturer's recommendation shall not be construed to constitute disposal.

Tenant shall employ all means appropriate to insure that well or ground water contamination does not occur, and shall be responsible to follow all applicator's licensing requirements. Tenant shall install and maintain safety check valves for injection of any chemicals and/or fertilizers into an irrigation system (injection valve only, not main well check valve). Tenant shall properly post all fields (when posting is required) whenever chemicals are applied by ground or air. Tenant shall haul and spread all manure on appropriate fields at times and in quantities consistent with environmental protection requirements. Tenant shall not dispose of waste oil, tires, batteries, paint, other chemicals or containers anywhere on the premises. Solid waste (**may**) (**may not**) be disposed of on the premises. Dead livestock (**may**) (**may not**) be buried on the premises. If disposal of solid waste or burial of dead animals is permitted as stated in the previous two sentences, the disposal or burial shall be in compliance with all applicable environmental laws. Tenant shall not use waste oil as a means to suppress dust on any roads on or near the premises. No underground storage tanks, except human waste septic systems that meet current codes, rules, and regulations, shall be maintained on the premises.

Tenant shall immediately notify Landlord of any chemical discharge, leak, or spill which occurs on premises. Tenant shall assume liability and shall indemnify and hold Landlord harmless for any claim or violation of standards which results from Tenant's use of the premises. Tenant shall assume defense of all claims, except claims resulting from Landlord's negligence, in which case each party shall be responsible for that party's defense of any claim. After termination, Tenant shall remain liable for violations which occurred during the term of this Lease.

**In the absence of selection of an alternative where choices are provided in this paragraph 8b, the choice of word "may" shall be presumed unless that presumption is contrary to applicable environmental laws and regulations.**

9. **TERMINATION OF LEASE.** This Lease shall automatically renew upon expiration from year-to-year, upon the same terms and conditions unless either party gives due and timely written notice to the other of an election not to renew this Lease. If renewed, the tenancy shall terminate on March 1 of the year following, provided that the tenancy shall not continue because of an absence of notice in the event there is a default in the performance of this Lease. All notices of termination of this Lease shall be as provided by law.

10. **POSSESSION AND CONDITION AT END OF TERM.** At the termination of this Lease, Tenant will relinquish possession of the Real Estate to the Landlord. If Tenant fails to do so Tenant agrees to pay Landlord \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per day, as liquidated damages until possession is delivered to Landlord. At the time of delivery of the Real Estate to Landlord, Tenant shall assure that the Real Estate is in good order and condition, and substantially the same as it was when received by Tenant at the commencement of this Lease, excusable or insurable loss by fire, unavoidable accidents and ordinary wear, excepted.

11. **LANDLORD'S RIGHT OF ENTRY AND INSPECTION.** In the event notice of termination of this Lease has been properly served, Landlord may enter upon the Real Estate or authorize someone else to enter upon the Real Estate to conduct any normal tillage or fertilizer operation after Tenant has completed the harvesting of crops even if this is prior to the date of termination of the lease. Landlord may enter upon the Real Estate at any reasonable time for the purpose of viewing or seeding or making repairs, or for other reasonable purposes.

12. **VIOLATION OF TERMS OF LEASE.** If Tenant or Landlord violates the terms of this Lease, the other may pursue the legal and equitable remedies to which each is entitled. Tenant's failure to pay any Rent when due shall cause all unpaid Rent to become immediately due and payable, without any notice to or demand upon Tenant.

13. **REPAIRS.** Tenant shall maintain the fences on the leased premises in good and proper repair. Landlord shall furnish necessary materials for repairs that Landlord deems necessary within a reasonable time after being notified of the need for repairs. Tenant shall haul the materials to the repair site without charge to Landlord.

14. **NEW IMPROVEMENTS.** All buildings, fences and improvements of every kind and nature that may be erected or established upon the Real Estate during the term of the Lease by the Tenant shall constitute additional rent and shall inure to the Real Estate, becoming the property of Landlord unless the Landlord has agreed in writing prior to the erection that the Tenant may remove the improvement at the end of the lease.

15. **WELL, WINDMILL, WATER AND SEPTIC SYSTEMS.** Tenant shall maintain all well, windmill, water and septic systems on the Real Estate in good repair at Tenant's expense except damage caused by windstorm or weather. Tenant shall not be responsible for replacement or installation of well, windmill, water and septic systems on the Real Estate, beyond ordinary maintenance expenses. Landlord does not guarantee continuous or adequate supplies of the water for the premises.

16. **EXPENSES INCURRED WITHOUT CONSENT OF LANDLORD.** No expense shall be incurred for or on account of the Landlord without first obtaining Landlord's written authorization. Tenant shall take no actions that might cause a mechanic's lien to be imposed upon the Real Estate.

17. **NO AGENCY.** Tenant is not an agent of the Landlord.

18. **TELEVISION AND RADIO.** Tenant may install and remove, without causing material injury to the premises, Tenant's television reception antennas, microwave dishes, and radio reception and transmission antennas.

19. **ACCOUNTING.** The method used for dividing and accounting for the harvested grain shall be the customary and usual method used in the locale.

20. **ATTORNEY FEES AND COURT COSTS.** If either party files suit to enforce any of the terms of this Lease, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees,

21. **CHANGE IN LEASE TERMS.** The conduct of either party, by act or omission, shall not be construed as a material alteration of this Lease until such provision is reduced to writing and executed by both parties as addendum to this Lease.

22. **CONSTRUCTION.** Words and phrases herein, including the acknowledgement, are construed as in the singular or plural and as the appropriate gender, according to the context.

23. **NOTICES.** The notices contemplated in this Lease shall be made in writing and shall either be delivered in person, or be mailed in the U.S. mail, certified mail to the recipient's last known mailing address, except for the notice of termination set forth in Section 9, which shall be governed by the Code of Iowa.

24. **ASSIGNMENT.** Tenant shall not assign this Lease or sublet the Real Estate or any portion thereof without prior written authorization of Landlord.

25. **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.** See I in Addendum

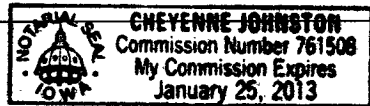
DATED: 2/23/11

TENANT: *Steve Berch*  
Steve Berch

LANDLORD: *Nelson L. Treece*  
Nelson L. Treece

STATE OF IOWA  
COUNTY OF MADISON

This instrument was acknowledged before me on February 16, 2011, by Steve Berch



*Cheyenne Johnston*, Notary Public

STATE OF MAINE  
COUNTY OF TENNESSEE

This instrument was acknowledged before me on February 23, 2011, by Nelson L. Treece

as \_\_\_\_\_  
of \_\_\_\_\_

If a corporation: Said person(s) acknowledged that the corporation (has no seal) (has a seal which is affixed hereto).

*Jessica M. Chute*, Notary Public

[ATTACH OTHER APPROPRIATE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT(S) HERE]

Jessica M. Chute  
Notary Public  
State of Maine  
My Commission Expires  
August 18, 2011



## Addendum

1. 26 It is the intent of the Landlord to expend the amount of \$3,262 for the capital improvement and repair of the leased real estate during the lease term provided, however, that Landlord reserves the right to determine the necessity, practicality, feasibility and desirability of each item to be purchased and installed and the economic impact of each such item. The fact that the sum referred to in this paragraph is not expended during the lease term shall not constitute a breach of the lease terms or give rise to any claim by tenant.
  
27. If during the term of this lease the Tenant at his own expense supplies grass seed to seed down any part of the leased premises, Landlord agrees to reimburse Tenant for the cost of such grass seed if the lease is not renewed or Tenant otherwise does not continue in possession of the leased premises for the year following the lease term.