

# USER INFORMATION

These questions and answers may be of assistance in using ASABE Standards 2011.

## • WHAT ARE ASABE STANDARDS?

ASABE Standards are consensus documents developed and adopted by the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers to meet standardization needs within the scope of the Society; principally agricultural field equipment, farmstead equipment, structures, soil and water resource management, turf and landscape equipment, forest engineering, food and process engineering, electric power applications, plant and animal environment, and waste management.

## • HOW ARE ASABE STANDARDS DEVELOPED?

Documents are developed by ASABE task groups and committees in accordance with due process, consensus procedures adopted by the responsible ASABE committee (see Table of Contents for Standardization Procedures). ASABE's procedures are accredited by the American National Standards Institute, ANSI. Task groups and committees are open to participation by qualified individuals from substantially interested producer, consumer, and general interest groups. Contact ASABE for information about technical committees involved with the development of Standards.

## • HOW ARE DOCUMENTS CLASSIFIED?

ASABE documents are classified as Standards, Engineering Practices, or Data. Classifications are defined in the Standardization Procedures published herein.

## • HOW ARE DOCUMENTS ORGANIZED WITHIN THIS BOOK?

Documents are organized in numerical sequence within broad subject matter classifications as shown in the Table of Contents. The sections are:

- General Engineering for Agriculture
- Agricultural Equipment
- Turf and Landscape Equipment
- Electrical and Electronic Systems
- Food and Process Engineering
- Structures, Livestock, and Environment
- Soil and Water Resource Management

Each section is preceded by its own table of contents listing all of the documents in numerical order that are included in that section. Complete keyword and numerical indexes are located toward the end of this book.

## • HOW SHOULD STANDARDS IMPROVEMENTS OR NEEDS BE REPORTED?

Your feedback is welcome and important. Reporting errors or suggesting specific improvements and identifying areas where new standards are needed is essential to maintain quality published standards. Correspondence should be sent to the Director of Standards, ASABE,

Standards Department, 2950 Niles Road, St. Joseph, MI 49085-9659 USA. Phone and Fax numbers and our e-mail address are shown on Page iii.

## • WHAT DO THE ALPHA-NUMERIC DESIGNATIONS MEAN?

The capital letters S, EP, and D designate the document classifications of Standard, Engineering Practice, and Data, respectively. The base 3-digit number has no significance. The base number was assigned when development of the standard began as an ASABE project. The digit following the decimal identifies a specific technical revision of the original document. The month-year designation represents the most recent action, adoption or revision, on the document. Parentheses following the month-year indicate the year the document was last reaffirmed.

Example:	D271.2	APR1979 (R2005)
	D	data
	271	base number
	.2	second technical revision
	APR1979	adoption or last revision
	(R2005)	last reaffirmation

## • HOW CAN THE HISTORY OF A DOCUMENT BE TRACKED?

The brief paragraph at the beginning of each document provides a chronological history of the document's development, adoption, revision and reaffirmation (reconfirmation). All ASABE documents are reviewed every five years unless technically revised in the interim.

## • ARE THERE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEES?

A listing of International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Technical Committees, such as ISO/TC 23, Tractors and Machinery for Agriculture and Forestry, is included (see Table of Contents).

## • WHAT STANDARDS ARE BEING DEVELOPED BY ASABE?

A listing of current ASABE standardization projects is included (see Table of Contents). Persons interested in providing input to any of these projects should contact the ASABE Standards Department.

## • IS RELATED TECHNICAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM ASABE?

Approximately 700 technical papers are presented annually at ASABE meetings. Peer reviewed manuscripts are published in *Transactions of the ASABE and Applied Engineering in Agriculture*. This information is keyword indexed by the Society. Papers may be available relating directly or indirectly to the scope of specific standards, engineering practices, and data. Contact ASABE for more information.