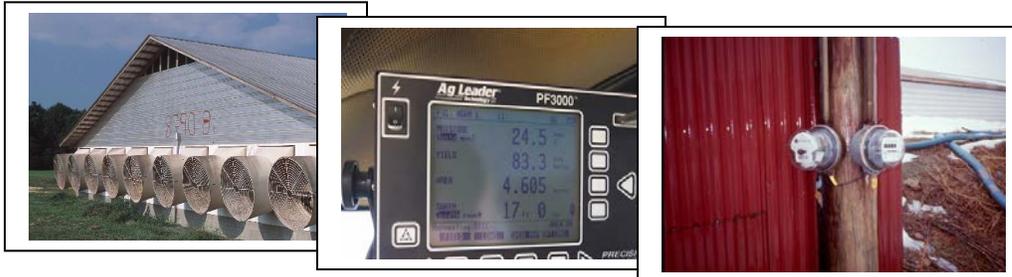


FARMSTEAD ENERGY IMPROVEMENT

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Code 374



FARMSTEAD ENERGY IMPROVEMENT

Farmstead Energy Improvement is applied as part of a conservation management system to reduce energy use. The practice entails developing and implementing farmstead improvements to increase energy efficiency measures which reduce on-farm energy use. Improvements may include replacing, or retrofitting agricultural equipment systems and/or related components or devices.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

Farmstead Energy Improvement is used exclusively to implement recommendations for components of a current energy audit performed in accordance with the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers ANSI/ASABE Standard S 612, Performing On-farm Energy Audits. The practice applies to any agricultural equipment system, non-residential structure or component that consumes energy as long as that system or component has been identified in an acceptable on-farm energy audit as defined above.

Replacement or retrofit system and related components or devices must meet or exceed currently applicable federal, state and local standards and guidelines as well as appropriate NRCS or industry standards. Applicable NRCS standards may include:

- Pumping Plant (533)
- Combustion System Improvement (372)

Some examples of industry standards that may be applied under this standard include:

- American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers Standard 90.1-2010
- ASABE EP 406.4
- National Electrical Manufacturers Association Motor Efficiency Standards

Applications covered by this practice may include but are not limited to automatic environmental controllers, insulation, circulation fans, plate coolers, heat recovery systems, efficient lighting fixtures and systems to improve the efficiency of maple syrup production.

When implementing Farmstead Energy Improvement, consider the impact on greenhouse gas emissions. Credits for greenhouse gas emission reductions would require documentation in addition to the documentation provided in the on-farm energy audit, however.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

An operation and maintenance plan is required for each retrofit or replacement system installed under this practice. The plan should be consistent with the purpose, intended life and safety requirements of the system.

For further information, refer to the practice standard in the local Field Office Technical Guide and associated job sheets and specification.