



Conservation Practice Overview

July 2021

Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation (Code 374)

Onfarm facilities, equipment, and management strategies that provide increased energy efficiency.

Practice Information

NRCS Conservation Practice Standard (CPS) Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation (Code 374) is applied to improve the energy efficiency of agricultural operations.

The practice applies to any agricultural equipment, system, nonresidential structure, or component that consumes energy as long as that system or component has been assessed and energy improvements identified.

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. Examples of NRCS standards include CPSs Pumping Plant (Code 533) and Combustion System Improvement (Code 372). Examples of industry standards that may be applied under this standard include American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers Standard, ASHRAE 90.1, "Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings," American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers, ASAE EP566, "Guidelines for Selection of Energy Efficient Agricultural Ventilation Fans," and National Electrical Manufacturers Association motor efficiency standards.

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

Operation and maintenance requirements include periodic inspections with prompt repair of damaged components and monitoring to ensure the continued success of the practice.

Common Associated Practices

NRCS CPS Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation (Code 374) is commonly applied with other conservation practices such as NRCS CPSs Pumping Plant (Code 533), Combustion System Improvement (Code 372), Energy Efficient Lighting System (Code 670), and Energy Efficient Building Envelope (Code 672).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.

