

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD**

MANURE TRANSFER

(No.)

CODE 634

DEFINITION

A manure conveyance system using structures, conduits, or equipment.

PURPOSE

To transfer animal manure (bedding material, spilled feed, process and wash water, and other residues associated with animal production may be included) through a hopper or reception pit, a pump (if applicable), a conduit, or hauling equipment to:

- a manure storage/treatment facility,
- a loading area, and
- to agricultural land for final utilization. This includes hauling from one geographical area to another and the application of manure to the utilization area.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

The manure transfer component is a part of a planned agricultural manure management system.

Where manure is generated by livestock production or processing and a conveyance system is necessary to transfer manure from the source to a storage/treatment facility and/or a loading area, and/or from storage/treatment to an area for utilization. This includes hauling manure from one geographical area with excess manure to a geographical area that can utilize the manure in an acceptable manner.

CRITERIA

Criteria for all purposes

Manure transfer components shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules and regulations.

Structures. All structures, including those which provide a work area around pumps, will be designed to withstand the anticipated static and dynamic loading. The structure shall withstand earth and hydrostatic loading in accordance with conservation practice standard 313, Waste Storage Facility. The minimum thickness of component elements of concrete structures shall also be in accordance with conservation practice standard 313. When needed, covers shall be designed to support the anticipated dead and live loads.

Reception pits shall be sized to contain a minimum of one full day's manure production.

Openings to structures to receive manure from alley scrape collection shall be a minimum of 9 square feet with one dimension no smaller than 4 feet. The opening shall be equipped with a grate designed to support the anticipated loads.

When curbs are needed in conjunction with structures, they shall be constructed of either concrete or wood. Curbs shall be of sufficient height to ensure total manure flow into the structure and be adequately anchored.

Pipelines. Design of pipelines shall be in accordance with sound engineering principles considering the type of load on the pipe, exposure, etc. The minimum pipeline capacity from collection facilities to storage/treatment facilities shall be the maximum peak flow anticipated on a daily basis.

<p>Conservation practice standards are reviewed periodically, and updated if needed. To obtain the current version of this standard, contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service.</p>
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The minimum pipeline capacity from storage/treatment facilities to utilization areas shall ensure the storage/treatment facilities can be emptied within the time limits stated in the management plan for manure utilization.

Pipelines shall be designed to have a minimum velocity of 2 feet per second and a maximum of 6 feet per second. Where ruminant manure is transferred in a gravity system, the velocities can be reduced if a minimum of 5 feet of head is provided on the pipe system.

Clean-out access shall be provided for gravity pipelines at a maximum interval of 200 feet for lines carrying non-bedded manure. For pipelines carrying bedded manure the maximum interval shall be 150 feet. Gravity pipelines shall not have horizontal curves or bends except minor deflections (less than 10 degrees) in the pipe joints unless special design considerations are used.

Other Conduits. Concrete lined ditches shall be designed in accordance with conservation practice standard 468, Lined Waterway or Outlet. A minimum design velocity of 1.5 feet per second shall be used.

Pumps. Pumps installed for manure transfer shall meet the requirements of conservation practice standard 533, Pumping Plant for Water Control. Pumps shall be sized to transfer manure at required system head and volume. Type of pump shall be based on the consistency of manure. When pumps are used to agitate slurry manure from waste storage facilities they will be adequate to evenly mix waste throughout the entire storage facility. Consideration for pump installations shall be based on manufacturer's recommendations.

Safety. The system design shall consider the safety of humans and animals during construction and operation.

Open structures shall be provided with covers or barriers such as gates, fences, etc. Ventilation and warning signs shall be provided for manure transfer systems as necessary to warn of the danger of entry and to reduce the risk of explosion, poisoning, or asphyxiation.

Pipelines from enclosed buildings shall be provided with a water-sealed trap and vent or

similar devices where necessary to control gas entry into buildings.

Barriers shall be placed on push-off ramps to prevent tractors or other equipment from slipping into waste storage or treatment facilities.

Gravity discharge pipes used for emptying a storage/treatment facility shall have a minimum of two gates or valves, one of which shall be manually operated.

Additional Criteria in Support of Agricultural Land for Final Utilization

Manure shall be applied to the utilization area in amounts and at a time consistent with conservation practice standard 590, Nutrient Management. Slurry manure will be adequately agitated prior to transferring manure from the storage facility.

Sprinklers or sprinkler systems used to apply waste shall be designed in accordance with conservation practice standard 442, Irrigation System, Sprinkler. Sprinkler system design capacity shall be adequate to apply the required volume of manure at a rate and uniformity that shall prevent runoff and meet the nutrient needs of the plants. Nozzle size shall be appropriate for the consistency of the manure applied. Sprinkler applied manure contaminated water shall normally contain less than two percent solids unless provisions are made for straining or filtering before application.

Gated pipe and other appurtenances used in conjunction with gravity application of waste shall be designed to ensure uniform application amounts.

On-farm manure spreaders and/or tank wagons shall have adequate capacity to ensure the emptying of storage/treatment facilities within appropriate time periods as stated in the system operation and maintenance plan.

Equipment used for hauling manure from one geographical area to another area shall be in good working order and capable of hauling the manure without spillage, leakage, or wind-blown losses during transport.

Where manure is hauled off-site to other geographical areas, provisions shall be made to inform the receiver of the manure of the proper storage and/or utilization of the manure. Manure shall be utilized in accordance with conservation practice standard 590, Nutrient Management or 633, Waste Utilization, as appropriate.

CONSIDERATIONS

Utilization of topography to generate head to reduce pumping requirements;

Economics (including design life), overall manure management system plans, and health and safety factors;

Tow vehicles should be sized to reduce the danger of roll-over.

Possible contamination of domestic water systems and ground water;

Loading and unloading of equipment in the vicinity of the manure transfer components;

Subsurface conditions, i.e., depth to bedrock, water table, etc.;

When applicable, compatibility to joint use of manure transfer with irrigation system design requirements;

System for flushing pipelines with clean water;

Provisions for removing solid from ditches,

Pipe pressure rating adjustments required based on manure temperature;

Corrosion resistance and water tightness in the selection of pipe material and joints;

Need for appropriate check valves, anti-siphon protection and open air breaks;

Sanitation needs of all conveyance equipment that leaves the farm in order to prevent the spread of disease;

Potential for salt (struvite) deposits in smaller diameter pipe.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Plans and specifications for installing manure transfer systems shall be in accordance with this standard and shall describe the requirements for applying the practice to achieve its intended purpose.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

An Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Plan must be prepared and reviewed with the landowner or operator responsible for the application of this practice. The O&M Plan shall provide specific instructions for proper operation and maintenance of each component of this practice and shall detail the level of repairs needed to maintain the effectiveness and useful life of the practice.

For land application of waste, record keeping (location, amount and nutrient content of waste applied, crops grown, etc.) shall be as required by conservation practice standard 590, Nutrient Management.