

Republic of the Philippines Office if the Secretary **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE** Diliman, Quezon City

19 April 2002

Administrative Order No. 10 Series of 2002

TO: ALL UNDERSECRETARIES, ASSISTANT SECRETARIES, SERVICE DIRECTORS, BUREAU DIRECTORS, HEADS OF ATTACHED AGENCIES, REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND DA PROGRAM DIRECTORS

SUBJECT : ADOPTION OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING STANDARDS, VOLUME 1, SERIES OF 2000

WHEREAS, Articles 5, 6, and 7, Chapter I, Title II of the Republic Act No. 7394, otherwise known as the Consumer Act of the Philippines identified standards development and enforcement of three agencies: Department of Agriculture (for agricultural products), Department of Health (for drugs, cosmetics, devices and substance) and Department of Trade and Industry (for other products not covered by the two agencies).

WHEREAS, Section 2, Chapter 1, Title IV (Agriculture), Book IV of EO No. 292 provides that the Department is the government agency responsible for the promotion of agricultural development by providing the policy framework, public investments, and support services needed for domestic and export-oriented business enterprises.

WHEREAS, Section 59 of Republic Act No. 8435, otherwise known as the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act of 1997 (AFMA) provides that "the Department shall give priority to the development and promotion of appropriate agricultural machinery and other agricultural mechanization technologies to enhance agricultural machinery in the countryside."

WHEREAS, Rule 59.3 of the IRR of AFMA states that "the Agricultural Machinery Testing and Evaluation Center (AMTEC) may be designated by the Department of Agriculture to issue standards for agriculture and fisheries machinery."

WHEREAS, on 26 November 1999, the Department entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the University of the Philippines – Los Baños for the establishment of agricultural engineering standards, to be undertaken by the Agricultural Machinery Testing and Evaluation Center (AMTEC), of the College of Engineering and Agro-industrial Technology of the UP-Los Baños.

WHEREAS, Administrative order No. 11 s. 2001 states that the AMTEC, in partnership with Philippine Society of Agricultural Engineers (PSAE) and concerned DA agencies, shall be charged with the formulation and development of the official agriculture and fisheries machinery standards.

Such standards, to be known as 'Philippine Standards for Agriculture and Fisheries Machinery" shall be subjected to public hearings by the NAFC, through its Agriculture and Fisheries Mechanization Committee (AFMeC), prior to its approval by the Secretary of Agriculture.

WHEREAS, pursuant, to the MOA and the AO 11, s. 2001, AMTEC, with funding from the Bureau of Postharvest Research and Extension (BPRE) and the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), drafted thirty eight (38) Agricultural Engineering Standards in partnership with PSAE, the Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers' and Distributors' Association (AMMDA), the Bureau of Product Standards (BPS) of the Department of Trade and Industry, and other agencies.

WHEREAS, the draft agricultural engineering standards have undergone extensive technical reviews, circulations, and a public hearing conducted by NAFC, where thirty five (35) out of the thirty eight (38) draft standards are now recommended for adoption.

WHEREAS, the PSAE unanimously passed Resolution No. 25, s. 2001, adopting the Agricultural Engineering Standards as the technical standard of agricultural engineering.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Leonardo Q. Montemayor, as Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, pursuant to Section 3 para. 3, Chapter 1, Title IV, Book IV, of the Executive order No. 292 hereby:

- 1. Require all offices of the Department of Agriculture (DA), including its regional field units, service units, bureaus, attached agencies, and corporations to adopt and comply with thirty five (35) standards as Philippine Agricultural Engineering Standards, Volume 1, Series of 2000 (attachment 1).
- 2. Direct the National Agriculture and Fisheries Mechanization Program Committee (CAFMech) under the Bureau of Postharvest Research and Extension (BPRE) to promulgate the implementing guidelines, and submit the same to the Office of the Secretary. All inquiries related to these standards shall be directed to CAFMech.

This Administrative Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its filing with the UP Law Center.

Lemando D. Martemayn

LEONARDO Q. MONTEMAYOI Secretary Department of Agriculture