

CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

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EDITOR

E. MCKYES
Department of Agricultural Engineering,
McGill University,
Box 950, Macdonald College,
Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Québec H9X 1C0

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WHAT'S IN A NAME? (Revisited)

D.I. (Don) Norum
President, 1989-1990

I sat down to write this editorial and thought, "What sort of format is used for the editorials? I'd better look at some past issues." When, what to my wandering eyes should appear, but Ron Britton's writing of exactly one year! (No, this isn't going to be in verse. My poetry skills are even worse than my memory.) But I feel strongly enough about this issue, that I think a little repetition is justified.

We all know, or think we know, what *agricultural engineering* is; but, do others? Does it matter? You bet your (professional) life it does! From the recruiting of students, to securing employment (especially that first job), through to marketing our expertise, the name is important. Ron stated, "We spend a measurable (immeasurable?) amount of our lives explaining who, and what we are." But it isn't just explaining "who we are", it's explaining "who we are *not*" that is time consuming and frustrating. Often, potential students, potential employers, and potential clients think they know what agriculture is and consequently what agricultural engineering is. No! We are not all tractors, plows and harvesters (slight apologies to the power and machinery people). Despite our continual knocking (pounding?) on doors and preaching, directly we can reach only a small number of potential "participants". We must rely, to some extent, on our name to convey our message, or at least to *not* convey a wrong message.

A recent issue of ASAE's journal *Agricultural Engineering* has a series of nine articles showcasing different technologies in agricultural engineering. Along with our traditional areas of power and machinery, electrical and electronic systems, soil and water, and structures and environment, are included food and processing engineering, bio-engineering, forest engineering, knowledge systems, and aquacultural engineering. Does our name really reflect these latter five technologies? And you say, "But we all know that agricultural engineering is very broad and covers all these areas and even more. By the way, why didn't you include environmental engineering and ...?" Is there a name that could cover all these diverse areas? Probably not, but let's take a try: Food and Agricultural; Agricultural and Food; Agricultural and Bio-resource; Agricultural, Food and Bio-resource; Food, Agricultural and Bio-resource (FABulous engineering?).

Let's get serious about this! It might be better to have a name which makes people say, "What do these engineers do?", than to have a name which makes them say, "Oh yea, I know what they do," and *don't*, and then ignore us.

Canadian Agricultural Engineering publishes papers covering the general field of Agricultural Engineering that fit into one of the following classifications: (1) a scientific paper based on original research; (2) a technical paper based on design, development, testing, or analysis of machines, equipment, structures, processes, or practice; (3) a general paper on education relative to curricula and philosophy or trends in science, on a survey or investigation of some phase of research or research methods, or on extension or extension methods. The Editorial Board may also publish abstracts published elsewhere and interesting news items from members of Agricultural Engineering.

Manuscripts for publication should be submitted to the Editor. The papers must be original and must have not been published elsewhere or copyrighted. The author, not the CSAE, is responsible for opinions expressed. Information published in *Canadian Agricultural Engineering* may be quoted in whole or in part provided that credit is given to the author and to the journal. Publication charges are \$60/page plus cost of illustrations etc. and reprint charges are [\$10.00 + (number of sets of 100 reprints ordered × \$3.00/100 reprints)] × (number of pages per reprint).

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NOTES TO CONTRIBUTORS

The Editorial Board will assess suitability and essential detail of papers submitted for publication in *Canadian Agricultural Engineering*. One or more reviewers will be used. Their comments and suggestions will be compiled and submitted to the author. The review will ensure that:

1. A *research paper* presents a piece of research carried to a well-defined stage of advancement and the conclusions are adequately supported by the experimental results.
2. A *technical paper* presents a clear, concise, and factual outline and interpretation of the development, design, test, or analysis under consideration and that it is a contribution in the field of agricultural engineering.
3. A *general paper* on education, research, or extension is pertinent to major changes in curriculum, research, or extension or to forward-looking developments in these areas.
4. A *technical note*, of one journal page or less, on equipment development, technique of measurement, or method of analysis will have an application for other workers in the field of agricultural engineering.

MANUSCRIPT

The manuscript should be typed double-spaced on paper 8½ × 11 inches (21.6 × 27.9 cm) with margins not less than ¼ inches (3.3 cm). The first page should contain only the title, authors' names, addresses (including postal codes), and contribution number where applicable. Tables and captions for illustrations should be on separate pages, placed after the text. Manuscript paper with numbered lines is preferred. The original and two copies are required.

The title of the paper should be upper and lower case centered on the page; it should give an accurate description of the article, using key words that can be used for computer-indexing.

ORGANIZATION

This paper should be organized to conform with present Journal practice. *Research* and *Technical* papers must include a short abstract section of about 200 words.

Major headings — Center on the page with all words in capital letters.

Subheadings — Start at left-hand margin, capitalize first letter.

Sub-headings — Start at left-hand margin, in lower case except first letter of first word, and underline.

Technical and detailed information should be included only in the form of description, table, graph, chart or photograph. In general, follow the *Council of Biological Editors Style Manual*, 5th ed., published by the Council of Biology Editors, Inc., Bethesda, MD 20814.

References

List references alphabetically by authors at the end. Include year of publication, title in lower case except first letter of first word, and source, with volume and page numbers where applicable. Names of periodicals should be abbreviated in the form given in *BIOSIS List of Serials with Title Abbreviations* (Bioscience Information for Service of Biological Abstracts, 211 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19102). Material in press, with the name of the journal, may be used as a reference. Private communications and unpublished reports should be referred to in parentheses in the text. Avoid the use of footnotes. Use the author-date system in the manuscript when referring to articles in the Reference section.

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Designate tables at the top by table number (Roman numerals) and title, in upper and lower case letters. All headings and other information in tables are to be in lower case except first letter of first word. Keep the table compact and place it across the page wherever possible. Do not use vertical lines.

Measurements

Use the metric system (SI) in the text. Tables, charts and graphs should be given only in metric units.

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Equations and formulas must be set up clearly. Use capitals for symbols as much as possible and lower case for superscripts and subscripts. Greek and other characters should be identified clearly. Equations should be numbered on the right-hand margin in large numbers and in line with the center of the equation.

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If paragraphs are to be numbered, designate by Arabic numerals. Designate sub-paragraphs by lower case letters in parentheses.

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Either original drawings or clean, glossy photographs are acceptable for illustrations. An illustration or group of them should be planned to fit, after reduction, into a space 90 mm wide (one column) or 183 mm wide (two columns). The original should be not more than three times the size of final figure. For identification, the figure number and author's name should be written on the lower left corner with soft pencil.

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Discussions may be submitted on any paper or technical note published in the Journal for a period of not more than four months following publication. Discussion of a paper or technical note is open to anyone who has significant comments or questions about the content of the paper/technical note. A discussion will not be accepted for publication if it contains material readily found elsewhere, is purely speculative, introduces personalities or otherwise falls below the standards of a technical paper in a professional journal. Authors will be given an opportunity to reply to discussions.

The format for discussions differs from those of papers in that figures are to be identified by capital letters to avoid confusion with the original paper. The discussor should refer to himself as "the writer" or "I" and to the author of the original paper as "the author." The first page shows the title of the original paper with a footnote to identify the author, volume, page and date. Name and address of the writer of the discussion follow the title.

Discussions will be reviewed by the Editorial Board and possibly the reviewers of the original paper. The length of a discussion is restricted to one journal page. Lengthy discussions will be returned for shortening, or the writer may be encouraged to submit a paper or technical note.

