

# ASABE - 100 Years of Innovation



**1907**  
ASAE is founded.  
J.B. Davidson is elected president.

**1910**  
First student branch established at Iowa State College.

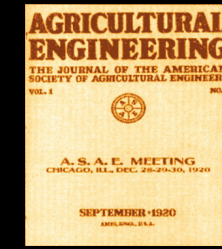
**1917**  
ASAE emblem designed.

**1912**  
First ASAE standard practice adopted.

**1917**  
The Southern Section, organized at Auburn, Ala., is first Society section.

**1920**  
The College Division becomes the first ASAE technical division.

**1920**  
Agricultural Engineering journal launched.



**1921**  
Mary A. Ives, first female ASAE member.



**1932**  
Cyrus Hall McCormick Gold Medal first ASAE award given.



**1937**  
C. O. Reed uses the term "engineering of biology" in one of the first references to the profession as biological engineering.

**1941**  
ASAE President Elmer E. Brackett presents the Society with a gavel made of Nebraska osage orange wood. It remains the presidential gavel today.



**1956**  
The Engineers Joint Council approves election of ASAE as an associate member.

**1950**  
Movement toward professional registration begins.

**1961**  
ASAE delegation attempts unsuccessful trade of tractors for prisoners in 'Bay of Pigs' incident.



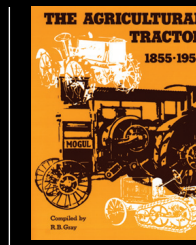
**1964**  
Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem becomes ASAE Standard.



**1966**  
Cooperative Standards Program formed.



**1970**  
New headquarters building dedicated.



**1974**  
First book in ASAE History Series.

**1981**  
First computer purchased for Society record keeping.



**1984**  
ASAE Foundation established.

**1987**  
ASAE establishes a cooperative membership agreement with CSAE.

**1994**  
The Professional Engineering Institute is the first ASAE community formed.



**1998**  
First 1/4-Scale Tractor Student Design Competition.

**2001**  
ASAE Online Technical Library established.

**2005**  
ASAE changes name to ASABE to reflect biology in the profession.

**2006**  
Mary Leigh Wolfe, first woman elected an ASABE Fellow.

**2007**  
Headquarters facilities declared an ASABE Historic Landmark.

1907

1917

1927

1937

1947

1957

1967

1977

1987

1997

2007

**1910-15**  
Big open-g geared gas tractors introduced in areas of extensive farming.



**1905**  
Iowa State College begins first agricultural engineering curriculum.



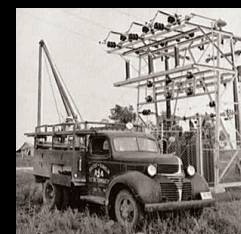
**1919**  
Nebraska Tractor Tests established.

**1900-10**  
George Washington Carver finds new uses for peanuts, sweet potatoes, and soybeans.

**1921**  
First major aerial dusting of crops.



**1932-36**  
Dustbowl and drought conditions develop.



**1941-45**  
Frozen foods popularized.

**1936**  
The Rural Electrification Act greatly improved the quality of rural life.

**1935**  
Conservation tillage research begins.

**1946-54**  
G.I. bill increases land-grant college enrollment.

**1948**  
Center pivot irrigation invented by Frank Zybach.



**1947**  
Cotton mechanization moved rapidly onto farms.

**1966**  
Electronic monitoring devices for farmers introduced.



**1956**  
Great Plains Conservation Program authorized.

**1954**  
Number of tractors on farms exceeds the number of horses and mules.

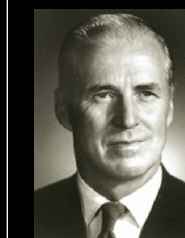
**1966**  
First commercial roll-over protective structure (ROPS).



**1968**  
96 percent of cotton harvested mechanically.

**1971**  
Microcomputers invented.

**1970**  
Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Norman Borlaug for developing high-yielding wheat varieties.

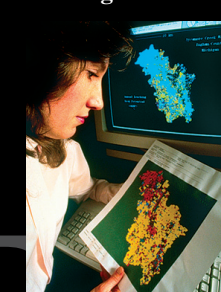


**1982**  
The tomato becomes the first genetically engineered crop plant.

**1987**  
First 100-percent soybean ink developed in four colors.



**1990s**  
Use of information technology grows in agriculture.



**1990s**  
Livestock waste becomes a major issue.

**1997**  
Soybeans and cotton first weed- and insect-resistant biotech crops available commercially.



**1994**  
Satellite technology is used in tracking and planning farming practices.

**2000**  
The USDA unveils organic standards and official organic seal.



**2000s**  
Wind energy technology expands at record rates.

# Engineering for a Sustainable Tomorrow

**1889-1919**  
A 30-year period of farm prosperity.

**1925-45**  
Land-grant college research lays groundwork for second agricultural revolution.

**1945-70**  
Tractors and the increase of technological practices characterize the second American agricultural revolution.

**1970s**  
No-tillage agriculture popularized.

**1988**  
Scientists warn that global warming may affect the future viability of American farming.