

Hand Signals for Use in Agriculture

Proposed by the Tractor and Machinery Committee of the National Institute for Farm Safety; approved by the ASAE Power and Machinery Division Standards Committee; adopted by ASAE as a Recommendation February 1972; reconfirmed December 1976; reclassified as a Standard December 1978; reconfirmed December 1981; approved as an American National Standard December 1982; reconfirmed December 1986, December 1991; reaffirmed by ANSI September 1992; reaffirmed by ASAE December 1996; reaffirmed by ANSI March 1998; reaffirmed by ASAE for five years December 2001.

1 Purpose and scope

1.1 This Standard provides for hand signals to be used in agricultural

operations especially when noise or distance precludes the use of normal voice communication.

1.2 The purpose of the hand signals is to provide an easy means of communication, particularly in the interest of safety.

2 General

2.1 These hand signals are in general agreement with U.S. Army Field Manual, FM21-60, Section II, Standard Arm and Hand Signals. Many of them are also used in construction and other industries where noise or distance precludes the use of voice communications.

3 Hand signals (Figs. 1–11)

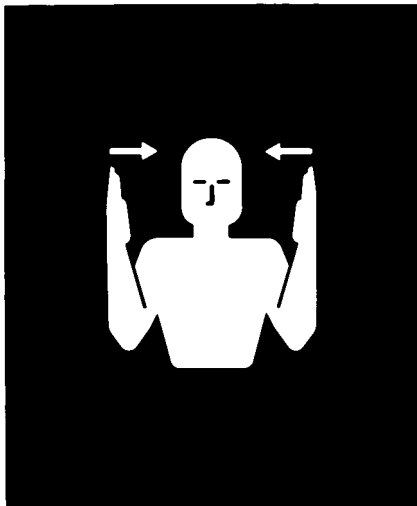


Figure 1 —THIS FAR TO GO—Place palms at ear level facing head and move laterally inward to indicate remaining distance to go.

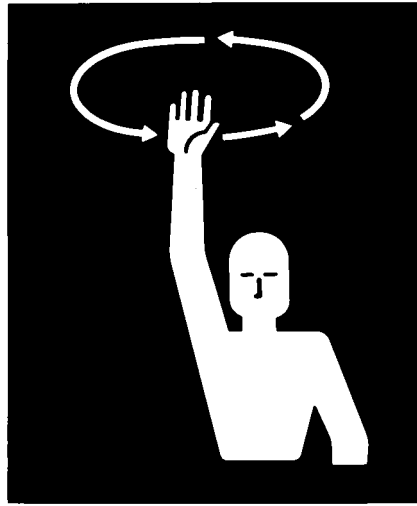


Figure 2 —COME TO ME—Raise the arm vertically overhead, a palm to the front, and rotate in large horizontal circles.



Figure 3 —MOVE TOWARD ME—FOLLOW—ME Point toward person(s), vehicle(s), or unit(s), beckon by holding the arm horizontally to the front, palm up, and motioning toward the body.

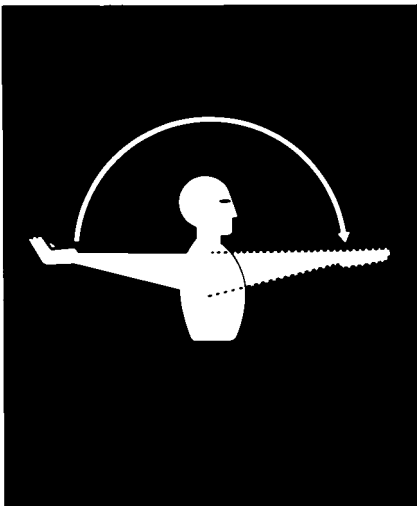


Figure 4 —MOVE-OUT—TAKE OFF—Face the desired direction of movement; hold the arm extended to the rear; then swing it overhead and forward in the direction of desired movement until it is horizontal, palm down.



Figure 5 —STOP—Raise hand upward to the full extent of the arm, palm to the front. Hold that position until the signal is understood.

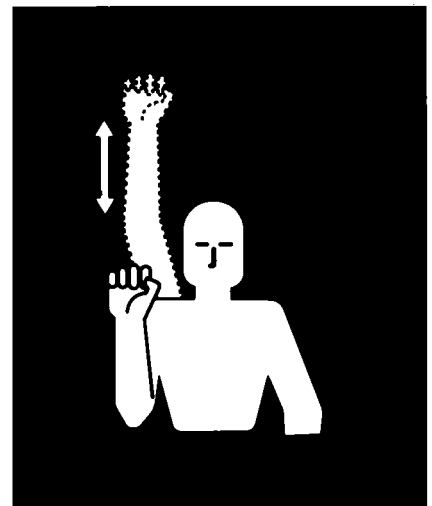


Figure 6 —SPEED IT UP—INCREASE SPEED—Raise the hand to the shoulder, fist closed; thrust the fist upward to the full extent of the arm and back to the shoulder rapidly several times.

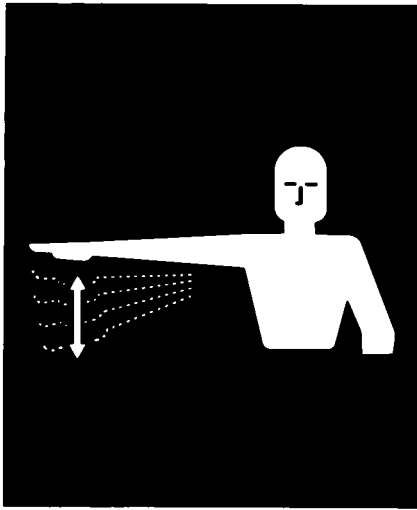


Figure 7 —SLOW IT DOWN—DECREASE SPEED—Extend the arm horizontally sideward, palm down, and wave arm downward 45 deg minimum several times, keeping the arm straight. Do not move arm above horizontal.

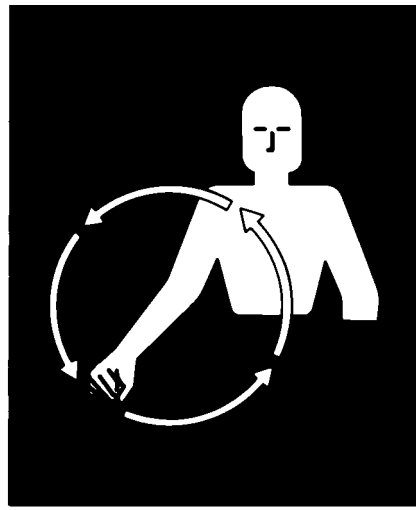


Figure 8 —START THE ENGINE—Simulate cranking of vehicles by moving arm in a circular motion at waist level.

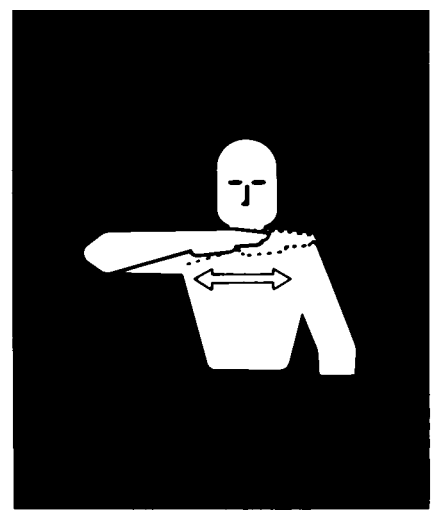


Figure 9 —STOP THE ENGINE—Draw right hand, palm down, across the neck in a "throat cutting" motion from left to right.

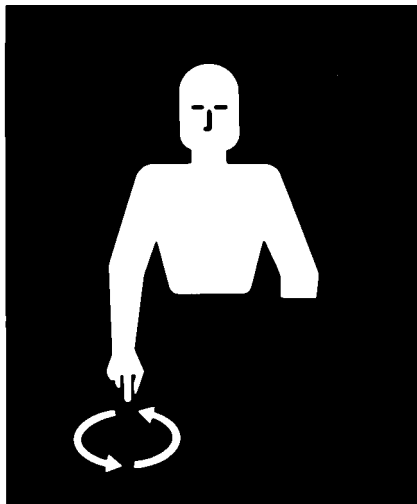


Figure 10 —LOWER EQUIPMENT—Make circular motion with either hand pointing to the ground.



Figure 11 —RAISE EQUIPMENT—Make circular motion with either hand at head level.