

Tank Buoyancy Worksheet



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING Biosystems Engineering

1. Tank Specifications	
A. Tank Manufacturer:	Tank Model:
B. Outside Tank Dimensions and Specifications:	Tank Use:
Length:in Width:in Height:in	Diameter:in
Length:ft Width:ft Height:ft	Radius of Tank:in
2. Outside Volume of Tank	
Rectangular Tank	Circular Tank
A. Area of Tank = Length (ft) X Width (ft)	A. Area of Tank = $\pi r^2$ (3.14 X (Radius of Tank) <sup>2)</sup>
$ft X ft = ft^2$	3.14 X $ft^2 = ft^2$
B. Volume of Tank = Area of Tank (2.A) X Height (ft)	B. Volume of Tank = Area of Tank X Height (ft)
$ft X ft = ft^3$	$ft^2 X$ $ft = ft^3$
3. Force of Tank Weight (F <sub>TW</sub> )	
Weight of Tank (provided by manufacturer)	
4. Force of Soil Weight Over Tank (F <sub>sw</sub> )	
A. Depth of Cover Over Tank:inft	Soil Type Weight of Soil (lbs/ft <sup>3</sup> )
B. Weight of Soil Per Cubic Foot:	Sandy 120
C. Volume of Soil Over Tank = Depth of Cover (ft) X Area of Tank ( $ft^2$ )	Loamy 100
ft X $ft^2 = ft^3$	Clay 90
D. Weight of Soil Over Tank = Volume of Soil Over Tank X Weight of Soil Per Cubic Foot	
ft <sup>3</sup> X lbs/ft <sup>3</sup> lbs Note: Assumes saturation does not get over the lid of the tank	
5.Buoyant Force (F <sub>B</sub> )	
Buoyant Force (F <sub>B</sub> ) = Outside Volume of Tank X Weight of Water Per Cubic Foot (62.4 lbs/ft <sup>3</sup> ) X 1.2 (Safety Fctr)	
X 62.4 lbs/ft <sup>3</sup> X 1.2 = lbs	
6. Evaluation of Net Forces	
A. Downward Force = Force of Tank Weight (F <sub>TW</sub> ) + Force of Soil Weight of Soil (F <sub>SW</sub> )	
lbs + lbs = lbs	Fsw+ Frw > 1.2 x Fa
B. Net Difference = Downward Force - Buoyant Force Including Safety Facto	F <sub>59</sub> → Vsin ×80 lbs/ft <sup>3</sup> F <sub>tw</sub> = Weight of tank   F   F = Total tank volume x 62.4 lbs/ft <sup>3</sup>
lbs - lbs = lbs	(8.35 lbs/gal)
If the Net Difference is negative, countermeasures will need to be taken to prevent the tank from floating out of the ground.	
Comments/Solution:	