



Reduced Solids & Odor Control Improves Swine Health & Farm Profits

Location: Pfleegor Farm, Lewisburg, PA

Background: Pfleegor Farm is a contract grower for Country View Family Farms (CVFF), one of the largest swine farm co-ops in the United States. Gary Pfleegor operates a compact 15 acre, two-barn facility on a land tract that includes his personal home. The swine farm is relatively new and Gary has incorporated some of the latest technologies to optimize efficiency. His barns are kept in excellent condition. They are cleaned and the surfaces sanitized following each "grow cycle" to minimize potential problems within each production colony.

Objective: Gary wanted to improve operations by developing more efficient manure removal, reduce bottom solids, and reduce odors and associated fly populations. Gary was convinced that the heavy fly populations were a contributing factor in the health of his animals. Since his home was located extremely close to his two barns, improvements in odor and fly populations would improve his own living conditions as well.

Manure transfer was a laborious process with the build-up of large quantities of heavy bottom solids. Agitation was required prior to removal and residual sludge solids often interfered with the pumping process.

Working closely with his contract pumper, Gary ran a trial with **MICROBE-LIFT®** Technology. In the spring of 2000, after the 350,000 gallon waste pit was pumped, six gallons of **MICROBE-LIFT®/HOG** was applied to the pit. Thereafter one gallon was added each week for four weeks, followed by one gallon per month until the pit was again pumped.

Results achieved: During the first year's trial, Gary reported a reduction in odor and fly populations in the treated barn, evidenced almost immediately. At the time of waste removal, the pit's bottom and sides were found to be extremely clean. The two feet of solids, which had usually remained after waste removal in the past, was gone.

Encouraged by initial results, Gary converted both barns to **MICROBE-LIFT®** Technology in 2002. He reports that his herd health is significantly better with mortality rates dropping from 5% to 2%. There is less odor in the barns and surrounding areas with far fewer flies.

Gary remains convinced that fly reduction is key to his herd's improved health as flies are known to transmit disease. When fly populations appear to increase, Gary simply applies one additional gallon to each side to the barn's pits and he notes that odors and associated fly populations decrease within twelve hours.

Gary states that treatment with **MICROBE-LIFT®/HOG** "just makes going to the barn more pleasant. I have not seen a solid manure build-up since I have been using **MICROBE-LIFT®**".

While **MICROBE-LIFT®** Technology does not claim to control flies, it does control odors and solids build-up that often attract and harbor these insects. Gary and his family can now leave their windows open on any day or evening, even during the hottest weather, something they could never do prior to using **MICROBE-LIFT®**.

For more information on **MICROBE-LIFT®** Technology contact
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