



Reduced Odors, Decreased Mortality, & Higher Value Fertilizer Increases Profits on Swartz Farm in Pennsylvania

Location: Swartz Family Farm, Thompson, PA

Background: Swartz Family Farm works 400 acres. For over 12 years this farm has contracted with Country View Family Farms (CVFF) as a finisher operating a 2180 head finishing hog barn with a total deep pit volume of 800,000 gallons.

Objective: As with most swine farms, odors and associated fly populations, caused problems for animals and workers alike. Manure crusting and sludge build-up also interfered with efficient pumping and land application. But the major problem for Delbert Swartz was the bothersome fly population.

Results achieved

Delbert became aware of the potential benefits of **MICROBE-LIFT®** technology from an associate farmer who had used **MICROBE-LIFT®/HOG** with resulting improvement in barn conditions and reduction in fly population. Delbert applied **MICROBE-LIFT®/HOG** to his 300,000-gallon pits at a level slightly below the recommended application rate. He used 6 gallons for the first charge after pumping the pit, then 1 gallon per week for the following four weeks, followed by one gallon per month until the pit waste was removed for field application.

Not only did Delbert achieve significant fly reduction in his barns, he noted additional benefits. The most significant benefit was the reduction in mortality rate from an average of 4-5% to 3% during initial product introduction. Mortality is currently averaging 2%, a significant achievement and substantial cost savings.

In addition to substantial reduction in barn odors, surface solids in the pit were eliminated easing pit waste removal. This ease of removal was due also to a dramatic reduction in pit bottom solids accumulation which was apparent at the time of pumping. There was also a significant reduction in odor when the manure was land applied.

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®**.

While Delbert Swartz was looking for a solution to reduce his fly population, he developed a wide range of benefits that improve the profitability of his operation:

- Resolved surface solids crusting problem
- Significantly lowered odors
- Reduced fly populations in and around the barn resulting from decreased odor
- Reduced mortality rate from 4-5% to a current 2%
- Reduced odor generated on land application of manure
- Provided higher value manure fertilizer that is more homogeneous and easier to spread.

After a decade of use, Delbert Swartz remains a committed user of **MICROBE-LIFT®** technology today.

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

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