Healthier Swine, Easier Manure Handling, & Increased Crop Yields Improves Profits with MICROBE-LIFT®

Location: **Brubaker Farm, Lewisburg, PA**

Background: The Brubaker Farm includes 600 acres where Jim Brubaker contracts as a grower for Country View Family farms (CVFF). His facility includes a number of deep 500,000-gallon manure pits. Jim also grows 5-600 acres of corn for feed or sale.

Objective: Like most swine farmers Jim experienced a build-up of hydrogen sulfide and ammonia gases toxic to both animals and workers. Flies were another nuisance as well as a potential for transmitting disease.

Jim was also concerned about odor generation when he land applied manure.

Results achieved

Always on the lookout for improved efficiency, Jim launched a trial of MICROBE-LIFT® Technology. Jim was extremely pleased when use of MICROBE-LIFT®/ HOG completely eliminated problems with the surface and bottom solids in his deep manure pits, removed almost all of the odor in the barns and significantly reduced odors when applying the treated manure to his farm land. He also noted a decrease in fly population in his barns and improved health of his swine.

However, these were not the only benefits Jim noted. Jim closely monitors his crop yields. Once he started utilizing treated manure as fertilizer, Jim realized that he had increased corn production from 120 bushels per acre to 180 bushels per acre, a 50% increase in yield. In addition, he tracked nitrogen content of the soil and found that MICROBE-LIFT® helped stabilize nitrogen for a much longer period in the crop cycle, an effect believed to be due to the MICROBE-LIFT® microorganisms' ability to fix nitrogen from the atmosphere.

Jim Brubaker has utilized MICROBE-LIFT® Technology for over five years consistently achieving these benefits. He is working with a local university to further document the mechanisms involved to produce these clear benefits. In simple terms, the university is studying MICROBE-LIFT® Technology to determine how the proprietary microbial blend aids the natural degradation process to establish a biomass that more effectively breaks down organic waste in the manure pits.

In the process of degrading waste manure, the bacteria in MICROBE-LIFT® increased in number and actually produce and store nutrients in a form that benefits plants when the treated manure is used as a fertilizer. Because the bacteria in treated manure help make nutrients more available to plants, they increase growth rates and overall health of crops. This treated manure also provides active microbes that attach to soil and organic matter lowering nutrient loss through run-off and oxidation. Thus, MICROBE-LIFT® treated manure helps restore microbial balance to the soil ecosystem that is so vital to healthy crop growth.

For more information on MICROBE-LIFT® Technology contact
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