February 2018

CERCLA reporting required for some livestock and poultry farmers: Update

Last month our CERCLA update had anticipated reporting to begin January 22nd, but a last minute stay has delayed the expected mandate until May 1, 2018. Otherwise, details remain the same as last month.

As a reminder, farms with more than 100 lb of NH3 emissions per day, will be expected to report. Check out table 1 from last month’s article to determine if that category fits your farm.

Manure Easements and Agreements

Figure 1: A detailed manure easement or agreement can help determine more than the number of acres and years in the contract.

When filling out a manure management plan, the Iowa DNR requires a written agreement if the manure is going to applied to land you neither own or rent. There are two types that can be signed, an agreement or an easement. Agreements are typically one to five-year leases, and should be written. Easements are binding upon the succeeding owners and “run with the land” and must be recorded so they are public record and tend to be longer lasting.

This only requires a written agreement on the number of acres and years agreed to meet their requirements, but there are a host of other things to consider that can make the agreement more complete, items like:

- Binding a future owner (runs with the land)?
- Required to take the manure?
- Required to provide the manure?
- Who pays for manure application?
- Is there a payment for the manure and if so how is it priced?
- Who is liable for a spill?
- Are there time constraints on when the manure can be applied or how?
- Is there a guarantee of how many acres are available a year or the crop rotation to be used?

These may sound like simple things and in many ways they are, but unless it is in the agreement, things can change quickly. For example, you signed a manure easement to get manure and are expecting it, but that a swine disease limits the amount of manure produced at that facility and you don’t get as much as usual, or any? How does that impact the fertilizer bill of the farm and who will cover the difference?

All these details make seem like small things, but understanding them before signing the agreement will help both sides understand what they expect the agreement means and makes sure no hard feelings result.

**Precisions Manure Application: What would it look like?**

In this month’s Manure Scoop, we take a look at why we might want to do precision manure application and what are some ideas behind how it could be applied. After you read this month’s blog, I look forward to hearing your thoughts.

**Upcoming Winter Webinars**

Looking to learn more about determining if manure treatments meet your farm’s needs? On Friday, February 16\(^{th}\) at 1:30 pm, the Livestock and Poultry Environmental Learning will be hosting a webinar, *Marking Sense of Treatment Technology for Livestock Farms*. More information about how to participate can be found [here](#).

The upcoming Iowa DNR webinar on Wednesday, February 28\(^{th}\) at 1:00 pm, will discuss the details about the new electronic filing process for the Short Form Manure Management Plan. Interested stakeholders can preregister for the webinar by visiting the [Iowa DNR website](#).