



September 2018

Cultivating the seeds of Safety: National Farm Safety and Health Week 2018



National Farm Safety and Health Week is being recognized this week. As fall manure application approaches, this provides us an opportunity to review safety practices when agitating and pumping manure. One frequent concern is the gases released when the organic matter in manure decomposes. Ammonia, carbon dioxide, methane, and hydrogen sulfide can be released, with hydrogen sulfide causing the most concern. Monitors, which provide alerts or real-time levels, can be purchased to notify the operator when concentrations levels reach a point when

supplemental ventilation is required or when agitation practices should be modified. The publications below provide more information about monitoring options and best management practices for ventilation and agitation.

- [Hydrogen Sulfide Safety – Monitoring](#)
- [Hydrogen Sulfide Safety – Manure Agitation](#)
- [Barn Ventilation at Cattle Facilities](#)
- [Barn Ventilation at Cattle Facilities](#)

Additionally, lock-out tags, which are available from [National Pork Board](#), can be placed on doors during agitation to alert others of the danger during agitation.

Manure Scoop

This month's [Manure Scoop](#) takes a look at adding value to manure via anaerobic digestion and biogas production and takes a look at its economic feasibility.



Figure 1. Impermeable cover on a manure storage that allows collection of biogas, keep rainwater out of the manure, and help minimize odor and ammonia loss, but is it ever cost feasible?

Manure Applicator Certification

Is your manure applicator license up-to-date for 2018? If you are in a commercial manure business (hauling or applying manure) or a confinement site applicator (a confinement operation with more than 500 animal units) you must complete certification prior to hauling or applying manure.

If you still need to complete training, three options are available:

- View the training video at a [local extension office](#).
- Call the [local DNR field office](#) and set up a time to take the test.
- Complete training [on-line](#).

Events

[Composting – Animal Mortality Webinar](#)

September 26, 2018, 1pm

[Manure Safety and Near Death Experiences Webinar](#)

October 19, 2018, 1:30 pm