

CARROLL'S FOODS of VIRGINIA

Rudy Grammer, Project Manager
Farm 15—Waverly, VA



FACILITIES

Farm 15 is a 1000 sow, farrow to finish, unit consisting of multiple buildings that each utilizes a flush system for manure handling. The buildings are flushed several times a day to a 10 million-gallon, synthetically lined lagoon.

PRE *PITCHARGER* ENVIRONMENT

Due to flooding in 1999 and early 2000, the managers of this farm were unable to flush the manure during the winter due to high freeboard levels. As a result, in the nine 700-head finish buildings and in the breeding and gestation buildings, solids had accumulated to the point where the buildings could not be flushed in the spring of 2000.

PITCHARGER ENVIRONMENT

ALD/*Clean Up Services* were utilized at this sight. The solids had built up through the slats in several of the buildings and were sprayed with heavy doses of *PitCharger*. Three weeks after the treatment, the solids loosened up and became liquefied. Farm 15 was then able to resume regular flush schedules and the solids were eliminated from all buildings. The manager of the farm also commented that the lines from the buildings to the lagoon have remained clear of solids build-up and the buildings have continued to flush uninterrupted since the weeks after application. Build-up in those pipes and poor flow had previously been an ongoing problem.

IN CONCLUSION

It is the observation of staff that *PitCharger* definitely broke down accumulated solids in the pits under slats. Solids accumulated because of long periods without flushing the pits. Within 2-3 weeks, following the recommendations provided with *PitCharger*, these pits were flushing on a regular schedule without interruption. Even as lagoon levels rose during winter months, which submerged lagoon inlet pipes, this farm continued to flush. Historically, as pipes were submerged flushing problems began almost immediately because of solid accumulation and restricted flow to the lagoon. Staff is convinced that *PitCharger* is the reason for this improvement.



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