



# Case Study

## Liquefy Solids

### CARROLL'S FOODS of VIRGINIA

Farm 12—Waverly, VA  
Rudy Grammer, Project Manager

### FACILITIES

Farm 12 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 an 11 million-gallon, synthetically lined lagoon. Effluent from the primary lagoon is then pumped to a secondary lagoon where it is held for irrigation purposes.

### PRE PITCHARGER ENVIRONMENT

Over the course of eight years, solids have accumulated in the 11 million-gallon primary lagoon and have been drawn across the lagoon near where the effluent transfer pump is located. A lagoon grid, done with a sludge judge, revealed there were 6-7 ft of heavy solids on the far side of the lagoon by the pump and 1.5-5 ft of solids throughout the majority of the primary lagoon.

### PITCHARGER ENVIRONMENT

The lagoon was treated in early June with 100 gallons of *PitCharger*. In two weeks, the lagoon turned from a reddish color to a fluorescent pink color that remained throughout the summer. In early September the lagoon was again grid sampled. It revealed that the consistency of the manure in a majority of the primary lagoon had changed from a thick, packed manure to a viscous, pith-like material. The product was unable to be injected into the heavy solids near the pump and the solids were observed to be relatively unchanged. During land application, the irrigation supervisor commented on significant reductions in effluent odor. *ALD/Clean Up Services* will be continued in spring 2001.

### IN CONCLUSION

It is the observation of the project staff that *PitCharger* had a positive effect on the portion of the lagoon, which contained the freshest manure. It is believed that *PitCharger* accelerated the biological decomposition of this manure, which also reduced the odor generated from the lagoon.

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