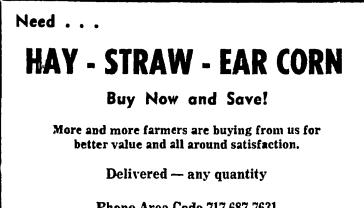
Pig Neighbors That Don't Offend

A septic tank for hog houses issue was far from academic makes feasible the mixing of Purdue University researchers swine farms and suburban hous- working on contract with ARS ing without bothering human found that, like many commerneighbors with objectionable cial farmers who once raise pigs odors and pesky insects

far from town, they were being

The project investigating this surrounded by ramblers and



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Cape Cods And the new neighbors had hardly moved in before they started complaining the lagoon through slots in the and the water was not only about the pigs next door

Swine specialist H W Jones, entomologist R. C Dobson, and agricultural engineer A. C Dale teamed up at Lafayette, Ind, to see how the pigs could be rehabilitated for uiban living

They built four housing setal hog house with fenced lot Manure and other wastes were washed down a pipe into a 40by 40-foot lagoon

The second house was insulated. ventilated, and equipped with a concrete floor, except for slots at the rear covering a manure pit Manure collecting in the pit was pumped automatically into a septic tank The liquid overflow from the tank also ran into a lagoon

the second, except that wastes were pumped into a liquid manure spreader and deposited on adjacent farm land The fourth house also was similar to the second, except that the entire building was built over part of a lagoon Manure dropped into

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floor of the house,

Scientists scieened all houses clean and the single lot, eradicated insects inside, and reintroduced 500 fly pupae into each house to gain a standard infestation They scieened the lagoons at the second and fourth houses, therefore no trouble from pondups The first was a convention. exterminated the mosquitoes, and spread 500 mosquito larvae The lagoon with the first house was left unscreened and untreated, to have a natural mosquito infestation for comparison.

> Odor was recorded both subjectively and objectively using standard tests for alkalinity and oxygen content of lagoon water.

The septic tank built into the second setup best solved the problems of insects and odor Flies in the house died within The thir house was much like 30 days. Only an occasional mosquito was noticed on the lagoon.

odorless, but even looked fairly

Spreading manure on the field was the second best alternative. Flies in the house of the third setup also died out within 30 days. There was no pond, and bied mosquitoes Odor was bad, of course, on days manue was spread

The house built over part of a lagoon was the smelliest It also had a moderate fly problem, with infestation steady through the summer at about 500 flies Mosquitoes, however, disappeared from the lagoon for the same reason that the odor was so strong so little oxygen was available in the water that the larvae suffocated.

The standard house and lot (Continued on Page 24)



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