# Thought Going Into Getting Most Out of Manure

For years, the farmer and his manure spreader have been the brunt of many a joke from nonfalm people

But manule is not a joke to farmers, nor to suburbanites who have moved in close to falms

In fact, animal waste disposal is fast becoming the number one problem of farms and feedlots across the continent

The increasing number of ag engineers, economists, soils men and crops men who have considered the problem in recent years agree it is becoming one of the most serious problems in agri-

These experts predict the problem of disposing of waste will become even more serious in the coming decade because of several recognizable trends These irclude the increasing squeeze on tarmers as suburbs expand into farmland and non-farm people seek a home by the road in the country

the increase in livestock numbers teams of experts have joined needed to feed a growing population, the increase in size of solution individual livestock and poultry operations, coupled with the from a huge 2,300-cow daily Canadians found similar acreage tiend toward confinement hous- operation, formerly dehydrated is needed for a 365-day operation

crease, in many areas, of easily about odors from new home available crop and pasture acre- owners in the area No less under way how to best handle age where manure can be spread than 23 local, state, federal and the growing mountain of animal efficiently throughout the year, private agencies are concentra- waste from large centralized liveand increasing use of commercial ting on the problem, with Rut- stock operations fertilizers that can supply most gers University providing a reof the major plant nutrients, search task force under the which farmers once depended on leadership of Agricultural Enmanure to provide.

Editor's note As fewer farmers are called on to produce more food and as urban residential areas sprawl into farmland areas, growing amounts of animal wastes accumulate and become a disposal problem.

As awareness of and concern about the environment grows, the issue of animal wastes can be expected to become more important.

Most agricultural authorities recognize animal wastes as important by-products of farming and as important assets of the farmer. The key issues for the farmer, as this article by the New Holland Division of Sperry Rand points out, are to find the best and most economical use of the wastes and to use the wastes in a manner that is moffensive to neighbors and compatible with a clean environment

America have been studying the ations problem and have come up with In studying the manure output some interesting observations, of various poultry, swine, daily if no clear cut solutions

problems from animal wastes maximum clop utilization of have become so prevalent in manure some areas where faims, towns Also adding to the problem is and suburbs intermingle, that

There is also a gradual de-tioner, have triggered protests feeders or 100 daily cattle gineer Harry Besley.

In short, there will be more In Canada, L R Weber and waste produced as a result of Tom Lane of the University of increased livestock production Guelph in Ontario have done and less land on which to dispose some work in determining the acreage needed to handle man-

Ag researchers across North ure from various farming oper-

and cattle feeding installations, Odors and possible pollution Lane and Weber have calculated

For instance, the pair found that for maximum clop utilzation of the manuse from a 100,-000-capacity bioiler operation during a 10-week period, 100 acres of corn load is needed for Near Plainfield, N J, wastes spleading In further study the and sold as a garden soil condi- of 10,000 layers, 1 000 hogs, 200

A variety or other studies is

Along with pits, lagoons, tanks and the like, the researchers are working on methods for composting the solids and injecting

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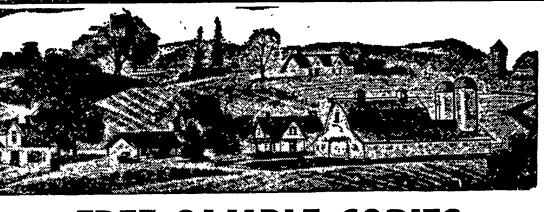
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