** NO 10 00100 12012** 11127 1113 1.12 3 A20-Lancaster Farming, Saturday, December 23, 1995

Edwin Shank, dairy and swine producer, emphasized the importance of involving the community in decisions and allow them to see and understand how a farm operation works. It is important to talk to neighbors first and find out what they think.

Manure 'Odor Guidelines' (Continued from Page A17) ture sources totals one billion metric tons.

ate how to examine the odors and the process by which they form, discover ways to record their

'The controversy became so heated that in 1993 a bill was introduced in the state legislature that could have, if passed, put severe restrictions on the swine industry."

As a result, North Carolina State University has had to study the issues and come up with solutions to odor control problems. The controversy became so heated that in 1993 a bill was introduced in the state legislature that could have, if passed, put severe restrictions on the swine industry. Instead, a bill was passed to start a study commission, the Swine Odor Task Force. The task force is administered through several agencies, especially the Animal and Poultry Waste Management Center, of which Williams directs.

The task force began in July 1993 to study the problem, evalueffects on humans, look at odor abatement technology, and make recommendations that would be economically feasible for

'It's a very complex, scientific issue as well as a psychological issue."

producers.

One of the first things the task force discovered are the misconceptions about odors. How are they produced? How do we measure them? What can be done to control them?

stringent odor control legislation because of the standards for tolerance.

One suggestion was to research

"We are a long way from selecting animals and producing animals

that can utilize all of the nutrients

that we put in feedstuffs," said

country are there actual odor reg-

ulations — compared to Europe

and Australia, who have adopted

For one thing, the Clean Air Act does not regulate agricultural odors. Only in a few parts of the

ways to get animals to better use

feed nutrients and produce less wasted by-products. But more

work is needed.

Williams.

For another, there is another problem.

"There is a misconception about the makeup of (manure) odors," Williams said. Often, ammonia and hydrogen sulfide are

Having some sort of odor control guidelines could protect farm enterprises that deal with a major problem manure — and from possible odor lawsuits from angry neighbors, according to Mike Williams, director of the Animal and Poultry Waste Management Center at North Car-

(Turn to Page A21)

olina State University.



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