

# Swine Odor Research Field Day

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storages on the swine operations, and 2) the intensity of odor at nearby residences both before and after the technologies were installed.

According to Union County extension agent Norman Conrad who helped with the project, several nearby neighbors who collected data during the project stated that they were grateful that the Department and University were willing to work with the farmer.

The three odor technologies which were evaluated included floating bio-covers on outdoor manure storage on the Wiand Farms in Lewis Township in Union County; and in Berks County; dust filtration using wind socks on the floor fans on three farms in Bradford, Fulton and Mifflin counties; and biofiltration

at two grower units in Tioga County and at the Groff farm in Kelly Township, Union County.

The practices were installed this spring and more than 200 nearby residents were recruited to help record and collect daily odor data at their homes during the project period. Odor swatch samples were also taken before and after the bio-filtration installation and sent to

the human odor panels at North Carolina and Duke universities for their evaluation according to Kephart.

Bob Mikesell shared the results of the odor surveys returned by the more than 200 local neighbors at the nine sites. Technical problems in keeping the large biofilters in place during this past summer's storms resulted in little or no re-

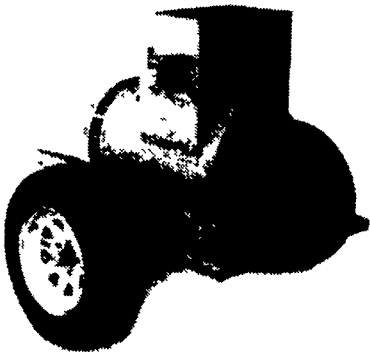
duction in odors. The preliminary data for all three practices had neighbors ranking odors at a level of 0.9 on a scale of 0=no odor and 5=very intense before the odor reduction systems were installed. The average odor scores were fairly low both before and after the installation. At most locations odor diminished as the distance from the farm to the residences increased.

Mikesell stated that the biofil-

tration data at the Groff farm showed the greatest reduction in odors based on the data collected by more than 60 nearby neighbors throughout the project.

The research project was sponsored by Penn State University, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and the Pennsylvania Pork Producers' Council with support from Hostetter Management and Farmer Booy Ag Systems.

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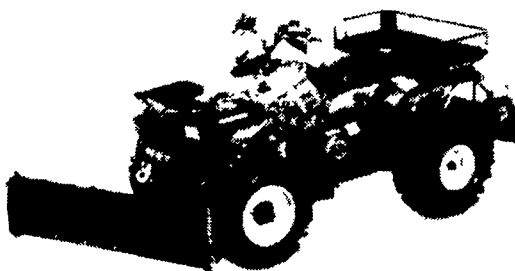
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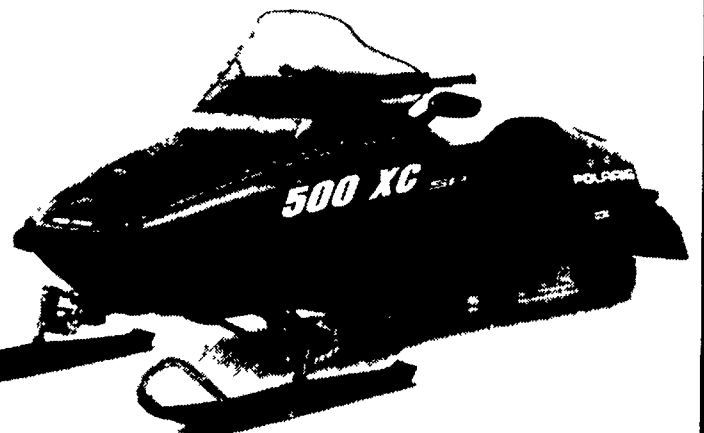
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