

Enhance Dairy Cattle Nutrition

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attempt to heal the affected area.

Manure that appears foamy or bubbly may indicate lactic acidosis or excessive hindgut fermentation resulting in gas production.

Physical analysis. To evaluate manure particle size, walk through the barn and casually observe the manure of the whole pen or barn. Look at manure which has been passed very recently. Check for consistency of manure piles within animal groups.

It is normal to have some variation in manure, and distinct diurnal variation in fecal excretion is normal for lactating dairy cows. This diurnal variation is due to feed intake variation throughout the day and in part due to daily animal management and movement. Many aspects of manure, including its nutrient content, have this diurnal variation pattern. Large variation within a group of cows during a similar time period of the day is a clear indication of ration sorting by the cows or some other health or management problem that is not affecting cows equally. This kind of variability indicates that the ration and/or feeding management may need adjustment.

Collect at least five manure samples that appear
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Penn State Offers Free Guide To New Federal CAFO Rules

Alyssa Dodd and Charles Abdalla
Penn State

A free seven-page guide from Penn State will help farmers and citizens understand which livestock and poultry operations are likely to be affected by new water quality regulations from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). As the first in a series of policy updates, the guide provides timely analysis and information on evolving water quality rules for animal operations.

The guide explains why EPA revised the federal CAFO rules, highlights the major changes to the rules, outlines the process for incorporating the new rules into the current state CAFO program, and provides guidance to Pennsylvania producers to help them determine if they will need a permit and how they may be affected. It also includes a list of educational resources.

We prepared the publication with co-authors Les Lanyon, professor of soil science and management; and Robert Graves, professor of agricultural engineering.


For those with Internet access, the publication is available on State Nutrient and Water Policy Website: <http://agenvpolicy.aers.psu.edu>.

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


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