

## Introduction

Manure storage facilities can be a significant source of on-farm odors. Not only are storages the most “apparent” odor source on many farms (especially if there are no visual barriers from neighbors or passersby), but open storage systems are the most susceptible to seasonal effects as well as day-to-day weather changes.

Since many people know that the odors coming from animal farms originate with the manure, it is natural for them to focus on the manure storage facility and assume that it is the main (some may think only) source of odors from the production site. This attitude can be reinforced by the “visual” observance of the manure storage if it is located on a site that can be easily observed by passersby or visitors. To better understand the odor risks associated with your own manure storage or lagoon, a manure storage self-assessment tool (see Appendix A) is provided to assist you in a review. A similar tool is provided at the end of Lesson 42, Controlling Dust and Odor from Open Lot Livestock Facilities, that addresses odor issues associated with open lot runoff control holding ponds. A number of technologies can reduce the odor and gas emissions from storages. This lesson will discuss them, their advantages, and their disadvantages.

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