

## **Nutrient Dynamics during Composting of Beef Feedlot Manure**

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**Abstract** The increased numbers of livestock in Alberta in recent years has raised interest in composting as a manure management alternative. Composting has many benefits including reduced mass and volume, weed seed viability and odours on land spreading. However, there are also losses of nitrogen during the composting process. This poster will outline N, P and C dynamics during composting of beef feedlot manure in southern Alberta. Results will be drawn from a number of experiments comparing the composting of straw and wood-chip bedded manure. The changes in nutrient levels will be coupled with changes in physical properties (water content, bulk density, volume mass) to arrive at various haulage requirement scenarios for nitrogen, phosphorus and carbon.