

Tour #1 – South Interlake Region

Concord Colony, Oak Hammock - Direct Slurry Injection System

Location: Oak Hammock, Manitoba

This community is very active in the Manitoba Hog Industry and operates a 525-sow farrow-to-finish operation. Featured on this tour is their own farm-manufactured Direct Slurry Injection System, with state-of-the-art radio-control pumps. They also manufacture energy efficient Stack Ventilation Units in partnership with I.T.B. Canada. This was one of the first farms to employ their own made liquid/solid separation system, where the liquid is recycled to flush the barn pits. They also use an Earthen Structure Slurry Agitation System.

Contact: Danny Kleinsasser (204) 344-5675













PFRA – Well-Capping Demonstration

Location: Balmoral, Manitoba

Abandoned large- and small- diameter wells are a direct result of vacated yard sites due to rural depopulation. These wells, which have been left unattended, are potential sources of groundwater and aquifer pollution. They also pose a physical hazard for unwary humans and animals. PFRA and Manitoba Agriculture and Food are emphasizing the need to seal these wells.

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PFRA

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Gunton Bull Test Station – Geotextile Cloth Beef-Pen Demonstration

Location: Gunton, Manitoba

The station runs an average of 267 yearling bulls annually. In 1998, Gunton started working on improving the cattle pens. Three pens were cleaned down to the base-soil. A geotextile fiber was rolled out over the pens and a layer of crush stone topped with pit run material applied over it. This improved the pens substantially where virtually no mud was being punched up. The savings on the gravel not being added yearly to the pens paid for the improvement within three to four years. This does not include the savings in reduced feed consumption and of the easier cleaning of the pens.

Contact: Richard Brunke, P. Eng.

Manitoba Agriculture and Food

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Paradigm Farms Ltd. - Farrow/Offsite Finishing Operation

Location: West of Petersfield, Manitoba

Paradigm Farms Ltd. was established by a group of Interlake farmers, residents and friends, who saw the potential of the pork industry and the positive effects and residual benefits it will provide to the community. The project represents a full hog-production pyramid including one 2500-sow and three 6,200-head feeder barns, referred to as a farrow/offsite finishing concept. Odour control using barley straw as a covering on their earthen storage structures is highlighted on this tour. The barn also uses an energy-efficient stack ventilation system to maintain airflow in their facilities.

Contact: Kerry Church

The Puratone Corporation

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Netley Colony, Netley – Slurry Store to Direct Injection

Location: Netley, Manitoba

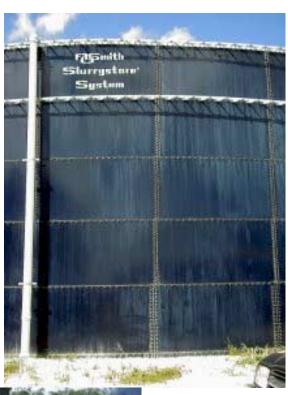
The Netley Colony runs a 750-sow farrow-to-finish operation and uses an above-ground storage tank (slurry store) to contain the barn's effluent. This swine enterprise highlights its own on-farm Slurry Tank Agitation System. There is a manufactured Slurry to Soil Injection System, which is used to recycle nutrients back into their cropland.

Contact: Doug Waterston

Manager, Managro

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Preun Farm – Summer Composting System

Location: Northwest of Selkirk, Manitoba

This family-farm corporation is recognized as a leader in environmental stewardship and has received a number of awards in recognition of their efforts. They have initiated a Summer Mortality Composting System, which has been modified and updated by D.G.H. Engineering. Animal remains are composted and recycled back into their large family garden.

Contact: Doug Small, P. Eng.,

D.G.H. Engineering (204) 334-8846







Van Aert Farms – Negative Air Pressure Cover (NAP)

Location: East Selkirk, Manitoba

Owned and operated by father, George, and sons, John and Joe, this 850-sow farrow-to-finish operation is three to five years old. This farm highlights the unique Negative Air Pressure Cover (NAP), which virtually eliminates odours from both their Earthen Storage Structures. NAP was the first of its kind in Manitoba and came about through the initiative of D.G.H. Engineering, with funding from the Manitoba Manure Management Initiative and the Triple S Hog Manure Management Initiative.

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For further information about Tour #1, please contact Michael Sykes (Agricultural Representative, Manitoba Agriculture and Food) at (204) 785-5012.