



# PUBLIC HEALTH

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**DATE:** February 11, 2021  
**TO:** Cerro Gordo County Board of Supervisors  
**Cc:** John Robbins, Cerro Gordo County Planning and Zoning  
**FROM:** Daniel Ries, Cerro Gordo County Department of Public Health  
**RE:** Manure Management Plan for EJ Pork (Scott's Site)

This report is being written to make you aware of concerns regarding an annual update to the Manure Management Plan received by this office from **EJ Pork (Scott's Site)** swine operation. This report is being submitted according to Resolution 2003-123 A Resolution Adopting Policy for the Receipt, Review and Comment on Manure Management Plans Received by the Cerro Gordo County Board of Supervisors. Within seven (7) days of receipt of the manure management plan the Environmental Service Manager shall review the Manure Management Plan and prepare a report to the Board of Supervisors detailing the issues to be forwarded to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

The site is located on the **Franklin County** side of the **Cerro Gordo-Franklin County line at 779 Cerro Gordo Street** about 2 miles south of Thornton in Section 6 of Richland Township. The facility houses 3,800 finishing hogs or 1520 total AU (animal units). Approximately 1,084,305 gallons of manure will be produced annually and stored in below building pits. This is an existing operation that is not expanding.

The plan includes 25 fields totaling of 2,568.1 acres to be used over the course of four years. Five fields totaling 487.8 acres are located in Cerro Gordo County; the remaining acres are in Franklin County. The five fields in Cerro Gordo County are in Sections 19 and 30 of Pleasant Valley Township and Sections 25, 26, and 35 of Grimes Township. None of the fields contains HEL (highly erodible land). My main concerns are listed below:

- The City of Thornton is adjacent to the manure application area.
- Ingretson County Park (less than 400 feet), Pleasant Valley Golf Course (¼ mile), and Ring-Neck Wildlife Area (1/8 mile) are near the manure application area.
- Pleasant View Cemetery and Richland Lutheran Cemetery are both about one mile from the manure application area.
- The City of Meservey is about two miles from the manure application area
- The flood plain of Bailey Creek dissects the field in Section 26 of Grimes Township and is adjacent to the field in Section 19 Pleasant Valley Township.
- Ingretson Creek is in close proximity to the manure application area in Section 6 of Richland Township. This waterway enters Cerro Gordo County near Interstate 35.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (641) 421-9338 or [dries@cghealth.com](mailto:dries@cghealth.com).



## PLANNING AND ZONING Cerro Gordo County Courthouse

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Mason City, IA 50401-3254

(641) 421-3075  
plz@cgcounty.org  
cgcounty.org/planning

February 16, 2021

TO: Board of Supervisors  
FROM: John Robbins  
CC: Daniel Ries, Senior Environmental Health Specialist  
SUBJECT: Manure Management Plan Update for EJ Pork – Scott's Site

Gentlemen:

This office received a Manure Management Plan Short Form for Annual Updates for EJ Pork. The form states that crop rotation or optimum yields have changed. EJ Pork operates an existing confinement facility just inside of Franklin County.

The Manure Management Plan Update addresses the application of manure on 2,568.1 acres on 25 fields. Five fields, totaling 487.8 acres, are located in Grimes and Pleasant Valley Townships, with the rest in Franklin County. The number of acres on which manure will be applied is unchanged from the previous year. The fields in Cerro Gordo County are shown on the attached map. Manure will be applied during crop years 2021-2023, in varying amounts. Manure will be knifed in or injected directly into the soil. None of the fields contain highly erodible land.

The floodplain of Bailey Creek runs through the field in Section 26, Grimes Township and also run adjacent to the north of the field in Section 19, Pleasant Valley Township. The risk of runoff is less since manure will be knifed in or injected into the soil.

The fields in Section 19, Pleasant Valley Township and Section 25, Grimes Township are adjacent to Thornton city limits. There is a cemetery located along 100<sup>th</sup> Street and about 1 mile south-southeast of the field in Section 30, Pleasant Valley Township. Ingbretson County Park and Campground is just over 300 feet north of the field in Section 19 Pleasant Valley Township. Pleasant Valley Golf Course is ¼-mile north of this same field. Finally, there is a cemetery on the north side of 130<sup>th</sup> Street about 1 mile north of the fields in Section 25, Grimes Township and Section 19, Pleasant Valley Township. The fields in Section 26 and 35, Grimes Township is about 2 miles east of Meservey city limits.

There are 17 dwellings within ½-mile of the fields on which manure will be applied. Depending on wind direction and weather conditions, odor impacts are likely on public areas and nearby dwellings on days that manure is applied.

From aerial photos, there appear to be field accesses into the W½ of the SW¼ of Section 30, Pleasant Valley Township, from Grouse Avenue (County Road S-25), which is paved, and 110<sup>th</sup> Street, which is gravel-surfaced. Access to the other four fields is by gravel road only. Given the location of the confinement facility, it is possible that manure will be hauled from the facility to each field only on gravel roads. If manure is hauled over these roads after periods of wet weather or when frost boils are emerging, damage to the roads could result.

In summary, my concerns with the manure management plan are: (1) the proximity of the fields to public use areas; (2) the proximity of the fields to nearby dwellings; (3) the proximity of fields to Thornton and Meservey city limits; and (4) the potential damage to gravel roads.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions concerning this report.

Attachment



2021 MMP Short Form for Annual Update

Facility

EJ Pork - Scott's Site # 58107
779 Cerro Gordo St
Thornton, IA 50479

Date Due:
03/01/2021

Date Received:
02/02/2021

Date Approved:
02/10/2021

Owner

Scott Engebretson
Sheldon Jurgens
Kevin Jurgens
Dean Jurgens

Contact

Brian Ritland- Pinnacle Group

Prior to making changes in manure management practices, update the on-site copy to show actual changes. Please select changes below and include all changes in your current, on-site MMP.

- I have made no changes to my MMP
I have added acres
Change Crop Rotation or Optimum Yields
Changed Application Method
Used manure analysis
I am electing to be a small animal feeding operation (SAFO) or facility capacity has changed
I have made other changes to my MMP Describe :

Empty rectangular box for describing other changes.

- I sell all manure with a Chapter 200A license through the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.
In addition to selling manure as indicated above, I also apply manure to fields using a manure management plan.

County Notifications

The following counties have been notified:

Cerro Gordo
Franklin

Animal Unit Capacity / Payment Summary

Table with 4 columns: Animal Type, Head, AUC, Amount (AUC \* 0.15). Rows include Swine Wean to Finish and Total.

I, Brian Ritland, attest that the information indicated above is accurate and complete.

Comments