



PUBLIC HEALTH

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DATE: January 25, 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 the Christensen Family Farms F-108

This report is being written to make you aware of concerns regarding a Manure Management Plan **update** received by this office from **Christensen Family Farms F-108 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 confinement unit is located at **9517 120th Street in Section 28 of Pleasant Valley Township**. The maximum number of animals confined (4,050) will remain the same. About 1,275,750 gallons of manure will be produced annually and stored in below barn pits. There were four fields totaling 397 acres set aside for manure application. The fields are located in Sections 28 and 34 of Pleasant Valley Township. Two additional fields were added last year to the plan. A 66.21-acre field in Section 29 and an 89.0-acre field in Section 33 of Pleasant Valley Township. So, the current plan has six fields totaling 552.21 acres. The concerns are listed below:

- The city of Swaledale is about 2½ miles from the manure application area.
- The city of Thornton is within 1½ miles of the manure application area.
- A waterway and its floodplain (a tributary to Bailey Creek) cuts through the fields in Sections 28 and 34.
- The flood plain of Bailey Creek encroaches into the fields in Section 29 and Section 33.
- Pleasant Valley Golf Course and Ingebretson Park are within 1¾ miles from the manure application area.
- Stille Wildlife Area is about 1¾ miles from the manure application area.
- Pleasant Valley Township Cemetery is less than a mile from the manure application area.
- Heavily traveled Interstate 35 is ¼ mile from the manure application area. Travelers and vacationers may be put off by the odor.

If you have any questions regarding this information feel free to contact this office at (641) 421-9338 or dries@cghealth.com.



PLANNING AND ZONING
Cerro Gordo County Courthouse

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January 29, 2021

TO: Board of Supervisors

CC: Daniel Ries, Senior Environmental Health Specialist

FROM: John Robbins

SUBJECT: Manure Management Plan for Christiansen Farms Midwest, LLC (Site F108)

Gentlemen:

This office is in receipt of a Manure Management Plan Update for Christiansen Farms Midwest, LCC, Site F108. The site is located in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 28, Pleasant Valley Township (9517 – 120th Street). The Short Form erroneously reverses the quarter-quarter section description. According to the form submitted to the county, manure analysis is being used and acres have been added.

Manure will be surface-applied as a liquid or solid and incorporated into the soil within 24 hours in crop year 2021. Manure will be applied on six fields totaling 552.21 acres. The number of acres on which manure will be applied is unchanged from the previous year. The fields are located in Sections 28 and 34 of Pleasant Valley Township. None of the fields contain highly erodible land.

A significant floodplain area is located along both sides of a waterway through the east half of the field in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 28. This same waterway continues to the south and runs along the easterly side of the larger field in Section 34. The floodplain of this waterway encroaches into the field. The waterway eventually joins with Bailey Creek. The floodplain of Bailey Creek also encroaches into the fields in Sections 29 and 33. Runoff is a concern if it rains between when manure is surface-applied and when it is incorporated into the soil.

The field in the Section 29 is 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -miles east of Thornton city limits. The eastern city limit line is also the east boundary of Pleasant Valley Golf Course and Ingbretson County Park and Campground. The six fields are within 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles northeast of a cemetery located along 100th Street. The fields in Section 28 and 29 are 1 mile south of the township cemetery and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Stille Wildlife Area. These public areas may be impacted by odors on days that manure is surface-applied, and certainly prior to incorporation into the soil.

There are eight residences within $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile of the fields on which manure will be applied. These residences will be impacted by odors on days that manure is surface-applied and prior to incorporation.

The field along the west side of the NW¼ of Section 34 can be accessed from Jonquil Avenue, which is hard surfaced. All of the other fields are only accessible via gravel-surfaced roads. The field rutting and damage to gravel roads is likely if manure is hauled over them following periods of wet weather or when frost boils are emerging.

In summary, my concerns with the Manure Management Plan are possible runoff from surface-applied manure; odor impacts on nearby municipalities, public use areas, and residences; and possible damage to gravel roads.

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

Attachments



2021 MMP Short Form for Annual Update

Facility

F108 # 59310
9517 120th St
Thornton, IA 50479

Date Due:
02/01/2021

Date Received:
01/25/2021

Date Approved:
01/25/2021

Owner

Christensen Farms & Feedlots Inc
Environmental Resource Manager

Contact

Environmental Resource Manager

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 text box for describing other changes to the MMP.

- 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

Animal Unit Capacity / Payment Summary

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

I, Josh Holmes on behalf of Christensen Farms, attest that the information indicated above is accurate and complete.

Comments

Empty text box for providing comments.