

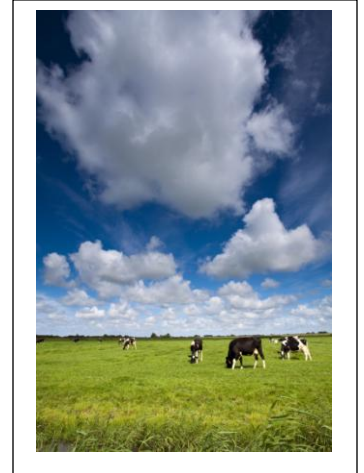
Air Issues Associated with Animal Agriculture: A North American Perspective

Air emissions associated with animal agriculture [consist of odorous and gaseous compounds](#) and particulate matter associated with manure and animal management.

- Air quality associated with animal agriculture has historically been unregulated or minimally regulated.
- State and local governments have begun to enact regulations to minimize the impact of air emissions.
- The Environmental Protection Agency is increasing its efforts to ensure that air emissions from agriculture meet environmental standards.

The practice of [production site manure storage](#) creates an emission source of odors, gases, particulates, and bioaerosols.

- The type of storage varies depending on species and region of the country.
- All manure storage options affect the farm's overall air quality and emissions.
- Land application of manure has the potential to be the largest emitter of air pollutants from animal production systems.



Greenhouse [gases from livestock production](#) are primarily from enteric fermentation and manure management.

- The U.S. manure management system is high in greenhouse gas emissions because most pork manure and half of the dairy manure is stored wet rather than dry.
- Methane emissions that come from manure storage structures can be captured and destroyed by using covers and digesters on large facilities.
- Benefits must be identified or costs must come down in order for methane digesters to be voluntarily adapted.

Most studies indicate that [large livestock production facilities](#) lower the value of residences within three miles of the facility.

- Studies also indicate that these businesses increase economic activity in the county and state.
- Political actions try to balance the competing positive and negative impacts of any business.
- A combination of regulatory and market forces is causing a shift in the way manure is stored and land applied.

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