

Memorandum

To: Steve Wellman, Director NDA

From:  Jim Macy, Director NDEE

Date: April 3, 2020

Subject: Guidance for Dairies Unable to Ship Milk to Processors Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

The Department will allow for the disposal of excess milk and milk products in Livestock Waste Control Facilities (LWCF) from dairies during to the COVID-19 Pandemic. We understand that due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, there may be instances where dairies are unable to send milk to processors because of a lack of the ability to process the milk. In order to assure the milk is disposed of in the most acceptable manner, this exception will be made for those who are unable to ship milk during the COVID-19 Pandemic. We offer the following as guidance during this temporary period for operations:

1. Pump structures to land application sites on any available application day to reduce vector attraction and minimize odors.
2. Apply waste at agronomic rates.
3. Rotate application fields.
4. Milk is a very high strength waste. If milk is land applied, it is recommended operations incorporate any waste that is land applied to reduce vector attraction and odors. If it is directly applied through a honey wagon or other direct means, it should be incorporated immediately.
5. Follow approved LWCF operation protocols approved in the operation's construction and operating permits and applications.
6. Follow all other applicable aspects of the operation's nutrient management plan.
7. Keep records of milk that is sent to structures and any that is land applied.
8. Contact the NDEE Livestock program with any questions.
9. Municipal lagoons and treatment systems are not included in this exception.