



McCarty-VanTilburg Partnership

FACT SHEET: MVP Dairy's Innovative Environmental Approach

Our families have a strong history of environmental care and sustainability on our farms. We have designed the dairy with neighbors in mind, much like we have operated in this community historically.

Reducing Flies and Odor

Our farm uses innovative best management practices to create an environment that minimizes fly populations and odor.

The barns on the farm have ventilation and systems to flush manure from the barns multiple times each day. The reduced presence of manure and constant air movement limit fly breeding. The side of the barns will be constructed with a transparent polycarbonate siding that allows natural light into the buildings, creating a positive environment for the cows and negative environment for pests.

By the time the manure goes through the entire treatment system and is ready for irrigation and application to fields, it will be virtually odor-free.

Protecting and Conserving the Environment in Which we Live and Farm

MVP Dairy is designed to reduce runoff by recycling waste and use proven techniques to help protect and conserve the environment, including soil health and water quality. Here are a few of the sustainable farming methods we will use:

- **Natural, Organic Fertilizer for our Crops.** We will use the natural fertilizer produced by our cows to grow our crops for their feed. We take special care to apply only in prescribed necessary amounts in the right locations and right times. Treated wastewater will be used for irrigation.
- **Cover Crops.** The use of cover crops, no-till methods, grid soil sampling, grass filter strips along open ditches and variable-rate nutrient application technology will be used on the farm to improve soil health, reduce runoff and protect water quality.
- **Reclaimed and Recycled Bedding.** The farm will use sand bedding which will be separated from waste, washed and reused.

- **Innovative Patented System.** An innovative and patented anaerobic treatment cell system will significantly reduce waste volume and odor, and implement a recycling system. Much like systems used in municipalities throughout the U.S., including eight Mercer County communities, the system relies upon natural treatment of the manure after valuable components have been separated for beneficial uses.

For additional information on our progressive environmental plans, please see Figure 1. Anaerobic Treatment Cell System.