



POULTRY ODOR CONTROL WITH EM



Commercial livestock operations are under scrutiny from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for air quality concerns. High concentrations of urine produce ammonia gas, which causes respiratory stress not only for the workers, but also for the animals living under such conditions, affecting production. The trick to increasing the general health of the operation and public opinion is to reduce, or eliminate, the ammonia.

Beneficial microbes naturally break up ammonia. As ammonia is an oxidative substance, it is putrefactive and supports the growth of pathogenic microbes. EM has a strong antioxidant effect on manure. This antioxidant effect will resist putrefaction, preventing noxious odors. In addition, the makeup of EM has also been shown to promote the growth of other beneficial microbes therefore suppressing the growth of pathogenic bacteria.

Using EM not only helps control odor, a regular maintenance plan with it also leads to a healthier operation that is more productive. The following guidelines are such a program to ensure your operation's success with EM.

METHODS PRIOR TO PLACEMENT

1. Make Activated EM according to directions on the label.
2. When pH drops below 3.8, AEM is ready to use.
3. Clean poultry barn.
4. Spray & wash all surfaces of barn with a diluted solution of AEM and water at 1:50 every 7 to 10 days.
5. Add litter.
6. Spray or top-dress AEM onto litter (whether fresh or caked-out). Minimum AEM to be used should be at 0.001 gallon per square foot of barn. This calculated amount should be diluted in just enough water to cover floors adequately.



Total AEM per barn will vary on the size of the barn and the age of the litter.

ADDITIONAL OPTIONS

1. To increase the benefits of the odor control, it would be advisable to ferment the litter at least two weeks prior to use, essentially making bokashi out of it. Directions for making EM Bokashi are available at www.emtechnologynetwork.org
2. AEM can be applied through a fogger at 1:1,000 or AEM can be applied into an evaporative cooler system at 1:1,000. Once the reservoir clears, add more. Depending on the weather conditions, the rate per day or week will vary. If odor is not mostly controlled, add more AEM.



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