Recent changes to the Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation

On October 31, 2009, the Province of Manitoba amended the *Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation (LMMMR)*, to address several recommendations from the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) and the Office of the Auditor General (OAG), to improve administrative and enforcement capabilities and provide clarity to operators.

The three amendments to the *LMMMR* enacted to address CEC recommendations include:

- The phase in dates for the phosphorus threshold requirements were adjusted so all operations are fully compliant with the regulation by November 10, 2013.
- The ban on winter application of manure was extended to all operations effective November 10, 2013. The amendment also includes the prohibition of winter application of composted manure and composted mortalities.
- The amendment requires registration of annual manure management plans for all new and expanding hog operations after October 31, 2009, regardless of the size of the operation.

As per the OAG recommendations, the Province of Manitoba also amended the *LMMMR* to incorporate a minimum acceptable manure storage capacity for manure storage facility (MSF) constructions. The minimum capacity for an earthen MSF is 400 days (with a maximum of 500 days storage capacity). In the case of any other type of MSF a minimum of 250 and a maximum of 500 days of storage capacity is required.

To improve administration of the *LMMMR*, several definitions were amended.

- The definition of a MSF was amended to include manure treatment facilities to ensure clients understand that these facilities are subject to the permit process. The definition was also amended to include short-term manure storage under barn pits, other than manure transfer pits, so it is understood the pits would be subject to the permit process.
- The definition of manure was amended to include treated manure, clarifying that discharge of products from a manure treatment facility such as effluent to water bodies and water courses, is strictly prohibited.

Section 3(a) of the *LMMMR* was amended to require the storage of liquid and semi-solid manure in a MSF to ensure clients understand these MSFs are subject to the permit process.

Section 16.1(3) of the *LMMMR* was amended to clarify to operators that land base calculations will be a factor in the permit process for confined livestock areas.

A copy of the October 31, 2009 amendment MR 172/2009 and the consolidated regulation is available online at: www.manitoba.ca/ conservation/envprograms/livestock

