

# Bulletin: Sludge Relief Program

## Welcome to the solution to manure management.

Monty's Sludge Relief program: the bio-organic solution for manure management.

Manure lagoons. Loafing sheds. Swine-manure pits. Stabilization ponds. Waste systems. Wherever manure collects, everyone wants a better way to manage it. And for farmers? The time, effort, cost, and missed-nutrient-opportunities of less-than-successful manure management can feel like a whole lot of waste. But that's all changing now since Monty's has a proven solution to these waste treatment challenges.

"Historically, collecting-systems suffer from sludge buildup," says Monty's Vice President and Agronomist Joe Dedman. "The liquids float on top, but the solids keep increasing to the point where you can't pump the system out. This means farmers have to resort to excavation or dredging to clear the sludge, which can be extremely expensive, especially in large operations where lagoons measure in the millions of gallons."

"Manure-solids buildup also brings problems like flies and odor control. "They make it pretty hard to be a good neighbor," Dedman says.

Enter the Monty's solution: Sludge Relief and Nanobind program. When Sludge Relief is combined with Nanobind, farmers get microbes and enzymes that digest solids, turning waste into a pump-friendly slurry that allows pits to be drained more completely -- with significantly less odor.



Pennsylvania dairy farmer Mike Heimbach has seen amazing results with the Sludge Relief program.

Pennsylvania dairy farmer Mike Heimbach says "Basically, we've had manure issues since we've had cows." His million-gallon manure slurry tank regularly became so compacted that Heimbach could stand on the surface. On average, his workers spent 8 to 10 hours a day breaking up the crust until he eventually he had to break up the sludge with a digger. And whenever he applied the manure to his fields, neighbors' complaints about odor were deafening. Despite Heimbach's best efforts to work with everyone, even the FDA knocked on his door. But about four years ago, Heimbach began adding Monty's Sludge Relief program to his tank every two months. And now? Complete drainage and complaint-free spreading days.

So this program not only provides solutions in the tank, but also provides benefits to the crops receiving more usable nutrients when slurry is applied on the fields. Dedman adds, "When you digest all those solids, not only does it spread or spray better on your fields, but you get a much higher concentration of nutrients ... you don't have to use so much liquid.

High levels of nutrients exist in the solids, but when those nutrients are left in the bottom of the pit, they're not doing you much good."

Heimbach has seen unprecedented results on corn, corn silage, alfalfa, and soybeans on fields where he is applying slurry -- without the issues he was experiencing before. "We are seeing taller, greener, healthier corn crops thanks to the higher concentration of

available nutrients," says Heimbach. "It broke down the manure, the sludge, and even the foaming ... the manure seems to be way more available to the crops right away. And even when we spread between 200,000 and 300,000 gallons of manure in 90-degree heat, we haven't gotten one complaint."



### Heavy metals relief.

Sludge Relief with Nanobind also helps with soil sanitation, says Dedman. "We recommend adding Sludge Relief because livestock manure contains heavy metals. When farmers put high amounts manures on their fields, they get a buildup of heavy metals

in the soil. When taken up by crops, these can actually cause nutrient deficiencies. Adding Sludge Relief to a digester isolates those heavy metals and makes manure more efficient. You use less, because it's better stuff!"

Dedman says the Sludge Relief program makes a major difference for farmers. "When we combine the two products (Sludge Relief and Nanobind), we have a unique synergy that provides farmers with more than digestion ... we help control odors, help save the nutrients, help buffer the heavy metals, and save the farmer real money. We bring the complete program to the farmer's pit and lagoon management, because we're much more than just a digester."

**If you're looking for a better way to manage your manure, learn more about Monty's Sludge Relief and Nanobind manure management at [montysplantfood.com](http://montysplantfood.com) or contact your Monty's representative today!**

For more information, consult your sales representative, visit [montysplantfood.com](http://montysplantfood.com), or call 800.978.6342.

