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BioAg Digest-it® for Dairies

Dairy Effluent Digester

Product overview

Effluent management is a growing concern on many Australian dairy farms due to increased herd size, urban encroachment and environmental scrutiny. Although the volume and composition of effluent produced varies greatly according to the individual property and season, many single-pond systems are now incapable of handling the increased volumes of effluent generated.

Non-performing effluent systems are instantly recognisable by the presence of persistent surface crusting and their pervasive odour. The depletion of oxygen in the water, combined with lack of sunlight, reduces microbial digestion. The proliferation of anaerobic bacteria can lead to an increase in hydrogen sulphide (i.e. rotten egg gas) and increased pH (i.e. alkalinity).

Digest-it® for Dairies helps to create and maintain a balanced microbial environment in effluent ponds, thereby stimulating microbial digestion of organic matter. This fermented microbial culture contains a rich source of vitamins, minerals, proteins, enzymes, amino acids, carbohydrates, dormant organisms and growth promoters. In effect, it provides a rich food source for microbes as well as dormant aerobic bacteria species.

Digest-it® for Dairies is ideal for all types of effluent management systems. Depending on the thickness of the surface crust, a number of physical and chemical changes can be observed in ponds within four to six weeks of treatment.

Features and benefits

- Stimulates aerobic microbial activity in effluent ponds
- Digests suspended solids into plant-available liquid nutrients
- Reduces turbidity and increases the liquids to solids ratio
- Reduces surface crusting, solid waste and the need for desludging
- Reduces unpleasant odours
- Ideal for all types of effluent management systems
- Can also be used as a silage inoculant or to reduce odours in calf bedding
- Available in 20 L, 200 L and 1000 L containers

Initial treatment

- Agitate contents before use
- Partially fill spray tank with water
- Add required amount of Digest-it® for Dairies
- Fill the remainder of the spray tank
- Apply as a high-pressure spray to the surface crust and pond
- Use within 48 hours of dilution

Pond size	Application rate
25 x 50 metres (1,250 square metres)	20 L
25 x 75 metres (1,875 square metres)	40 L, applied as two sprays at 14–21 day intervals
40 x 100 metres (4,000 sq metres)	60 L, applied as three sprays at 14–21 day intervals

Storage and handling

- Store containers out of sunlight and below 30°C
- Shelf life: 6 months

Ongoing treatment

- Agitate contents before use
- Pour the required amount of undiluted Digest-it® for Dairies onto the pad before wash down

Herd size	Application rate
Up to 150 cows	1.0 L / day
151–250 cows	1.5 L / day
251–450 cows	2.0 L / day
451–650 cows	2.5 L / day
651–850 cows	3.0 L / day
851–1,250 cows	4.0 L / day

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