Anaerobic Digestion of Horse Stall Waste

Sarah Luther 2012 BioEnergy and Sustainability School August 7, 2012





Outline

- Problem Definition
- Why Anaerobic Digestion?
- Objectives
- Methods
 - Results
 - **Options For Further Study**

Problem Definition

- Ocala Horse Population
 - Over 30,000 (2007)
 - 50 Pounds of manure a day/horse
- Common method of Manure Management:
 - Stockpiling:
 - Wasted resource
 - Nutrient run-off
 - Odor issues

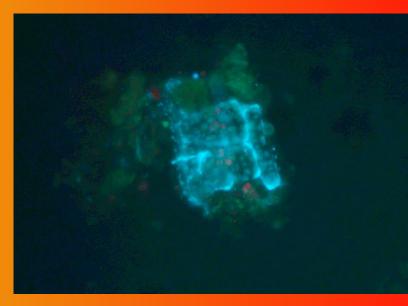
What are alternatives?



Why Anaerobic Digestion?

- Microbes break-down organic material in an oxygen free-environment
- Produces biogas!
- Effluent can be used as a fertilizer
- Manages waste and odor

Methanogens in Horse Manure



Objectives

Determine the most digestible bedding type.

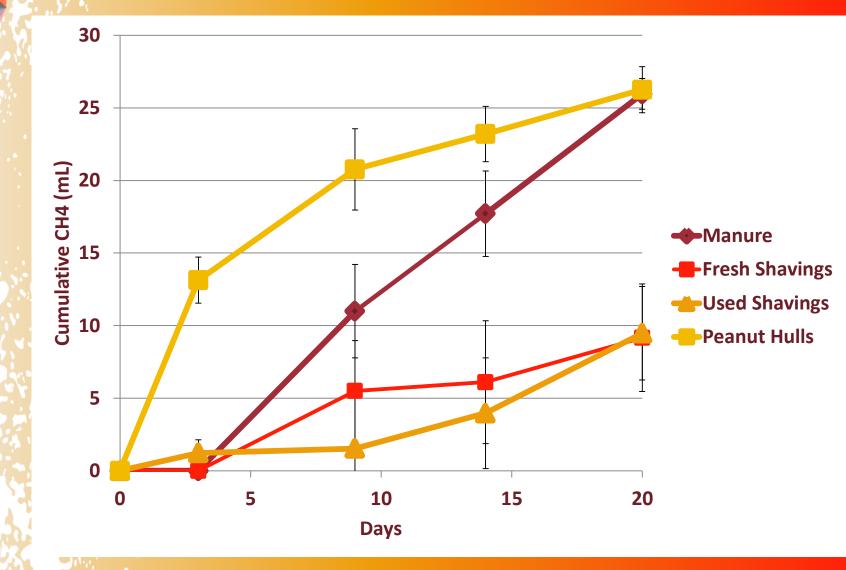
- Evaluate the solubility of bedding waste.
 - Wash Water
 - Digest
 - Fertilize
 - Solid Leftover
 - Compost
 - Gasify

- 250 mL serum bottles were filled with 200mL of inoculum and 0.4g of bedding ground to 2mm particle size.
 - Manure
 - Fresh Shavings
 - Used Shavings
 - Peanut Hulls
 - Methane production was measured by displacement through saturated KOH solution



- Total Solids and Volatile Solids tests:
 - Samples were ground to 2mm and weight was recorded
 - Placed in the oven for 24 hours and weight was recorded
 - Placed in the furnace for 4 hours and weight was recorded
- Chemical Oxygen Demand (Hach)
- Materials tested:
 - Manure
 - Fresh Shavings
 - Used Shavings
 - Peanut Hulls
 - Wood Pellets
 - Corn Husks
 - Newspaper





Feedstock	Total Solids	Volatile Solids	Total COD (g COD/ kg Material)	CH4 Estimated (mL/kg)
Manure	87%	84%	682	243
Fresh Shavings	94%	97%	406	145
Used Shavings	77%	90%	385	137
Peanut Hulls	94%	96%	996	355
Wood Pellets	96%	99%	978	349*
Corn Husks	82%	93%	387	138
Newspaper	94%	97%	997	356

*Estimated COD includes fraction of materials resistant to biological degradation (e.g. lignin)

125 mL Nalgene Bottles

 Filled with 12g of used shavings and 100mL of deionized water
 Set on shaker for 1 hour

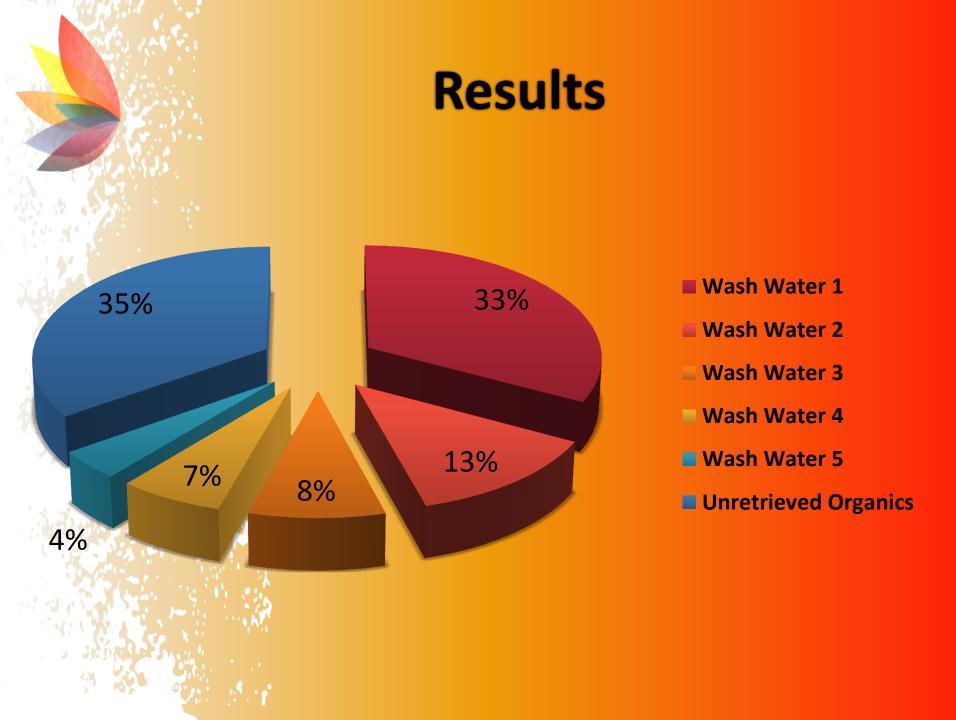
5 Wash Stages

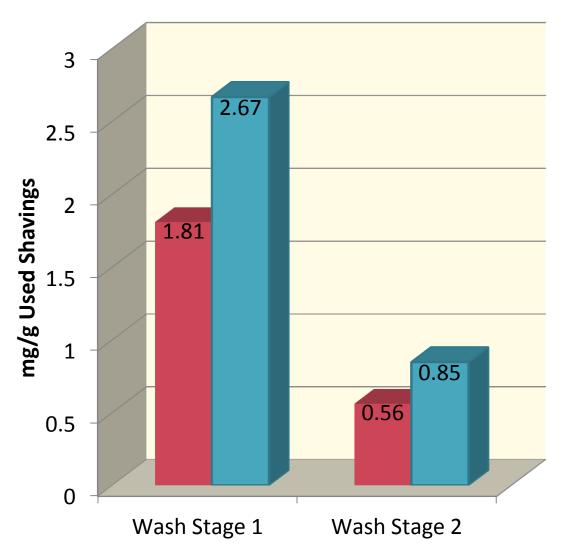


Chemical Oxygen Demand, Total Nitrogen, and Total Phosphorus (Hach).



Wash Stane	Total COD (mg COD/ g Used Shavings)	Estimated CH4 (ml/g Used Shavings)
Used Shavings	385	0.154
Wash Water 1	101	0.051
Wash Water 2	40	0.020
Wash Water 3	26	0.013
Wash Water 4	20	0.010
Wash Water 5	13	0.006





Total Nitrogen (mg/g Used Shavings)

Total Phosphorus (mg/g Used Shavings)

Options for Further Study

• Change in the ratio of water to material

Pretreatment



Questions?