

DBD Washington, LLC Heifer Raising Facility

Introduction

DBD Washington, LLC has prepared this Fugitive Dust Control Plan as part of its ongoing efforts of using Best Management Practices (BMP's). The goal of the Plan is to control fugitive dust through planning, utilization and evaluation of the best management practices as described in the Plan.

Description of the Heifer Facility/Operation

The feedlot is located at 1420 Outlook Road, Outlook, Washington. The feedlot is approximately 42 acres and is currently used to raise young Holstein calves, ranging in age from 5 months up to springer heifers. The entrance, feed storage area, and feed alleys are paved. The grain storage area is covered. There is a 15 mph speed limit imposed throughout the facility.

Dust Control Management Plan

Effective Dust Control:

The feedlot will control fugitive dust throughout the year by minimizing dry manure in the corrals and high traffic areas by (1) scraping wet manure into the corrals and high traffic areas; (2) replenishing mounds; and (3) scraping corrals as needed. This is a highly effective management practice and is done with skilled precision. The feedlot employees will regularly inspect the facility to assess dust issues and will respond promptly with appropriate dust control practices outlined in the Plan.

Maintenance:

The feedlot will use cross-fencing as a last resort to control fugitive dust. The cross-fencing will be utilized based upon management's decision and analysis of weather conditions. If sufficient amounts of moisture remain from winter/spring months, the cross-fencing may not be a viable option. A heifer feedlot cannot tightly confine animals in the same way as a cattle feedlot (for fattening animals for food consumption) because it is not holding cattle for short-term slaughter. Instead, the heifer feedlot raises animals to maturity for breeding and milking. The long-term herd health of the calves and heifers at our facility depends on allowing a certain amount of movement and controlling moisture, if possible. Each pen at the feedlot measures approximately 200' x 200'.

This size of pen minimizes calf movement, but at the same time, allows for healthy calves. The timing of the cross-fencing is determined by precipitation and weather conditions, and is typically used during the summer months, but if alternative methods are available, they will be utilized before this option.

Using BMP available to heifer operations, we will minimize the use of water for dust control as it negatively affects the animal's health. A wet environment is not conducive for healthy young stock. If the situation arises that water is a necessity, the Ranch has water rights to supply its need and may also draw from other sources, depending upon water availability.

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Feed Processing/Handling:

The feedlot does not process grain. Instead, heifers are fed a high forage grain mixture, delivered by feed truck to the animals. The grain is located in a covered commodity shed in the center of the ranch. The feedlot uses straw or shavings for corral bedding only during the winter months, as necessary. None of these activities generate fugitive dust that leaves the feedlot premises.

Conclusion

DBD Washington, LLC will regularly evaluate the effectiveness of its dust control plan, refining the best management practices contained in the Plan with science and veterinarians. Based on our evaluation of the Plan, the feedlot may modify the Plan to improve its effectiveness. If modifications are made to the Plan, the feedlot will advise the Yakima Regional Clean Air Authority of those modifications. Yakima Regional Clean Air Authority should notify the facility operators if it has any concerns with the Plan or modifications to the Plan.


Wayne E. Cummings, Mgr.

4/25/2022
Date

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