

THE MODERN PRODUCER

SUMMER 2023

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Country Hills Colony + Tour

Free Farrowing

Stress Management

Barn Tour at Luszeck Layers

Small Biogas Solutions

+ More!

FROM THE EDITORS



TIM KURBIS

It is always an exciting time for us when the next edition of The Modern Producer is getting close to release. This, our 10th edition, marks a milestone for us in our desire to bring you, our colleagues, and clients relevant and timeless information.

With the uncertainty surrounding shows and in-person interaction these past few years, the path for The Modern Producer was not always clear. It is with some satisfaction that we are now in 2023 and our original idea has grown the way it has. This year also marks a turning point as we wish our founding editor, Jake Peterson, the best in new adventures and look to the future as the AgriHub team takes the reins. We hope you enjoy the information within and as always, we welcome your feedback, comments and suggestions.



KEVIN KURBIS

10 issues is worth celebrating, I clearly remember working on the first issue and seeing the response at Banff Pork as people flipped through this “new magazine”. Our goal from back then remains the same now, and that is to bring interesting and relevant information to the industry. Our size and focus may have changed a bit (certainly no dairy included back then), but seeing this issue come together again reminds me that this has been a worthwhile enterprise.

We will miss Jake and his contributions to the Modern Producer and New Standard in general, but we also look forward to the future and our continuing evolution as we get a new team in place to assist us. As always, feedback from you the readers is always welcome, your input helps us achieve our goal of producing a relevant publication for everyone.



ASHLEY GRAYE

Issue number 10 - wow! With this issue comes some sad news, as Jake Peterson will be moving on to a different industry. We sure will miss his passion for spearheading this magazine, insight into New Standard Ag, and the marketing world in general.

On a happier note, June is Dairy month! We hope you enjoy a peek into the life of Dairying in Saskatchewan. Kick back in the sun, grab your favorite iced beverage (iced coffee, lots of cream anyone?) and peruse the articles.



JAKE PETERSON

Crazy, ten issues of the Modern Producer. This will be my last issue. First, I want to thank the New Standard Team, Tim, Kevin, Kees, and Ben. Working with you over the years has been a pleasure and rewarding experience. Your shared passion and investment in this magazine are reflected in its success. I also want to thank all the producers and industry leaders who welcomed me into their barns and homes and shared their knowledge of the beautiful farming world. As the torch is passed to the AgriHub marketing team, I am excited to watch as this publication continues to evolve and grow. Thank you, and God bless!

THE MODERN PRODUCER

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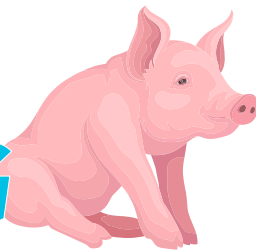
SCAN ME



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FREE FARROWING



By Jake Peterson with Lars Burnse and Bart Hooijer

Pork producers can raise their pigs in many ways, with different barn designs, equipment, and technology. One thing the substantial majority of farmers can agree on is that they want their pigs to be safe, healthy, and happy. Free farrowing has seen great advancement in the last decade, and there is some solid proof that with the right design, producers can benefit from lower mortality rates, bigger and healthier piglets, and happier sows.

The History of Free Farrowing

Free farrowing is the evolution from traditional farrowing crates. Farrowing crates were introduced in the '60s as a solution to help reduce piglet mortality. The sow would often accidentally crush piglets, so by restricting her movement; we could reduce the number of piglet deaths. Traditional crates are economical, save space, and are safe and efficient for workers and piglets. But that is not the whole story.

While they help reduce piglet mortality, crates are not so great for the sow. There are issues such as increased stillbirths, physical restrictions preventing the sow from being able to turn around, restrictions in sow-piglet interaction, and limiting natural behaviors.

So, while the intentions of crate farrowing are good, modern advancements to farrowing systems have shown more benefits by opting not to use crates.

Free Farrowing Today

The push for the free farrowing type systems dates back to the late eighties

when Sweden first banned the use of farrowing crates. Norway and Switzerland also have prohibited the use of crates, with a handful of other European countries also phasing out crate use in the near future.

Similar legislation (Prop 12) has been pushed in the U.S., but regulations have yet to be agreed upon or adopted. The movement has been driven mainly by the government. Still, those who have adopted have seen many benefits and can contribute the change to lower mortality, healthy and larger piglets, and healthier sows.

Even without government mandates, many northern European countries have also seen the benefits of free farrowing and have adopted this style with very positive results.

Getting Started with Free Farrowing

We chatted with two free farrowing experts to learn more about what they and their companies are doing to help more farmers enjoy the benefits of free farrowing setups and barn designs. These gentlemen have decades of experience and have found the focus and research around free-farrowing innovation to be a worthwhile endeavor.

We discussed how barns are being set up in Europe, the latest in equipment and research, how to avoid some common mistakes, and what they see coming next.

Piglet Nest

Piglets can find warmth and shelter in the climate controlled nest area.



Flooring

Proper non-slip flooring is vital in free-farrowing. Also notice the use of concrete to help keep the sow cool.

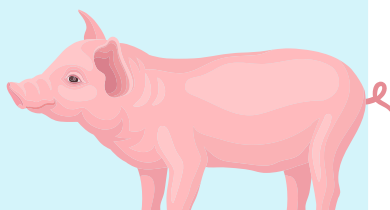
Piglet Chow

Feeding piglets from day 1 has a positive impact on piglet health and survival.



Free Sows

Sows are able to freely turn-around and walk, giving them exercise and better health.



Helping Mom Keep The Piglets Fed

Lars Brunse founded Best Farm, an agro-company based in Denmark. Lars has over 30 years of experience in the industry and has helped develop several patents and products used in international pork production.

Barn Setup in Europe

Many barns in Europe are creating larger spaces for their sows and young. These larger pens allow the sow to feel more at home, being able to get up, walk, lay down in different positions, and get some exercise.

The extra exercise provides multiple benefits. The sow, when sedentary, tends not to eat and drink enough, which can affect milk production negatively. Piglets tend to hang around longer if they are not getting enough to eat, possibly increasing the potential for crushing.

Free Farrowing Equipment

With the sow being able to move more, there is also a focus on the farrowing flooring. Using safe, non-slip flooring and even bringing concrete slats back into farrowing are all excellent options.

Lars has focused the last couple of years on feeding piglets and ensuring they get enough food/milk/water from day one. "We need to feed our piglets sooner." With improved genetics, we see larger litter sizes, and sows have trouble feeding all their young.

SEGES is a pig research center in Denmark. Their research shows that 77% of piglet deaths are because of hunger and empty stomachs. SEGES testing has shown it takes ten days before piglets learn to use the water nipple and four days to use the water cup. Feeding piglets sooner has been proven to lower mortality rates and produce larger and healthier

piglets. In addition, piglets with full stomachs are more likely to survive being laid on by their mother.

Lars has introduced new piglet-feeding equipment, the Pig-LET system, that allows piglet feeding from day 1 and can help supplement the sow's milk as needed. (Watch our feeds for availability on this new and exciting product.)

Common Mistakes

One of the biggest mistakes Lars sees is poor feed management and not getting the piglets feed soon enough. Another common issue is not building pens large enough for the sow to be truly mobile and have more freedom.

The Future

Lars believes it will just be a matter of time before free farrowing becomes the standard and requirement. He is optimistic that any farms that adopt these changes and updates will see the upsides in short order.

Young piglet drinking from Pig-LET system.



Climate Control and More

Bart Hooijer is the Director of Vereijken and Vereijken Export Solutions based in the Netherlands. Bart's parents farmed and raised pigs, so he has been around agriculture his whole life. Bart's parents eventually sold the farm and moved into farm equipment sales. They have found great success leaning on their first-hand knowledge of raising pigs. Bart joined the

family business in 2008, helping sell turn-key projects across Holland, Germany, Canada, and the world.



Free Farrowing Options from Vereijken

Barn Setup in Europe

Vereijken was an early adopter of free farrowing design. With the government requirement for loose housing and the elimination of crates, Vereijken dove into researching and developing free farrowing equipment for producers needing efficient and animal-friendly equipment.

During their research and development, they found that free farrowing allowed piglets easier access to their mother, increasing their weight gain and growth. Continued efforts helped refine how much farrowing space would be adequate and how to create the proper climates for both the sow and piglets.

Free Farrowing Equipment

Vereijken has a wide variety of solutions and equipment for producers to implement free farrowing in their operations successfully.

One innovation that is being utilized is creating micro-climates within each farrowing unit. These micro-climates, when well implemented, create comfortable zones for the sow and piglets. The zone for sows is typically set cooler, helping keep her comfortable. The zone for piglets' (or nest) is much warmer, providing a comfortable and safe space. This keeps mom and the kids happy and adds benefits such as naturally separating the piglets from mom between feedings to avoid crushing. Vereijken's system is called the Nanny, an easy-to-implement, plug-and-play micro-climate solution.

Another development from Vereijken, that they have heavily invested in, is the Pro Grip floor, which gives extra grip for sows and piglets and it very easy to combine with concrete.

Common Mistakes

When it comes to getting free farrowing right, Bart wants to encourage producers not to cut corners. It comes down to controlling mortality, and with proper feeding and creating micro-climates with the proper space, equipment, and flooring, your investment will return.

Once a system is in place, producers will begin to see less mortality, more premium piglets, and also save with less need for antibiotics.

The Future

As Bart and Vereijken look towards the future, a few things are already in development that will add even more upside for producers implementing free farrowing.

With the development of a manure management system, V Scraping, Vereijken has created a better way to separate liquids from solids, primarily when straw bedding is used in the farrowing. This will allow for very easy transport of manure and give farmers an additional benefit with phosphorus-rich products.

Another development is the digital passport, a way for producers to track every sow, and every piglet from nursery to finisher. Giving farmers the ability to trace growth patterns and see what sows and techniques are adding the most value. This technology will allow farmers to benchmark with other producers to see how they stack up and get assistance from vets, genetics, and other farmers. The ultimate goal is to get everyone working together to improve pork production.

Is Free Farrowing For You?

We hope this brief history and overview of the benefits and advances in free farrowing has been interesting and thought-provoking. The bottom line is we want to help provide you with the best solutions to fit your farm. We welcome your questions, comments, and concerns.



BART HOOIJER

Director at Vereijken
vereijkengroup.com



LARS BRUNSE

CEO / Partner at Best Farm
bestfarm.dk



///AGRIHUB 2024 PHOTO CONTEST



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STRESS MANAGEMENT

By Neil Armer

Every now and then, I think, what would I do if I won the lottery? I always come up with the same answer...Buy a farm! I have a vision of a stress-free life, spending my mornings feeding cows and sunny afternoons driving an IH 806 cutting hay. Truth be told, I love my job and would probably keep doing it even if I won the lottery. One of the reasons I love my job is that I get the privilege of spending time visiting many different types of farms. The problem with that is, all I see is what I perceive as the "good life" on the farm and not the reality of the challenges of farming. Issues such as, rising operating costs, increasing government legislation, and producing a product that you have little or no control over the price you can sell it for, just to name a few. The more I thought about it I realized that farming must be one of the most stressful lifestyles there is! I used the term lifestyle instead of career or profession because it truly is a way of life you are committed to.

Believe it or not, all stress is not bad; it can help us to get things done, helps build resilience and problem-solving, and gives us the motivation to succeed. The important thing is to know when your stress levels are going from being good and useful to overwhelming. Here are some tools that can help manage your stress: The 6 R's of Stress Management (based on work done by the Manitoba Farm and Rural Support Service).



MEET NEIL

Neil has fifteen years of Health & Safety experience spending the last five years working in agriculture. Neil attended Utah State University majoring in Political Science and has a certificate in Environmental Health & Safety Management. He has been the Health & Safety Manager for AgriHub Inc since June of 2020. When not at work Neil spends most of his time hunting and fishing with his nieces and nephews on their farm and in the surrounding mountains of Northern Utah.

THE 6 R'S OF STRESS MANAGEMENT

1. RECOGNIZE Be aware of when stress becomes overwhelming and has a negative impact on you.

2. REDUCE Do an inventory of your stress and understand which stressful items you can control and deal with them. Also, learn to accept the things that you cannot control.

3. RESPOND Make sure you treat your body responsibly through healthy nutrition, physical and mental activity, enough sleep, and taking the time to recharge.

4. RELAX Take the time to kick back and enjoy life. Spend time with family and take time to do things you like to do.

5. REACH OUT Identify your support system. Verbalizing your thoughts and feelings can be helpful. You will find it normalizes and validates the feelings you are experiencing.

6. RESOURCES Remember that there are resources available – from books to read to organizations such as the Canadian Mental Health Association, as well as professionals who are trained to help you.

Remember, it is ok to be stressed, and it is ok to reach out for help if stress gets overwhelming!!!

WiFi SECURITY



WiFi is a great commodity. The internet is at your fingertips, wirelessly. We use wifi every day, catching up with your friends, asking for a couple more items to get from the store, placing orders online and even writing an important email to your manager from a coffee shop. But the question it leaves open is, is your activity encrypted and secure? Unencrypted information sent over the internet can easily be intercepted and read by hackers. It's like serving them a delicious dish of ice cream with a cherry on top. Next thing you know, your credit card is maxed out with tickets to the Bahamas...

Here are a few tips to make sure you are safely connected, traffic is encrypted, and your data is safe.

1. When searching for a WiFi connection, find one with a lock on it. This means the traffic is encrypted. You'll need to know the password to connect, of course.
2. Avoid 'Open' WiFi connections, as tempting and convenient as it may seem since the traffic is not encrypted at all.
3. When 'Open' WiFi is the only thing available, use a VPN service to encrypt your traffic and secure your data.
4. Be cautious about your activity on public WiFi. Maybe wait till you're at home to check your bank account or enter your credit card number to buy the new book you've been waiting for.
5. For additional security, ensure your anti-virus is up to date and active.

KONAVI[®] Broiler Feeder

Give your birds a clean plate.



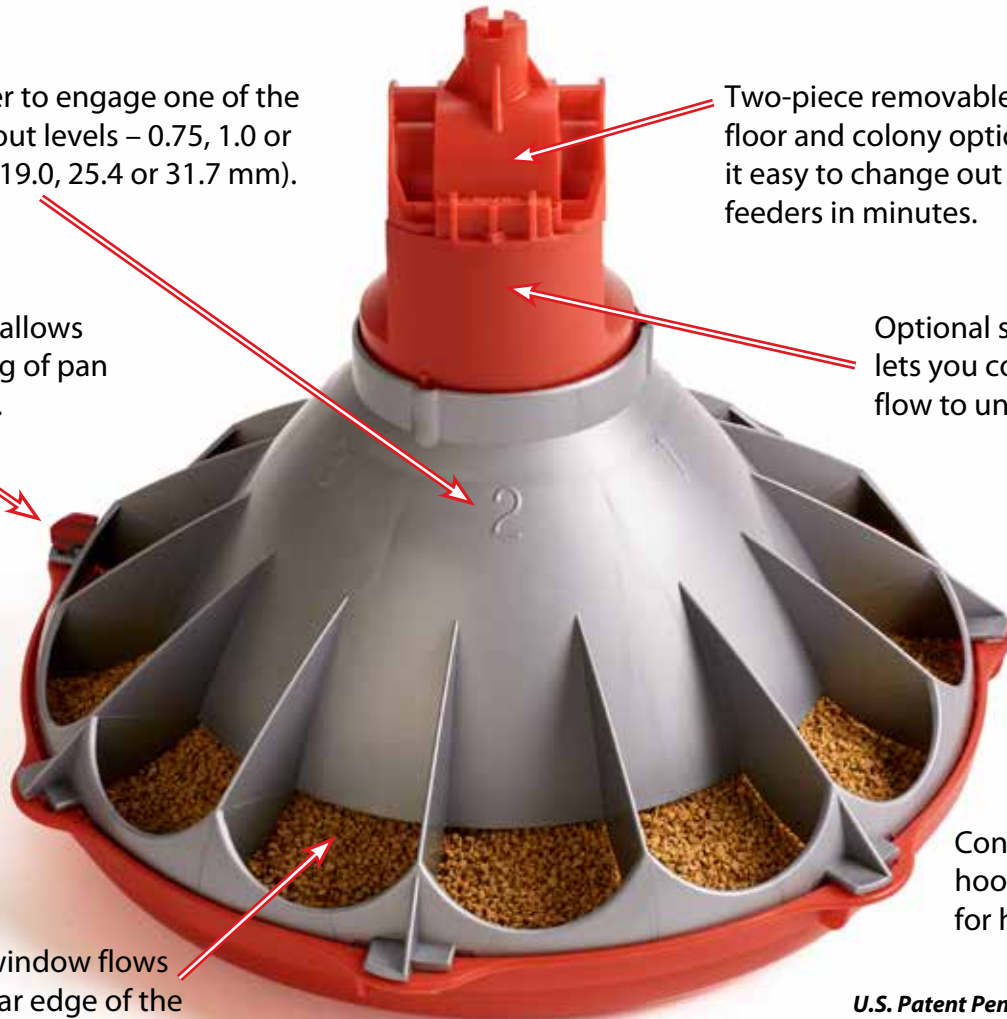
Let's grow together[®]

Rotate feeder to engage one of the three grow-out levels – 0.75, 1.0 or 1.25 inches (19.0, 25.4 or 31.7 mm).

Two-piece removable top with floor and colony options makes it easy to change out damaged feeders in minutes.

Single lever allows easy opening of pan for cleaning.

Optional slide shut-off lets you control feed flow to unused pans.



High flood window flows feed to the far edge of the pan in a full 360 degrees.

Cones include hooks (not shown) for hanging pans.

U.S. Patent Pending

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SMALL BIOGAS SOLUTIONS

By Jake Peterson

When we start talking about biogas with farmers, we often hear the following lines.

"My operation is just too small for biogas, and the cost is just too much even to consider."

"It's too cold here to generate biogas year around."

"The infrastructure (pipeline) isn't close enough to my farm to benefit."

While most of these have hints of truth, it's certainly not the whole story. AgriHubs' regenerative agriculture division has been working on small biogas options for farms of all sizes and locations, and success is being found in various places. So let's break it down.

Where is the majority of the Biogas?

As of 2021, 279 biogas projects in Canada are actively producing electricity and heat from renewable biogas. Even with the growing number of projects around Canada, there is still a lot of opportunity for growth. As you can see from the chart – the largest potential source of biogas is in agriculture.

Canadian biogas energy production by potential source

Agriculture	68%
Landfill gas	12%
Wastewater	7%
Commercial SSO	7%
Residential SSO	6%

Municipal biogas projects tend to be very large, complicated, multimillion dollar projects. AgriHub's regenerative agriculture biogas projects cater to the average size ranges of the customers we have well

served since 1956. Often overlooked or passed by, small-scale biogas production setups for the average farm can have very impactful results. AgriHub is testing and developing biogas generation options to help small to medium-sized operations benefit from a renewable energy source they already have while lowering their operating costs thanks to harvesting rich soil fertilizers and amendments, purifying water, and helping them take steps to gain energy independence.

If we look at the total number of farms in Canada, compared to the current number running a biogas system, it quickly becomes apparent that there is an opportunity for smaller scale biogas solutions.

We're addressing all the common issues and helping farmers find paths to regenerative agriculture solutions. Our solutions focus on minimal entry costs, detailed planning, and short timeframes on payback. The small-scale anaerobic digesters equipment with UL/CSA and ISO approvals will help you utilize biogas production on-site.

Now that we've laid a bit of background and potential, let's address those common questions and concerns many producers have when it comes to biogas.

My farm is just too small for investment.

We'll start by saying the investment is flexible. Many farmers have the idea that setting up for biogas is a seven-figure investment; the truth is we have solutions starting around \$10,000 with around an average of a three-year payback.

AgriHub is working with partners so that the smallest of digesters can be put to use, allowing farms of all sizes to benefit from on-site biogas production while still meeting UL/CSA and ISO quality and safety standards, all while avoiding debt and large loans.

Cold weather makes biogas production difficult.

It's true for optimum biogas production; warm temperatures keep production churning. Because of this, we often struggle to see anaerobic digesters as anything but expensive boilers and insulated tanks that use just as much fuel as they generate just so they can create more biogas, an unending loop for not much upside.

We need an efficient microclimate for biogas production where mother nature can do her thing. Biogas production can operate year-round by leveraging ground heat, passive solar heat gain, and airtight lagoon covers. Anaerobic digesters have been used successfully worldwide for thousands of years in all climates without insulated tanks and expensive boilers.

Lack of existing infrastructure.

We hear concerns from producers about not being able to benefit from biogas generation because of their distance from pipelines and processing facilities. Often, the focus of biogas is on being plugged into a pipeline to have any return on your investment. While distributing biogas directly to the pipeline does have benefits, the often overlooked, on-site use of your biogas can also have impactful returns.

For example, a small biogas digester could generate enough gas to run an on-site generator, allowing you off-grid electricity, fueled by your farms' animals and produce. Electricity can be used for lights, heating, pumps; you name it.

When we run the numbers, most small biogas setups can quickly pay for themselves simply by reducing utility expenses.

Ready to Talk about Bio Gas on Your Farm?

We'd love to connect, learn about your operation and its needs, and ultimately run the numbers to show you how a small investment in biogas now can pay off in the long run.



British Columbia

89,300 Dairy Cows
41,500 Heifers
468 Farms
191 Cows/Farm Avg

Alberta

80,400 Dairy Cows
40,500 Heifers
503 Farms
160 Cows/Farm Avg
160 Egg Farming Facilities

Saskatchewan

31,400 Dairy Cows
10,800 Heifers
171 Farms
184 Cows/Farm Avg
68 Egg Farming Facilities

Manitoba

36,700 Dairy Cows
21,800 Heifers
263 Farms
140 Cows/Farm Avg
614 Hog Farms
179 Poultry

Ontario

318,100 Dairy Cows
147,100 Heifers
3367 Farms
95 Cows/Farm Avg



Small scale biogas setup example



RECIPE

BUBBA'S PORK TENDERLOIN

Recipe by: Bruce Derksen

Ingredients:

- 1 average sized pork tenderloin
- 1 brick cream cheese (8oz)
- 2 cups shredded cheese (whichever type is preferred)
- 2 Bell Peppers (any kind) chopped
- 1lb of Bacon
- HyLife Pork – Pork Spice Seasoning
(find it at Earl's Meat Market in Steinbach, MB)



Directions:

1. Preheat your smoker to 375F
2. Mix cream cheese, grated cheese, chopped bell peppers in a bowl (add jalapeno peppers if you're feeling adventurous!), set aside.
3. Cut pork tenderloin in half (butterfly)
4. Season liberally with HyLife Pork seasoning
5. Stuff with cream cheese mixture, close pork
6. Wrap in bacon
7. Place in Smoker at 375F– 30 to 45 mins or until the internal temperature is 150F
8. Let rest for 10 minutes, then enjoy!

Baby Potato Side:

Goes great with baby potatoes! Simply toss the baby potatoes in oil, and vegetable seasoning, cook for 30 minutes at 375F. Sprinkle with parmesan on top.



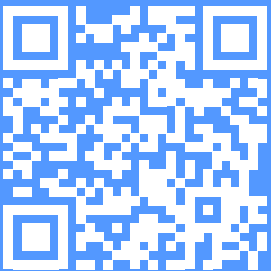


THE MODERN
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P D C A S T

**EXPERT TALK ON
LIVESTOCK
HOUSING AND
ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY
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**DO YOU HAVE A
QUESTION FOR OUR
EXPERTS?**

**MESSAGE US YOUR QUESTION,
PROBLEM, OR INSIGHT AND
YOU MIGHT BE FEATURED ON AN
UPCOMING EPISODE.**

Applying and Making the Best Use of Your Valuable Manure

By Jake Peterson

Farms have utilized the nutrient benefits of manure for hundreds of years. Just a few decades ago, it was as simple as shoveling dung from livestock pens, hauling it to fields, spreading it out, and soon healthy crops with excellent yields were just around the corner; well, it's almost that simple.

While the basics of these methods still apply today, technological advances and nutrient science have pushed manure application to be one of the most cutting-edge investments in operations today. Last year nitrogen and fertilizer costs reached record-breaking prices, in part due to volatility in the market. Manure is more valuable today than it has ever been.

Suppling needed nutrients for crop production involves attention to four major fertilization factors (the four Rs): Right Rate, Right Source, Right Placement, and Right Timing. Attention to these factors will provide adequate nutrition for crop production while minimizing environmental nutrient loss.

This article will give an overview of the latest tech being utilized, how data is changing manure applications, considerations, and some common questions. Special thanks to Doug Redekop of Penner Farm Services and Scott Dick of Agra-Gold for the valuable information in this article; their contact info is below.

The Technology


Doug has been in the poo business for about 30 years, and Scott started in 2001. The changes they have seen in their years are significant. For example,

when they started, typical application flow rates were around 800 gallons per minute with a dragline setup. Today they are seeing 3,000 to 4,000 gallons per minute. In addition, advances in booster pump tech and much larger diameter hoses have significantly contributed to the new efficiency and speed of application.

The most noteworthy and valuable advancement has probably been the addition of real-time application sensors. In the earlier days, the application operator relied on the manure's flow, color, and consistency and had to depend on experience and gut feel to ensure optimal application rates.

Today, tractors and application equipment are equipped with real-time sensors that can detect the percentages of the nutrients applied to the field. These sensors are a game-changer in more ways than one. Second by second, data is collected and logged, allowing quick adjustments to ensure nutrients are being applied as efficiently and effectively as possible, thus allowing farmers to maximize their manure nutrients. This real-time feed also allows the tractor operator to communicate with the agitation team back at storage to ensure the nutrients' consistency.

The maps generated during manure application are another useful tool for farmers. These maps are used to determine if any starter fertilizers are required or if the manure nutrients will satisfy 100% of the crop requirements, which in turn reduces over-application and ultimately maximizes yield.

An aerial photograph of a green tractor pulling a large, dark-colored implement across a vast, flat agricultural field. The field is a mix of green and brown, suggesting different stages of crop growth or soil conditions. The tractor is moving from the bottom left towards the center of the frame, leaving a distinct track behind it. The sky is clear and blue, and the horizon is visible in the distance.

“These new methods are good for carbon reduction goals too; reducing fertilizers with more precise applications is helping drive these goals”

- SCOTT DICK

On tractor screens allow operators to see real-time application and nutrient data.



Environmental Benefits

This new application technology also offers environmental benefits and opportunities for farmers to offset their carbon use.

1. Dragline setup efficiencies allow much more efficient nutrient applications. Traditional slurry tank hauling and spreading may take hundreds of trips which involve an expensive combination of people, time, equipment, and diesel. Dragline application moves the same amount of manure with less equipment in days, not weeks, requiring less effort.
2. Compaction. Tankers and their weight typically cause more soil compaction, which can cause yield loss.
3. Precision Application. This allows farmers to feed their crops in a more precise way, satisfying the "right Rate" of the 4R strategy.

Doubling Down on Manure Benefits

The benefits manure can afford farmers doesn't stop with fertilizer for their fields. Farmers who want to maximize their manure opt for anaerobic digestors to capture biogas. As energy costs continue to climb, having a renewable energy source on-site is becoming a more viable option. Not only can farmers utilize biogas on-site, but they can also opt to put excess gas into the pipeline for additional revenue. All these other benefits while still using the digestate (leftovers from the anaerobic digestion process) on your fields.

One common misnomer is that the digestion process alters the value of manure. This is simply not true. The digestion process extracts energy (biogas) out of the manure therefore, the fertilizer is just as effective. A covered digester also eliminates the losses typically experienced by uncovered storages. This means more value is retained.

Common Questions

It is best to preface the common questions with the simple fact that every operation is unique with various factors to consider, so our answers are broad but should point you in the right direction.

- How much does the equipment cost?*
- How much manure do I apply every year?*
- Do I apply once per year or multiple times?*
- How quickly do I want to get the job done?*
- How far away are the furthest fields?*
- What rate do I want to apply per acre?*

Having a good handle on these items will help us get some cost scenarios prepared for you.

Hiring vs. buying?

- Do I have the time and expertise available to do this work myself?*
- What other activities are occurring on farm at the same time as the manure is needing to be applied?*
- Do I already own some of the equipment needed to facilitate manure application? I.E. Tractors.*
- Where will my investment give the best return?*
- Is the decision to buy equipment solely based on*

economics or does it also involve timing?

Why now?

Technology is constantly evolving. Adoption and utilization will only benefit the farmer. We are witnessing an evolution of precision farming. This technology will change how we farm and view our crops. Plus, the sooner you jump on board, the sooner you'll see a return.

Wrapping It Up

Every operation is different, with different soils, crops, and nutrients available. We hope this article has answered some questions and has given you a glimpse into the opportunities advanced manure application can provide. If you would like a review of your operation or have additional questions, we'd love to hear from you. Don't hesitate to get in touch with us today to learn more.



MEET SCOTT DICK

Scott is a graduate of the University of Manitoba Bachelor of Science in Agriculture program. In 2001, Scott was hired by Elite Swine, a division of Maple Leaf Foods, as one of the first agronomists in North America to work for a large pork company dedicated solely to livestock nutrient planning. In 2007, Cliff Loewen and Scott left Maple Leaf Foods to start Agra-Gold Consulting Ltd., a company that specializes in livestock nutrient management plans. The pillars of their business are to optimize the value of nutrients in manure while ensuring environmental sustainability. Scott was also director with the Manitoba Livestock Manure Management Initiative for over 10 years and authored several reports.



MEET DOUG REDEKOP

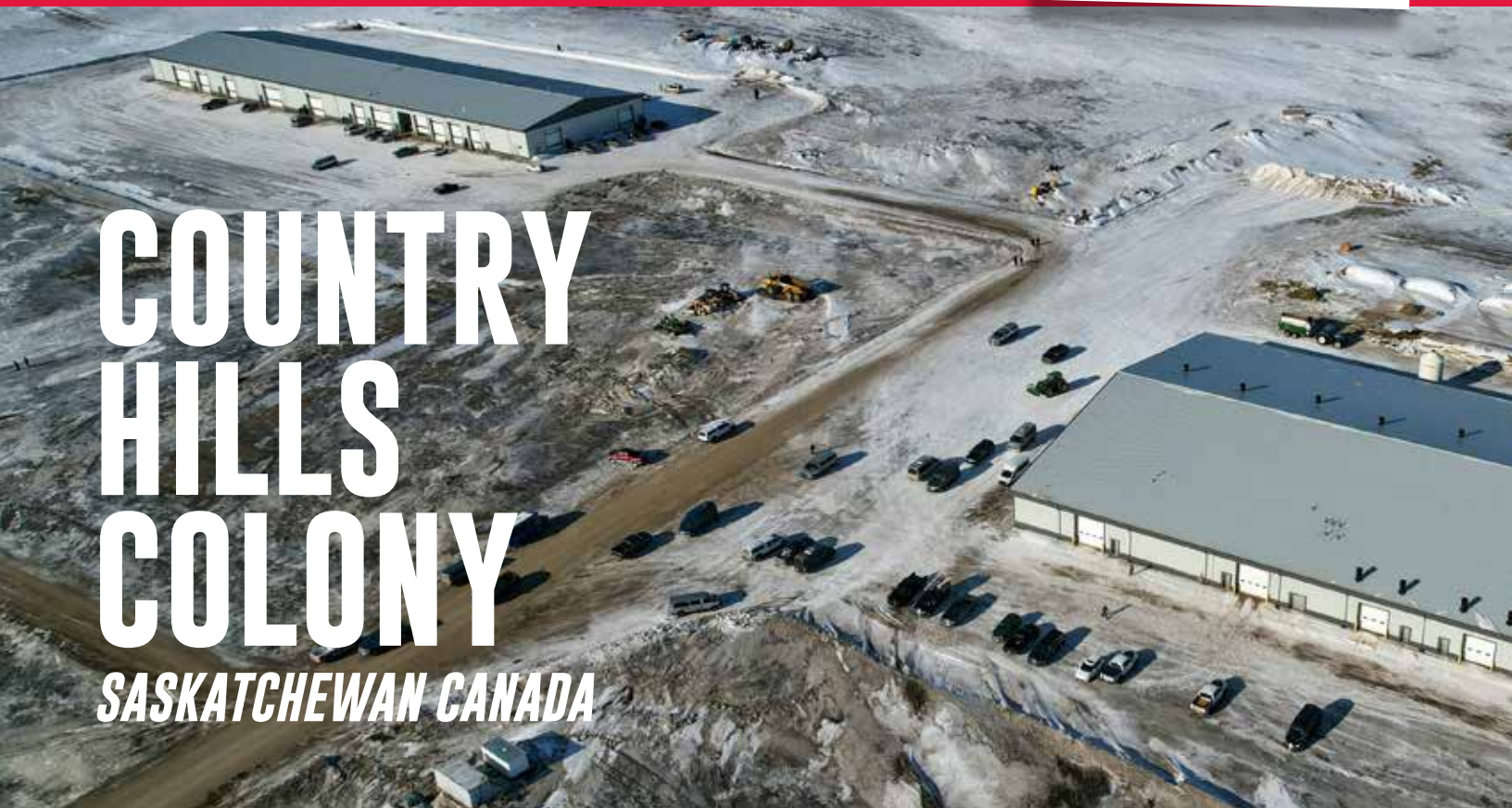
Doug has worked for Penner Farm Services since 2006, and specializes in manure handling equipment. Graduating with a Diploma in Agriculture from the University of Manitoba, he spent 14 years in the hog production industry and has considerable experience in feed production, barn construction, and market development. He also brings 25 years of manure application experience to Penner Farm Services. In his spare time, Doug enjoys traveling with his wife and son.



NEIGHBORS & FRIENDS AT THE OPEN HOUSE - FEBRUARY 3RD



LELY ASTRONAUT A5
AUTOMATED MILKING ROBOT



COUNTRY HILLS COLONY

SASKATCHEWAN CANADA

By Kodi Munro

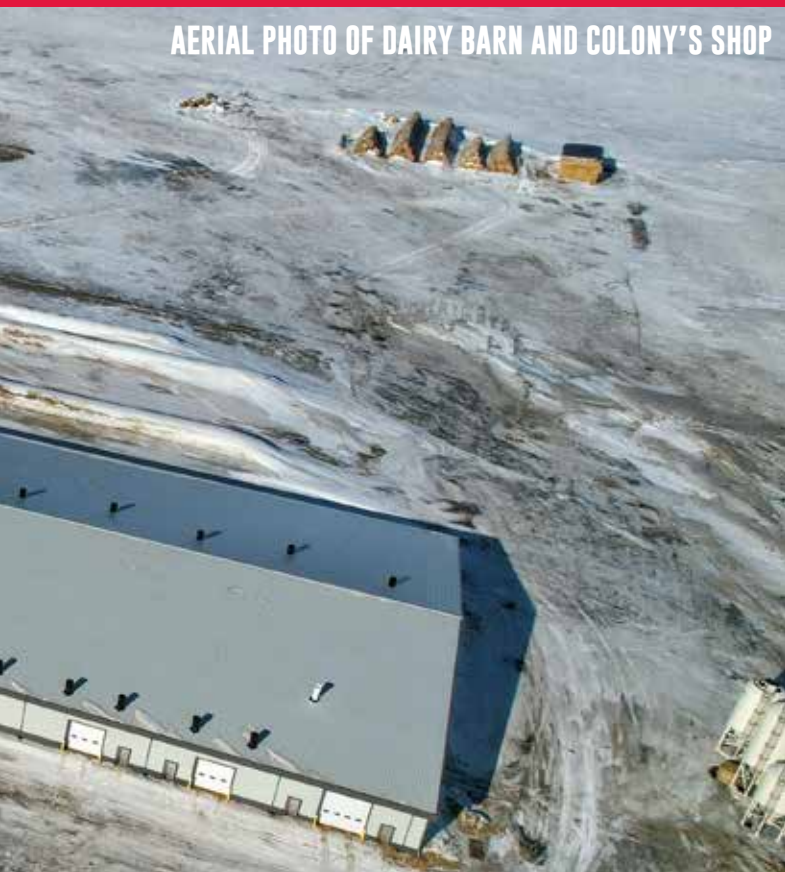
Located near the beautiful Saskatchewan Landing Provincial Park in southwest Saskatchewan, Country Hills Colony is building. Once complete, Country Hills will be the daughter colony to Main Center, located about 15 minutes away from the Country Hills site. Main Center Colony was established near Rush Lake Saskatchewan in 1963 and is now home to 140 people. I had the opportunity recently to speak with Leonard Wipf, Colony Manager, about the project, and was able to tour the new dairy barn with Dairy Manager Steve Hofer.

Leonard grew up at Main Center and is responsible for, in his words, “keeping 140 people happy”. This includes paying the bills, doing the grocery shopping, and managing the back end of the projects happening at Main Center and Country Hills. As Main Center has grown, they are now faced with splitting the colony to make sure everyone has space and a job. This is how Country Hills came into being. The process has been well thought out and methodical to ensure its long-term success. The colony bought extra milk quota previously with the aim that the first infrastructure project at the new colony would be a dairy barn.

CALF ROOM OFF MAIN BARN



AERIAL PHOTO OF DAIRY BARN AND COLONY'S SHOP



The dairy at Country Hills is a 65,000 square foot facility with state-of-the-art Lely A5 milking robots along with Discovery cleaning robots and Juno feed pushers. This barn has been designed and built from top to bottom with the health and happiness of the cows in mind. From the layout of the alleys, to the way the cows access the milking robots, everything on this project has been meticulously engineered. You can tell just walking into the barn that the animals are well cared for and happy. It's hard to imagine looking around the space that the team at Main Center was able to build this barn in under a year from the first concrete piling to the start up of the barn.

The building process started well before they broke ground with the permitting process. After some slight adjustments to their lagoon plans, they were able to move forward. The team at Country Hills also took the time to look at several other robotic dairies in Saskatchewan to decide what they wanted in their barn. They decided to go with Lely for their milking robots in part because they wanted to work with the team at Western Ag Systems. They had worked with them for years on other projects and their local reputation and expertise made the decision to move forward with them clear.

While building through the pandemic created its own unique set of challenges and delays, the project at Country Hills went smoothly with the only major delay being parts that were delayed because of pandemic shipping problems. Despite these challenges they were able to finish on schedule and moved cows into the barn December 2022. The cows only took a few days to get the hang of the new barn and equipment before they were calmly going to the robot on their own and settled in the new barn.

Steve Hofer is the Dairy Manager at the new barn. He also grew up at Main Center Colony, where his father was the dairy manager. As a child he spent time in the barns with his father but once he went to work as an adult, he worked in the fields. At 36 years old, he then moved back over to the Dairy at Main Center where he was second in charge until the opening of the new barn at Country Hills. He was involved in the planning of the barn and led the start up process with the help of the team from Western Ag Systems.



LELY ASTRONAUT A5 AUTOMATED MILKING ROBOT



MIXING UNIT FOR LELY CALM

In the planning phase of the barn, they toured several barns in the area. When they saw the Dinsmore Colony barn they liked the design and with a few minor changes went with a similar design. As it came time to move the cows in, there was a team from Western Ag Systems including Perry Libke, Farm Management Specialist who for several days supported the dairy start up process. Start up is the teaching process for the cows to learn how the system works; Perry and the team guided the Country Hills team with how to use the new system, acclimate the cows to new routines, and help them get comfortable with the equipment. The Lely Automated Milking System differs from parlours in that the cows visit the milking robot whenever they want, instead of scheduled milkings two or three times a day. This is done with the positive reward of high value food. When a cow walks into the milking box, the RFID tag that is in their collar is scanned by the robot to identify the cow. Their ration of the high value food is then dispensed as the robot begins the milking process. While the cow is eating, the robot sanitizes the teats and an arm attaches and milks the cow. While the cow is learning how the robot works, the computer system that is powering the robot is also learning each of the cows.

The system keeps track of how long it takes the cow to milk and to make sure the feed is dispensed at a rate to ensure they have feed the whole time they are milking. It also tracks how many days the cow has been in milk, how much she is producing, and how often she comes to the robot.

Steve said the most challenging part of the start up for the barn for him was learning the computer. He didn't previously have a lot of experience with computers so learning how to operate the system was new and exciting. He was able to learn the program quickly and is impressed with how powerful it is for running the dairy. Steve continues to have access to



SCAN ME

the Western Ag Systems farm management specialist and service team, as he adjusts to his new routine now centered around technology. Each morning he checks the computer or app to see if there are any alarms or issues, like cows who haven't gone to milk or any other alarms from the system that need to be dealt with. He then fetches any cows that haven't

been milked and takes them to the robot. From there

he goes over to the calf room. They use the Lely

Calm in their calf room, so the calves can

feed on demand. After that he walks

the barn to check and make sure

all the animals are healthy. At

this time, he will also look to see

if any of the cows are coming

into heat, or if any of the pregnant

cows have calved over night. He

has 2 helpers in the barn who at

this time would be changing out

the bedding in all the stalls. The

rest of the day is spent unloading

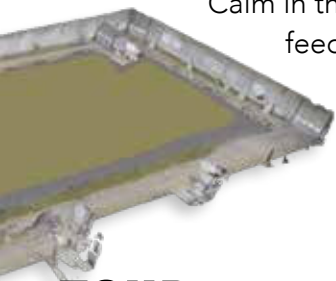
feed for the cows and making sure

all the equipment is operating

properly.

Steve's impressed that he has a lot more free time at this barn. Because of this he will get to projects that are sometimes overlooked at other barns. He takes the time to learn about each cow, make sure they are getting everything they need and sees when they are ready to be dried off and when they go into heat. He also ensures all the maintenance tasks are done that are sometimes hard to get to in a parlour system.

Cows have been in the barn at Country Hills for about 6 months, but it is as clean as the day they moved the cows in. The dairy techs at Western Ag Systems love to go out to Country Hills as its such a well-maintained barn making it a pleasure to work in.



TOUR COUNTRY HILLS BARN!

Western Ag Systems helped to put on an open house at the barn on February 3rd, 2023. Hundreds of people traveled from all over Saskatchewan and Alberta to celebrate the opening of the barn and to tour the facilities and see how everything was working. It was a wonderful day to be a part of! Everyone was so amazed at the great accomplishment the group at Country Hills

had achieved and were impressed with how well the barn worked. The team at Western Ag Systems were so happy to be a part of this special day and to have been able to work alongside the team from Main Center as they began the process to establish a new colony at Country Hills.

HOOF TRIMMING CHUTE



FEED ALLEY



STORE NOW. PROFIT LATER.

Thinking about a new bin or drying system? Don't wait any longer. The farmers who get top dollar for their crop are the ones with on-farm storage. Give your local dealer a call today!



Halarda Farms Ltd Optimizes Efficiency with Lely Robots

Halarda Farms Ltd is one of Manitoba's largest dairies, and has been continuously growing with Lely robots since 2009. The dairy has milked with three generations of Lely Astronaut robotic milking systems and upgraded to 20 Lely Astronaut A5s in 2019.

The farm also utilizes five Lely Juno automatic feed pushers, a pair of Lely Cosmix concentrate feeders and 21 Lely Grazeway selection boxes. The Lely Grazeways help the team automatically sort cows for hoof treatment, vaccinations, insemination and more.

Dairy owner Anton Borst recently sat down with us to discuss how Lely automation has optimized the efficiencies of his large operation.

What do you think of the Lely Astronaut A5 robotic milking system?

"We are very happy with the performance of the Lely Astronaut A5s. They are capable of producing over 100 kg on average per A5 and some pens are over 125 kg per machine!"

What kind of robot configurations do you have and how have they impacted your dairy?

"Our first-calf heifers are grouped separately in four groups of two robots that are in the head-to-tail design. Older animals are in four groups of three robots in our new barn that are in the tollbooth setup.

"Fetch numbers in our tollbooth, 12-robot barn with around 700 cows are very low and have been consistently around three cows per day. It takes very little time to identify the fetch cow and bring her to the commitment pen, probably about five minutes per cow.

"Refusals are also low in the tollbooth barn because cows exit the robot and do not have immediate access back to the entry of another robot. This design increases efficiency, there's less competition and we get better cow flow."

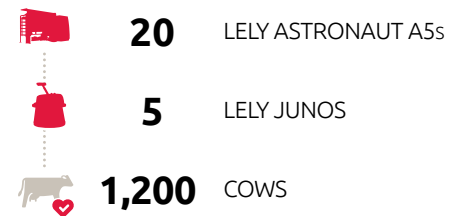
How do you utilize the Lely Cosmix concentrate feeder?

"When it comes to heifer pre-training, we use the Cosmix boxes while heifers are in the breeding pen.

Halarda Farms Ltd



Halarda Farms Ltd
Elm Creek, Manitoba



"We have noticed a difference between heifers that have access to a Cosmix and those that don't. Heifers that have been in a Cosmix adjust to a milking robot more quickly.

"They're more comfortable walking into a box. The whole idea of walking into something and being rewarded with feed is something they've already learned."

*The way to dairy.*TM

www.lely.com

Contact your local Lely Centre at:

Penner Farm Services
64, 27211 Hwy 12
Lacombe, AB T4L 0E3
403-782-0675

Western Ag Systems
876B 60th St E
Saskatoon, SK S7K 8G8
306-382-0700

Penner Farm Services
10 Penner Dr
Blumenort, MB R0A 0C0
204-326-3781

Penner Farm Services
3287 32 St N
Lethbridge, AB T1H 7A3
403-380-4941

Western Ag Systems
1551 Chaplin St W
Swift Current, SK S9H 0H1
306-773-7999

Dundas Agri Systems
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Brinston, ON K0E 1C0
613-652-4844

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A BARN OF THE FUTURE, OR A SMART BARN?

How smart is your barn? It's an honest question, bear with us.

We've heard all the talk about 'smart homes' for a few years now, but we haven't addressed the smart barn idea.

A legacy controller, for instance, may be seen as a limiting factor for advanced technology in the barn when in fact, it's a great jumping off point. Once you add the DataPro by Cortex Agritechnology, the legacy controller is brought online with an easy to read dashboard, remote monitoring, custom alarms, and the ability to integrate more aspects of the barn into the system.

Your fridges for example - you know they need to keep within a specific temperature range, but are you certain they're consistent, or the door hasn't been left open a time or two? Consider the total value of the semen in your fridge, or the cycle delay if all were to fall outside that temperature range rendering the doses useless. Adding a sensor that is connected to the DataPro will give you immediate access to temperature monitoring and alerting from anywhere in the world.



Cortex Agritechnology is a member of the AgriHub Family of Companies, focused on integrating, delivering, and managing innovative products born of the day-to-day challenges producers experience. With decades of experience in agriculture, engineering and production, Cortex Agritechnology is a farmer founded company.





It doesn't stop there, either.

Ventilation? Yes ma'am, we've got you.

Doors? Those too.

Lights? Better believe it.

Fire prevention? Absolutely, tell your insurance broker!

Collect data from anywhere you can install a sensor in your barns, across any system, throughout multiple buildings and view it in one, streamlined place. The DataPro by Cortex Agritech is compatible with systems such as Phason, Cumberland, EBX, feedlines, manure scrapers or pumps, biosecurity systems and more. Simply connect your legacy controller to the DataPro by installing a single wire.

Backed by the AgriHub family of companies, the DataPro has a wide network of service and support personnel to answer any questions you may have, like assistance in adding new sensors, deciphering data and more.

Unlock your data with Cortex Agritech.



LUSZECK LAYERS

By Ashley Graye

A beautiful, brand new, bright red Poultry barn sits right along the highway by Beausejour, MB. The owner, Kolton Luszeck, was selected as one of the 2021 Manitoba Egg Producers (MEP) New Entrant Winners at just 21 years old.

Growing up on a beef and grain operation, Kolton is no stranger to Agriculture. His uncle Alvin, father Alan, and grandfather Arthur ran a 230 cow-calf operation on the land Arthur purchased in 1965. By 2010, the Luszeck family sold their cattle, opting to focus solely on cropping and custom operations instead.

Around this time, Kolton and his grandfather built a 'Doodlebug', essentially a homemade tractor. This solidified his love for building and working on heavy equipment, leading him to pursue a career as a Class 1 truck driver in order to diversify the farm. Around the same time, his cousin Vince was the winner of the New Entrant draw for MEP, so Kolton decided to give it a go as well. As it turns out, Lady Luck was not on his side, but that did not discourage him from entering once again, the following year. Enrolled in the 240 hour course for Class 1 Certification, Kolton received a call on his first day with the news he had been waiting for – he had won the MEP new entrant draw.

With that life-changing phone call, Luszeck knew he would partner with Penner Farm Services and Penfor Construction to bring his Poultry Operation to life. 'I wanted to build the exact same barn as they had built for Vince', down to the egg pallet lift table, Better Air light traps, Cumberland feed system, Maximus controls and more – with a couple small exceptions. Valli cages, Valli egg elevator, and a larger egg cooler, to accommodate growth down the road, 'and it still isn't big enough!' Luszeck laughs.

Kolton proudly states his barn currently houses 6,650 layers in the 3 tiers of the Valli Enriched Housing system, with opportunity to expand to add a 4th tier, bringing the barn up to 10,000 birds in the future. The easiest part of the process was placing birds, and getting them acclimated and comfortable to start laying. The difficulty of the build process came with the utilities and permitting process which delayed trades and brought them right to the cusp of populating day. Al Sawatzky and Joey Martens of Penner Farm Services played a pivotal role in keeping the process on track, and stress levels low.

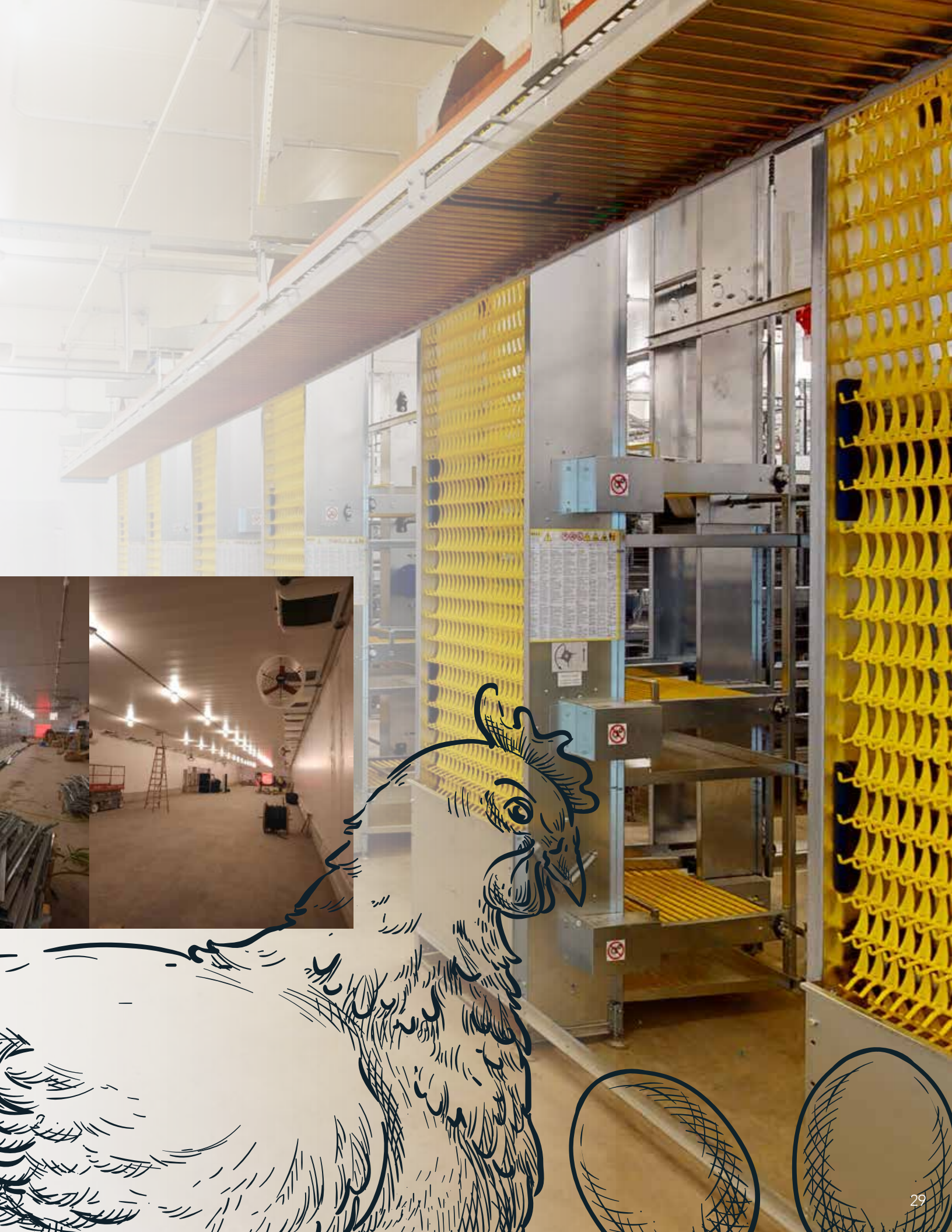
Take a tour of Luszeck Layers on the next page!



MEET ASHLEY

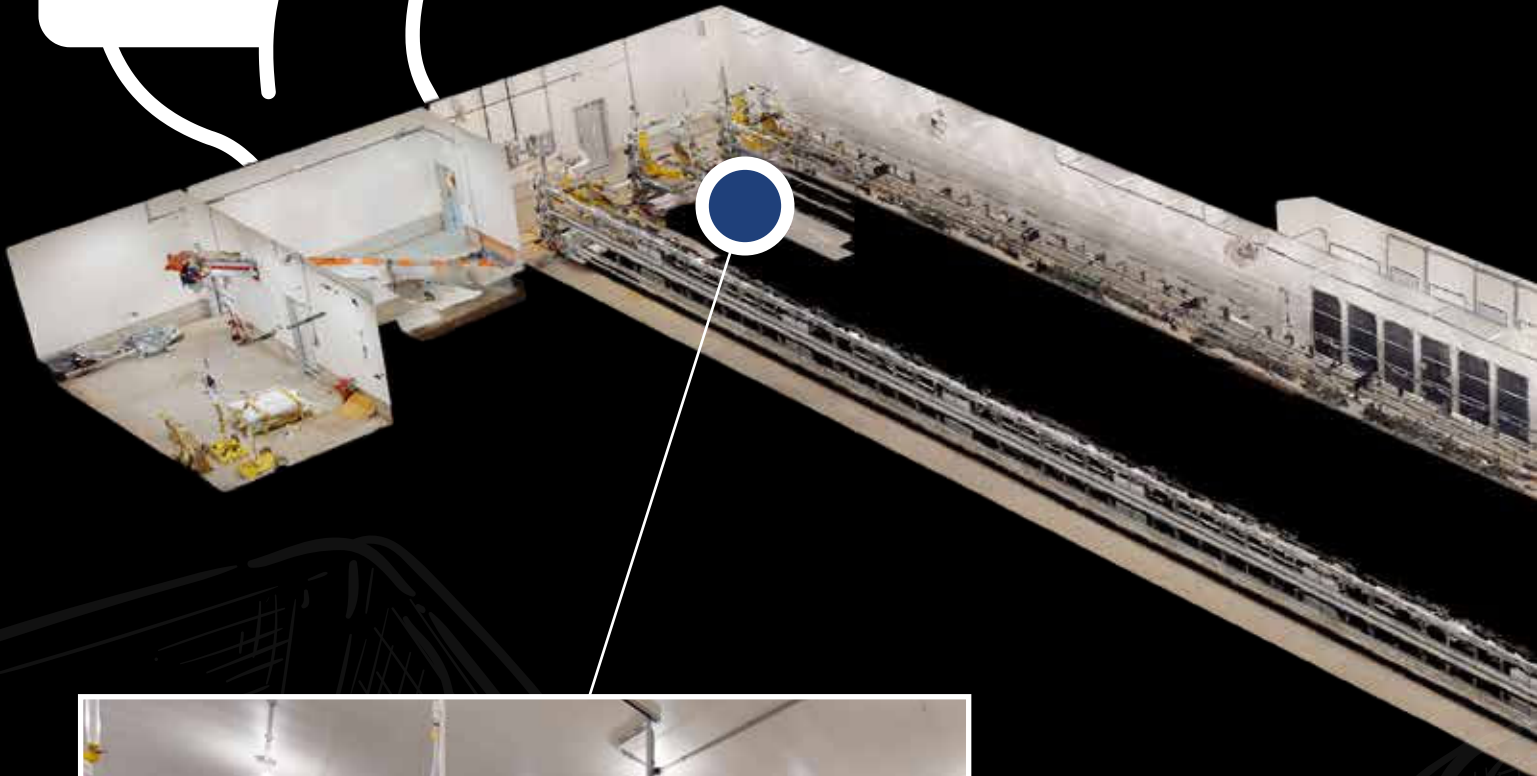
Ashley Graye is the Marketing Manager for the AgriHub group of companies. With 14 years of experience in Marketing, the last four years have been spent in agriculture. Growing up in Winnipeg, there was little to no exposure to agriculture so it's very much a newfound passion point. Ashley resides on a Dairy Farm with her husband, and son. When she's not promoting agriculture, she spends her time gardening, knitting and travelling.







JOIN US BY SCANNING THE QR CODE FOR A VIRTUAL TOUR OF LUSZECK LAYERS!



Valli Manure Removal Belt

All VALLI state-of-the-art equipment is designed to remove manure by conveyor belt.



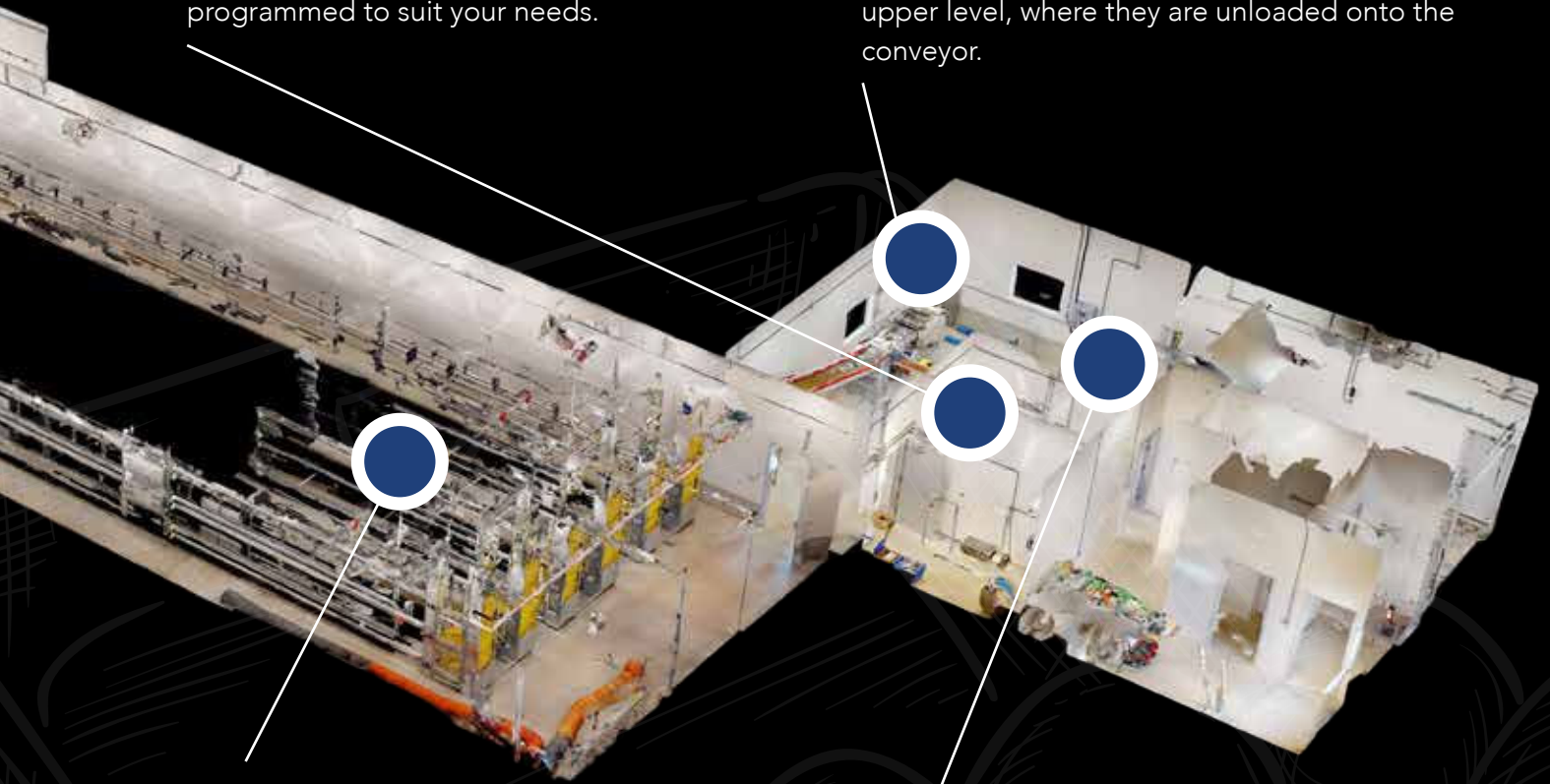
Ruby360 Custom Controls

Ruby360 has specialized in building fully customized integrated controls systems since 1992. All systems are built and designed in house using quality components and programmed to suit your needs.



Valli ONDA Egg Elevator

The Valli ONDA Egg collection system is made of mini conveyors (egg feeders) which receives the eggs from the egg belts via the little yellow 'hands'. These 'hands' brings the eggs to the upper level, where they are unloaded onto the conveyor.



Valli Poultry Enriched Housing

The "Modulo" models ensure maximum reliability and ease of operation; they guarantee the very highest standards of welfare to ensure optimum production.

Egg Pallet Lift Table

The table lift, electrically powered with a double scissor lift provides easy reach, reduced back strain and increases productivity. As the pallet is loaded with eggs, the table lowers to maintain a comfortable lifting height.

THE FUTURE OF WELL-BEING AT WORK

By Jane Helbrecht

Over the past decade, and particularly over the last three years, we have started to see a major shift from wellness towards well-being in the workplace. Wellness programs in many organizations included your standard employee benefits, maybe some yoga or other workout classes and seminars about how to eat healthy and manage stress.

But over the last few years there has been recognition that adding yoga classes to any already overwhelmed employees schedule doesn't really help anyone manage stress.

According to Gartner, in 2022, employees' stress and worry grew above even 2020 peaks and nearly 60% of employees indicated they are stressed at their jobs every day. And so, putting the responsibility on employees to 'manage their stress' when they are potentially overwhelmed and have too much on their plate doesn't ease the burden either.

We are seeing a greater concern about the whole human being that works in our organizations and not just the 'worker'. And where organizations previously focused on the wellness of the employee with the primary goal of ensuring employees were productive at work, we are now seeing the movement towards holistic well-being that impacts the employee's life as a whole.

According to Gallup, there are 5 Essential Elements of Well-Being:

- **Career well-being** - how people spend their days and whether they generally like what they do with their time.
- **Social well-being** - people's relationships with others and whether they have meaningful connections and positive interactions with others.

- **Financial well-being** - people's economic stability and standard of living and whether they have the funds they need to provide for themselves and/or their family.
- **Physical well-being** - people's health and physical condition and whether they have the energy and endurance to be productive each day.
- **Community well-being** - people's daily environment and whether they feel satisfied, connected and engaged with the areas in which they live.

Moving forward organizations who want to retain and hire top talent will need to consider the role they play in fostering overall well-being in their workplace.

If you want to focus more on well-being, here are a few things that your organization can think about now:

1. Where possible, offer a benefits plan with the basics on health and dental care, disability and life insurance and include an Employee Assistance Program where employees can reach out to counsellors for support on mental health, financial health etc.
2. We recognize that athletes need time to rest and recover as a part of their training programs so the benefits of taking short and long breaks makes sense for employees too. Offer vacation time and encourage employees to use that time and to truly unplug when they take that time. Note that the more common minimum competitive vacation time offer to start in a workplace is usually around 3 or more weeks now. It's no longer the 2 weeks we might have seen in the 90's and early 2000's.

3. Also consider offering extra days after particularly grueling periods of work. For example, after a stretch of long days and overtime, give folks a Friday or Friday afternoon off as a perk. Or consider offering a 4.5-day week during a slower period in the year as a potential perk.
4. When employees are overwhelmed or nearing burnout, sessions on how to manage stress and yoga likely won't address the root cause. Organizations need to consider workload and whether their expectations are reasonable. Consider if the work in certain roles has intensified in the past few years and how that may impact overwhelm. Do an audit of the work and consider what is needs to get done, what would be nice to get done and what can be eliminated to start to ease the stress. Where possible, simplify.
5. Research from the Future Forum shows that 93% of employees want flexibility in their work. Flexibility can look different in every industry, organization, and role. Consider what kind of flexibility might work for your team.
6. The future of work is flexible, and employees will be interested in structuring work in ways that support them both personally and professionally. If work can steal extra time from me on my weekends, then I also need to be able to take time from work on a Thursday afternoon to attend my nieces winter concert. There should be a trade off. People want work they can plan around their life instead of planning their life around their work.

7. And finally, Gallup finds that regular and meaningful employee recognition is associated with increased employee well-being. Employees who receive regular recognition are significantly less likely to experience burnout.

Ensure the leaders in your organization understand the importance of recognition and that they share their praise and appreciation for good work freely. This helps employees know where they stand at work and feel the value of the work they perform day in and day out.

63% of job seekers see work-life balance as their top priority when picking a new job in today's job market (LinkedIn Research). And this trend isn't going to fade any time soon. In the past, we surveyed for employee satisfaction, then employee engagement and in the future organizations will measure and survey for employee well-being.

If you want to meet the demands of your workforce, start thinking about how you can foster well-being even in small ways for your team. Not only is the right thing to do, but it has also marked impact on individual employees and workplace culture. And we know that when employees feel good about work and the workplace culture, we see productivity and performance go up and safety incidents, product defects, turnover and sick time go down. So, start to think about what kinds of programs and changes – whether big or small you can implement now to start moving toward increased employee well-being in your workplace.



Jane Helbrecht – Bio

Jane Helbrecht is a leadership development and people & culture expert with over 15 years of experience in training and HR roles. As Founder and Consultant at Uplift Engagement, she focuses on building people and leadership development programs that shift team dynamics so that teams can focus, get stuff done and have fun while they do it. She believes that leaders are the key to building stronger organizations and elevating workplace cultures. Jane is a graduate of the Asper School of Business, a certified HR professional (CPHR) and a certified leadership coach.

EQUIPMENT FEATURE

DISC MILL

By Ashley Graye

So why have we been using disc mills for centuries? It's simple really, we have yet to find something that works as well and as efficiently.

Do you know where the disc mill originated from?

A small, hand operated flour mill, very similar to the ancient Buhrstone mill.

Taking a page out of the history books, disc mills rely on the exact same idea of two surfaces rotating past each other, at a set speed where only one disc is actually rotating. The distance between the two 'discs', or surfaces, reduces particle sizes by crushing, grinding, pulverizing, blending, cracking, refining and more.

Essentially, it's an oversized flour hand mill, that's not operated by hand. Instead, it's operated by a low-power-consumption electric motor.

Old technology, right? Well, yes, you're right, but with leaps and bounds in terms of advancements.

First, let's look at the discs. Hundreds of years ago, the discs were all the same – made of stone, fairly flat, and the size in which the input was reduced down to relied solely on the speed of the operator, and how long they wanted to continuously crank the 'mill'. Jump back to current day, and the discs contain a number of segments made of tungsten carbide. Sounds familiar, right? That's because Tungsten Carbide is used to make cutting tools within the engineering industry, so



saying it's a durable material is quite the understatement. These discs in a Skioold Disc Mill can last up to 5,000 tonnes in the smallest mill, 10,000 tonnes in a mid-size mill, and 20,000 tonnes in the largest mill.

How does it work, exactly?

A stationary disc is mounted inside the 'door' of the disc mill, which as indicated, is in a fixed position. The opposite disc which is mounted against the motor, rotates in a clockwise motion at a given speed. The distance between these two discs is adjusted according to the input and desired output size. This is easily changed by hand (using the handle on the front of the disc mill), or via the feed mill control panel (setting the actuator).

Once the desired settings are in place, the input material first passes through a segment where it's coarsely ground between two inlet rings, then passes through the grinding discs, where it's processed to the required size and consistency.

No matter the way in which you're trying to reduce the particle size of your inputs, disc mills can be



designed to achieve it. Shred, curl, granulate, grind, pulverize, blend, crack, cut, refine or hull, disc mills can process up to 30,000 kg/hr. Varying in sizes from industrial feed mills, all the way to on-farm feed production, disc mills are increasing in popularity. This is largely due to the previously mentioned capacity, and ability of varying the grinding degree in the midst of operation allowing the optimization of feed structure for groups of animals.

Sounds like a beast for power or energy consumption, no?

Not at all. It's quite the opposite! Skioold disc mills consume around 5 kWh per ground tonne, when grinding wheat. Compare it to a hammer mill, and the disc mill has 25% more capacity. Additionally, the motor is mounted on the disc that rotates, allowing all of the energy produced by the motor, to be used for milling. Not only is the efficiency appealing and easy on the pocketbook, the quiet operation is easy on the ears.

So, while the technology may seem new, thousands of years of advancements have proven to be effective. Check out the leaps and bounds the technology has taken by reading more at <https://westernagsystems.com/>





WORD SEARCH

Do you have what it takes to find all the words below?
Don't forget to check off the words you find!

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- CHICKEN
- CRAB
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- DOVE
- DUCK
- FISH
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- GOAT
- HORSE
- LLAMAS
- OSTRICHES
- OXEN
- PIG
- RABBIT
- REINDEER
- ROOSTER
- SHEEP
- TURKEY

CHALLENGE: Can you find all the words in 10 mins?



Can you find Lucy the Sow?



Name Submitted By: Mel From Bloomfield

REMEMBERING REG PENNER

Reginald John Penner – a pivotal factor in the Western Canadian Agriculture world passed away on March 29th, 2023.

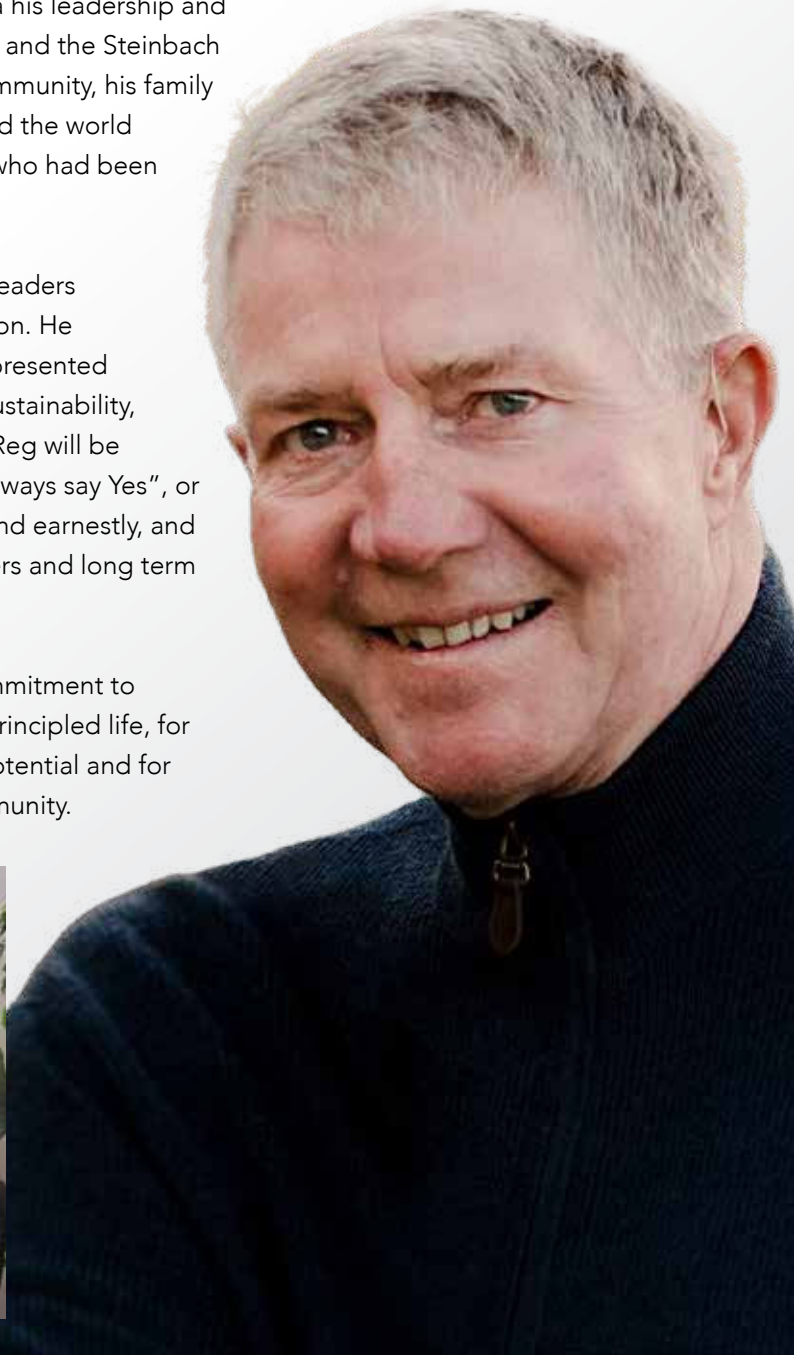
A leader of Penner Farm Services for over 40 years. A founding partner of Penfor Construction. A faithful husband to his beloved Ingrid, a caring father to his dearest Kara and her husband Tim, and a loving grandfather to Kailyn and Hannah.

Reg believed in growing with his customers, and the Hog Industry in particular, although volatile at times, was an incredible industry for Reg to serve and service. Through the boom years of the early '90s, Reg always held 2 full barns in inventory ready to go. This was in addition to the barn equipment that was rolling out of the warehouse to a customer's site – be it ProVista, Elite Swine, HyLife or an Independent Producer. Reg's fingerprints and DNA are now shared across Canada in farm service and solution companies from Ontario to BC, providing services to Hog, Poultry, Dairy and Grain farmers via the AgriHub group of companies.

Reg was also heavily involved in Community Development via his leadership and participation in numerous organizations including his Church, and the Steinbach Credit Union. His drive to improve the lives of those in his community, his family of companies and those in need of support in missions around the world distinguished Reg and he often spoke of the need for those who had been given much to take the opportunity to give back.

In a recent keynote speech Reg gave to a group of business leaders in Mexico City, Reg spoke about Building on a Firm Foundation. He shared stories about his career at Penner Farm Services and presented the company's Core Values as this Foundation of Success – Sustainability, Positivity, Partnership, Responsiveness and Resourcefulness. Reg will be remembered with admiration anytime we hear the phrase "Always say Yes", or "Total Care, Always There". He lived these values modestly and earnestly, and the results were always successful businesses, happy customers and long term relationships.

Although we will miss his quick smile, his wisdom and his commitment to relationships, we will remember and admire Reg for living a principled life, for always taking the time to encourage and show others their potential and for ensuring his time was well invested in Family, Faith and Community.



AGRIHUB

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Penner Farm Services is a leading provider of livestock equipment, supplies, and services. Since 1956, livestock producers have relied on Penner Farm Services to provide their entire scope of automated equipment for efficient farm management. Locations: Blumenort, MB, Lacombe, AB, Lethbridge, AB, Thunder Bay, ON

Western Ag Systems established in 2005, has a strong following with the Hutterite Brethren community within the prairies. While their focus has largely been Hog, Grain and Poultry, since joining AgriHub they have expanded to serve the Dairy industry as well with Lely Automated solutions. Locations: Swift Current, SK Saskatoon, SK

United Agri Systems is a prominent name in the Poultry industry, setting standards for Poultry houses, controls, ventilation and more. Established in 1998, they are a well respected and pivotal partner in poultry, grain and dairy. Locations: Abbotsford, BC

New Standard Ag was founded in 2006 in Manitoba, Canada, setting the industry standard for group housing within the Hog sector. Since then, they have expanded into poultry, becoming the trusted providers to Hutterite Colonies in both Canada and the United States. Locations: Winnipeg, MB, Sioux Falls, SD, Brandon, MB

Dundas Agri Systems is an established, family owned, and operated company launched in 1981 to serve Dairy Producers of Eastern Ontario. As a prominent provider of Lely and Boumatic systems, and well-regarded expert in milking, DAS currently is privileged to serve over 250 dairy farms in the Eastern Ontario region. Locations: Brinston, ON

Penfor Construction provides General Contracting services specializing in Agricultural and Commercial buildings. Since 1995, Penfor Construction has designed, built and renovated Hog Barns, Dairy Barns, Poultry Barns, Horse Facilities, and Commercial projects.

Palmlite Industrial Services, established in 2012, offers a wide selection of generators, transfer switches, pumps and electric motors for industrial, commercial, and agricultural applications as well as residential solutions for home and cottage owners. Locations: Blumenort, MB

Horizon Livestock & Poultry Supply Since 1996, Horizon Livestock & Poultry Supply has provided quality products and services to the local agricultural industry. Our experienced and knowledgeable staff partner with you to select the best product lines to maximize animal care, operating efficiency, and return on investment. Locations: Steinbach, MB

Cortex Agritechnology is a data driven, farmer first, technology solutions provider for producers of any size. Whether producers are looking for software to assist in feed planning, or the ability to connect their legacy equipment for insights into their data, Cortex can help.



We Build Farms.

From concept through production, our experienced team of agriculture experts are there for you. We have built a legacy of knowledge and reputation by helping producers run an efficient operation, first by understanding your business and providing you with state-of-the-art system design, durable equipment, reliable service, and supply.

