# NZPork Odour Management Plan Template

**INTRODUCTION**

This template has been prepared by New Zealand Pork to assist producers developing an Odour Management Plan. The grey text is a guide to what you may like to include in the plan and can be deleted. This is a generic template and it is important that the requirements of the council area in which the farm operates is incorporated into the plan. Keep mind that there can be both regional and city/district council requirements. Ensure that relevant consents are held.

Recommended reading prior to developing this plan:

* NZ Pork Good Practice Guidelines: Nutrient Management ([www.nzpork.co.nz](http://www.nzpork.co.nz))
* NZ Pork Good Industry Guide: Environmental Management ([www.nzpork.co.nz](http://www.nzpork.co.nz))
* Australian Pork Limited: Minimising Odour from Piggeries ([www.australianpork.com.au](http://www.australianpork.com.au))
* Dairy NZ Effluent resources at: ([www.dairynz.co.nz/environment/effluent/](http://www.dairynz.co.nz/environment/effluent/))
* Ministry for the Environment: Good Practice Guide for Assessing and Managing Odour ([www.mfe.govt.nz](http://www.mfe.govt.nz))

Note for Canterbury producers: Environment Canterbury gives the option of having a standalone odour management plan or including odour as part of the Farm Environment Plan (see Schedule 2 of the Canterbury Air Regional Plan- Content of dust, odour and smoke management plans)

**DESCRIPTION OF THE FARMING SYSTEM**

Describe the farming system and general activities on the farm ensuring that activities that may generate odour are included: e.g. a 1000 sow farrow to finish high health status environmentally controlled indoor piggery located at xyz, operation of a two-stage pond system, land application of effluent and carcass composting.

**ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Describe the key personnel and their responsibilities for implementing and maintaining this plan.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Position**  | **Responsibility**  |
|  |  | Ensuring key staff are familiar with this plan. |
|  |  | Ensuring planned maintenance of equipment and buildings is undertaken on time. |
|  |  | Checking weather conditions and making the decision to spread effluent or not. |
|  |  | Communication with neighbours regarding odour related activities.  |
|  |  | Investigating complaints |

**Type of Material**

Describe the materials that are potentially odorous e.g. composted spent bedding (sawdust and/or straw) containing solid manure from pig housing, effluent ponds, tanks, solids separation systems, compost piles, offal pit, operating irrigation sprinklers etc.

**Handling of material and potential odour sources**

Describe the handling of material on-site or the activities that can lead to an odour discharge. There may be multiple activities.

Example 1: Spent bedding (straw base) is removed from huts at the time of weaning. The bedding is formed into piles where sawdust may be added as well as pig carcasses. Piles are in a windrow style and regularly turned. The turning process and removal of material may expose material that has become anaerobic in the centre of the pile which may generate an odour.

Example 2: Effluent is removed from the piggery into a two-pond storage system. The effluent is then spread on pastoral blocks of the farm using a spray truck. The occurs via the conditions set out in the effluent discharge consent from the regional council (see copy in Appendix A).

**Location of materials and activities on-farm**

Provide a basic map of where the potentially odorous material(s) and activities are located on the farm. In the case of effluent there may be a map in the resource consent conditions showing the exact location of storage and the blocks where the effluent can and cannot be spread on to land.

**Intensity of the odour discharge**

Describe the characteristics and offensiveness of the odour. What is the intensity of the odour discharge? Is it light or pungent? Is it unpleasant or is it something that could be considered pleasant? Describe the times of the year or weather conditions when it can change.

**Frequency of the odour discharge**

Describe the frequency of the activities or discharges that are generating the materials. For example, daily, weekly, monthly, annually. Describe the maximum duration of the discharge and the time period e.g. daily between 7am to 2pm or travelling irrigator operates 1am to 3am.

**Location of sensitive receptors to odour from the site**

The people most sensitive to the odours have been identified in the table below including the distance and direction from the site.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sensitive Receptors** | **Location** | **Distance and direction from site** | **How often and in what conditions will they be effected?** | **Activities that may be effected** |
| e.g. residential homes, schools, rest homes, retail premise etc | e.g. state the address | e.g. state the distance in metres and if they are North, South, East or West from the site. | e.g. people could be effected outside of work hours and in weekends in strong NW wind conditions. | e.g. washing on clothes line, children playing outside |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Table 1: Sensitive Receptors

<insert a map with the above identified e.g. actual location of homes, school etc>

Note for Canterbury producers: An explanation as to how any adverse effects on sites that are sensitive to Ngāi Tahu, such as statutory acknowledgement areas, silent file areas or wāhi tapu or wāhi taonga are to be managed. If in any doubt, the landowner should contact te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu or the appropriate papatipu rūnanga. See: <http://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/>

**Communication with neighbours**

Describe how and when you will communicate with neighbours. For example, the farm will contact and visit, the owners/occupiers of those identified as being sensitive to odours in the table above. The farm will provide these people with a contact phone number to call if they are being affected by odours from the site and request times that they are particularly sensitive such as outdoor activities in the summer.

**Weather information**

Describe how farm management receives current and forecasted weather information.

**Operating Procedures**

Below are the procedures and rules implemented on the farm to avoid odour discharges beyond the boundary of the property and reduce the impact if there is a discharge.

Delete the sections that are not relevant to your farm and include any additional sections needed.

***Before commencing work***

Write what checks are done prior to commencing an activity that could generate odour could cause an effect to the sensitive receptors identified in Table 1. For example, the decision to spread effluent to land is must be made by the Farm Manager. The weather conditions are to be assessed from the on-site conditions and Met Service forecast before the decision to spread effluent is made. Record the date, time and wind direction and strength before the application is made in the farm diary.

***Effluent management***

If there is an effluent management plan that includes specific work instructions or procedures, then reference this here. (Note: NZ Pork provides an effluent management plan template).

If not, document any relevant procedures here e.g. turning compost piles, desludging an anaerobic pond, system design that reduces odour (e.g. covered pond), solid separation prior to storage, pond mixing, pond aeration etc

***Manure management***

Document how manure is managed including the application of manure to any non-pig blocks on farm. NZ Pork has an effluent management plan template which includes solid manure.

***Weather conditions***

Document how weather conditions are checked. What are the indications of wind strength on farm. Document the external websites or applications that are used to obtain information. Document the criteria for weather conditions to operate in. For example:

* Operate in fine conditions only.
* Operate when the wind is blowing in xyz direction(s) as these will take odour away from the sensitive receptors.
* Wind speed must not be more then x km/hour.
* Complete work by xyz hours if a frost is expected overnight.

***Timing of activities***

The resource consent conditions may not limit or restrict the times in which you conduct odour generating activities. However, the farm will have developed your own operating rules out of courtesy and to keep good relationships with neighbours. For example, no effluent spraying in the weekends or before a public holiday, if there is a school close-by then there might be no spraying during school hours or spraying only after 3pm or in weekends.

***Management of sheds and barns***

Document how spent bedding is dealt with to reduce odour including frequency of adding clean bedding, depth of bedding required to absorb manure and urine, frequency of clean out of all bedding in shed.

***Carcass disposal***

Document how carcasses are disposed e.g. composting, offal pit etc and how odours from carcass disposal is reduced. This may have been covered under composting procedures already so just refer to those.

***Response to odours***

Write what happens if a staff member, visitor or neighbour detects an odour on-site or off-site. Document a remedial action plan: For example,

* Identifying the material that is the source of the odour
* Immediately ceasing disturbing, handling or processing odorous materials operations
* Reducing the odour if possible (e.g. odorous compost could be covered with a layer of sawdust or soil)
* Farm Manager to contact affected neighbours to alert them that an odour event has occurred.

Refer to the Dairy NZ Effluent Technical Note: Odour Management for Storage ponds for ‘how to avoid pond odour problems’.

***Improvements and maintenance***

Document planned maintenance on important infrastructure as well as any infrastructure improvements that are planned in the next 12 months. Maintenance tasks may already be documented in an effluent management plan so refer to the plan here.

***Contingency plan***

A contingency plan may be documented in an effluent management plan. If not, document your contingency plan here. Topics to consider include: no effluent storage or storage containers getting full or overflowing, effluent irrigator stalls, breaks down or blocks, pump fails or breaks down, hydrant/pipe leaking etc.

**Record of complaints**

Use the form below to record complaint details.

**Complaint Details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date of complaint:  | Time of complaint:  |
| Nature of complaint:  | Name of person making complaint: |
| Complainant name:  | Complainant contact details: |

**Investigation Details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Temperature: | Wind strength: |
| Wind direction:  | Distance to complainant: |
| Person investigating complaint: | Investigation method: |
| Significant activities at time of complaint: | Investigation outcome: |

**Action Taken**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Corrective Action:  | Communications with complainant:  |
| Preventative Action:  | Name of person making complaint: |