

THE IMPORTANCE OF EMERGENCY PLANNING

OUR STORY

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INTRODUCTION

2012 - Contract Farrow to Wean Producer

- Built a 275 sow barn to organic/GAP standards
- Straw bedding requirements, and no crates
- 2 yearly audits, SOP requirements

2016 – Independent Organic Farrow to Wean

- Daily chores were the same, and same documentation was required
- Increased opportunities

2019 – Farrow to Finish

- Built a 2,400 head market hog barn to organic/GAP standards
- A lot of financial cost upfront with this expansion



PROBLEMS ARISE

August 2020

- Noticed more NIP's in gestating sows, that were confirmed pregnant. Everything, and everyone seemed healthy and happy

December 2020

- Day 1 - 20 sows stopped eating, 3 dead.
- Day 2 - 45 stopped eating, and 5 dead.
 - Vet came out and collected samples, and immediately recommended putting infected animals on antibiotic.
 - No clinical signs in the farrowing barn, nursery, and finishing barn.

December 2020

- Samples from the deceased sows, determined that our herd was battling *Streptococcus zooepidemicus*

DEVASTATION CONTINUES

March 2021

- Increased periods of “not eating” in both gestation and farrowing barn
- Increased random mortality in sow barn; and now nursery
- 30-50% NIPS amongst gestating sows/gilts.

June 2021

- 40 finishing hogs deceased between night chores and morning chores. No clinical symptoms were present during night chores.
- Some weeks we would see 1-2 market hogs dead/week, but during a flare up we would see as much as 80 – 100 hogs/day.

MAIN ISSUES WITH OUR DISEASE

FINANCIAL

- Just expanded our business
- Increased Mortality, and NIP's left uncertainty
- Cost with Re-population

DEADSTOCK REMOVAL

- No appropriate place for “mass” on-site compost
- Uncertainty with deadstock pickups
- Mortality continued to increase, and we could not remove it from our farm fast enough.

MENTAL HEALTH

- This not only effected our mental health, but our employees mental health at that time.

BY FAILING TO PREPARE
YOU ARE PREPARING TO FAIL

-Benjamin Franklin

EMERGENCY FARM PLAN

EMERGENCY FARM PLAN

- Initial meeting was a 2 hour zoom call; Our discussion included:
 - Aerial Maps
 - Overall acreage, Topography, Bush, Field Tiles, Natural Gas Lines
 - Outdoor view of Buildings, Bins, Laneways
 - Internal Barn drawings (layout, office, loading chutes, entry system)
 - Feed (storage, made on farm, or purchased)
 - General Traffic, and Pig Flow Movement between barns / farms
 - Manure Storage
 - Current Deadstock Removal Plan
 - Contact information for all industry personnel (i.e. feed, propane)
 - Neighbour overview
 - Surrounding species, and potential confidentiality issues that may arise

Farrow/Breeding/Gestation

Barn #1- Nursery Barn

-Cement floor, fan ventilation, straw bedding

Barn #2-

A) Farrowing 158x58ft (stalls, fan ventilation)

- 5 rows x 24 crates

-Max 120 sows

B) Breeding 60x58ft (stalls, fan ventilation)

- 6 rows = min. 150 sows

-1 row x 20 stalls

-3 rows x 30 stalls

-2 rows x 20 stalls

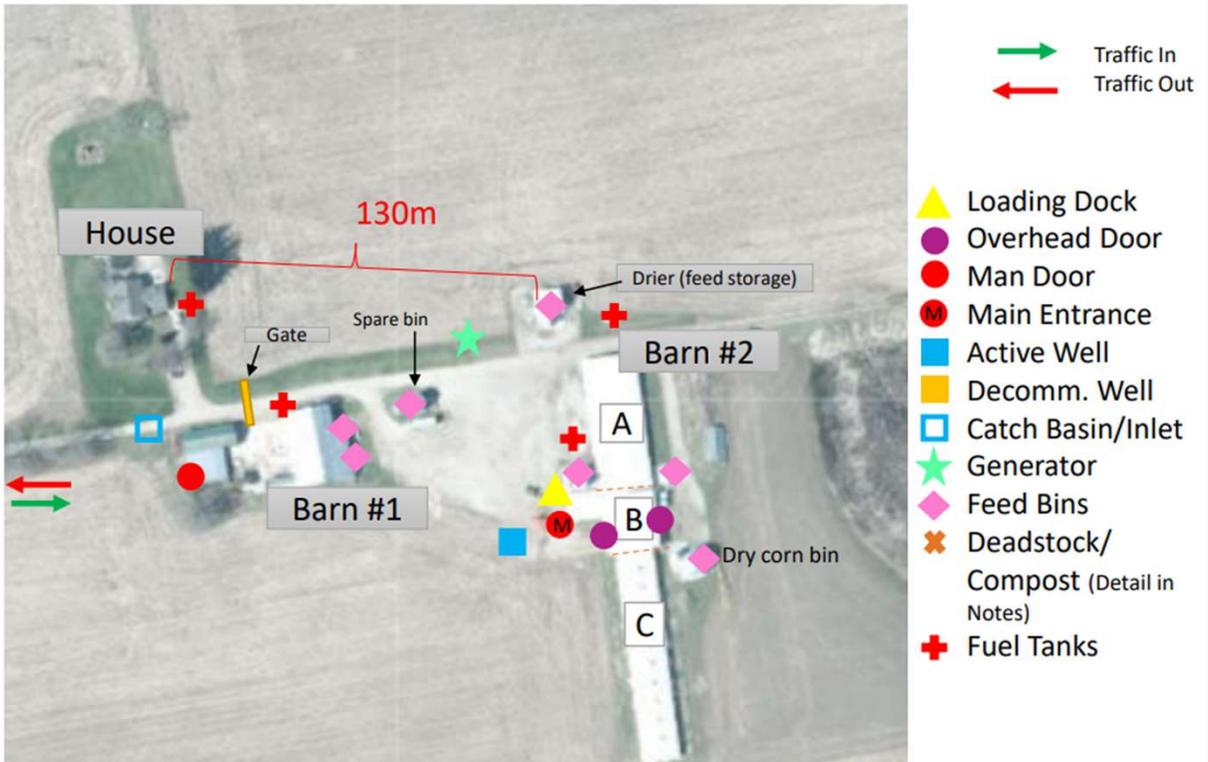
C) Gestation 242x38ft (loose)

-loose housing, 30 stalls for extra housing for breeding

-1 group of 130 gilts, 1 group of 200 sows

-Natural ventilation (curtain sides)

-Feed room on top level



Barn #3- Gilt Isolation 30x70ft (IN PROPERTY MAP)

-Naturally ventilated, outdoor manure pad for storage

-Straw bedding, straw storage 2nd floor

-4 months before breed then back to sow barn, max 120 gilts

- Fuel Tanks near Barn #1 are diesel
- Fuel tanks near barn #2 are propane

Soil Type: Mostly Type B, little Type A

Deadstock:

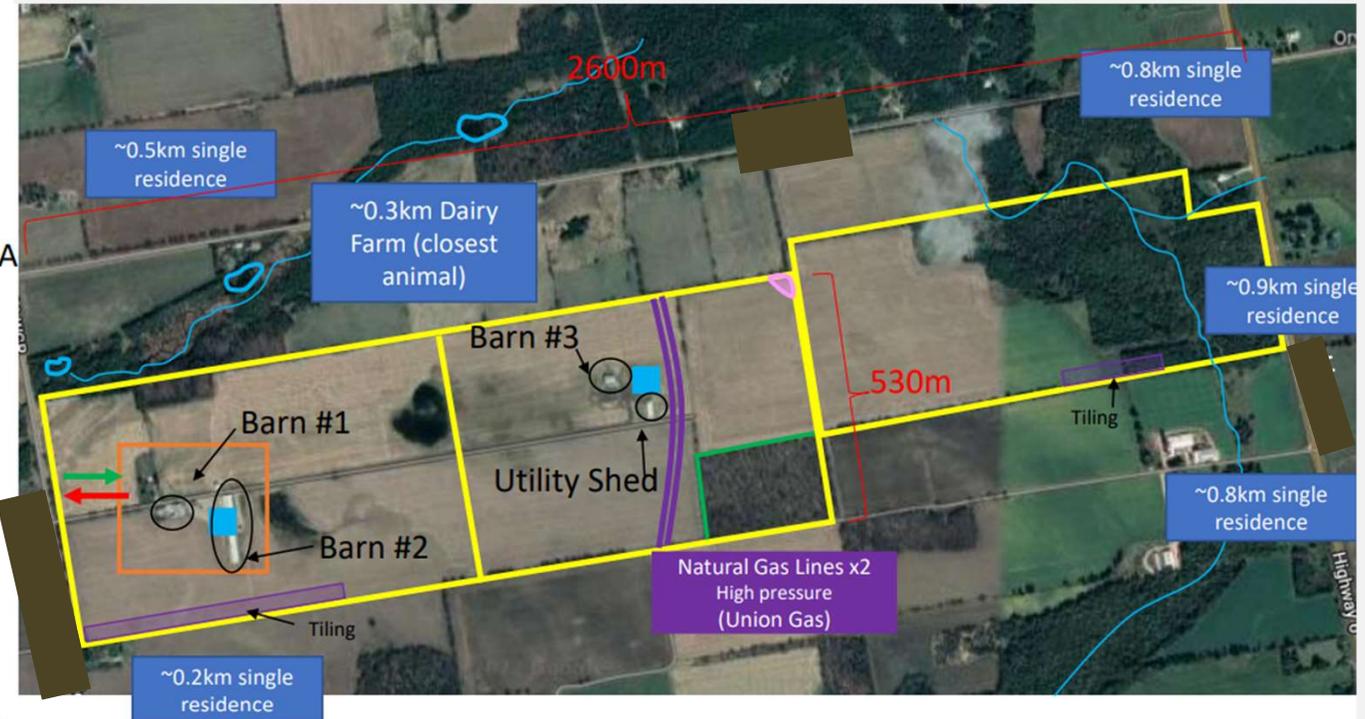
Tiling:

Parking:

- 53' trailer turn around
- Well maintained yards, snow removal and salted
- gate to lock access to lane way
- all roads maintained
- large hill at end of lane way ices over, must be salted
- Large trucks have had issues sliding down the road in winter

Utility Shed:

- equipment housing
- Set up to hold gilts if needed
- Fencing for 3 groups, water supply, straw bedding



Manure System:

- emptied 2x per year
- under farrowing: 158x58x4ft
- under breeding: 60x58x8ft
- under gestation 242x18x4 and 242x20x5ft

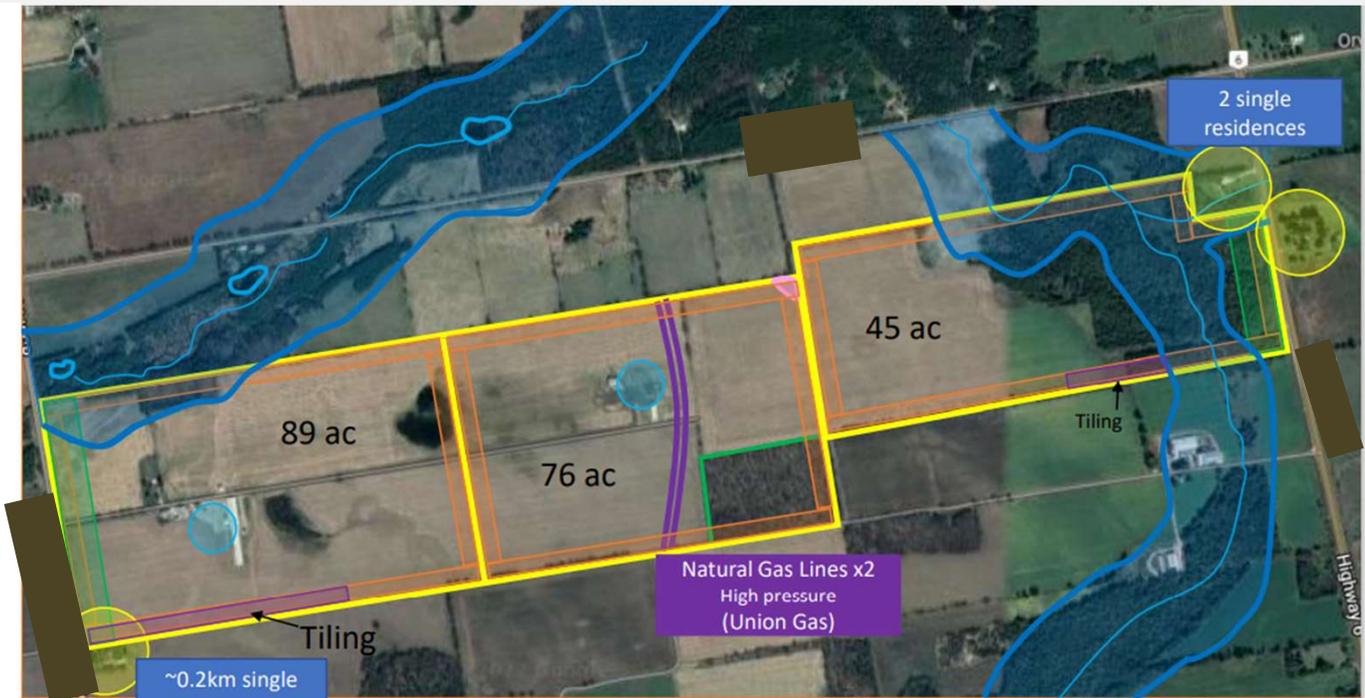
- Area of Zoomed Image
- Parcel Lines
- Open Drain
- - - Closed Drain
- Woodlot
- AA/D (Organic) Soil
- Surface Water
- Catch Basin/Inlet
- × Deadstock/ Compost (Detail in Notes)

- Traffic In
- ← Traffic Out

(600 sows/gilts x 250 kg) +
 (5 boars x 325kg) + (600
 feeder/nursery x 20kg)
 =163,625kg /2500kg per pit
 =66 pits needed

210 ac =210 possible pits

100% of hogs can be buried



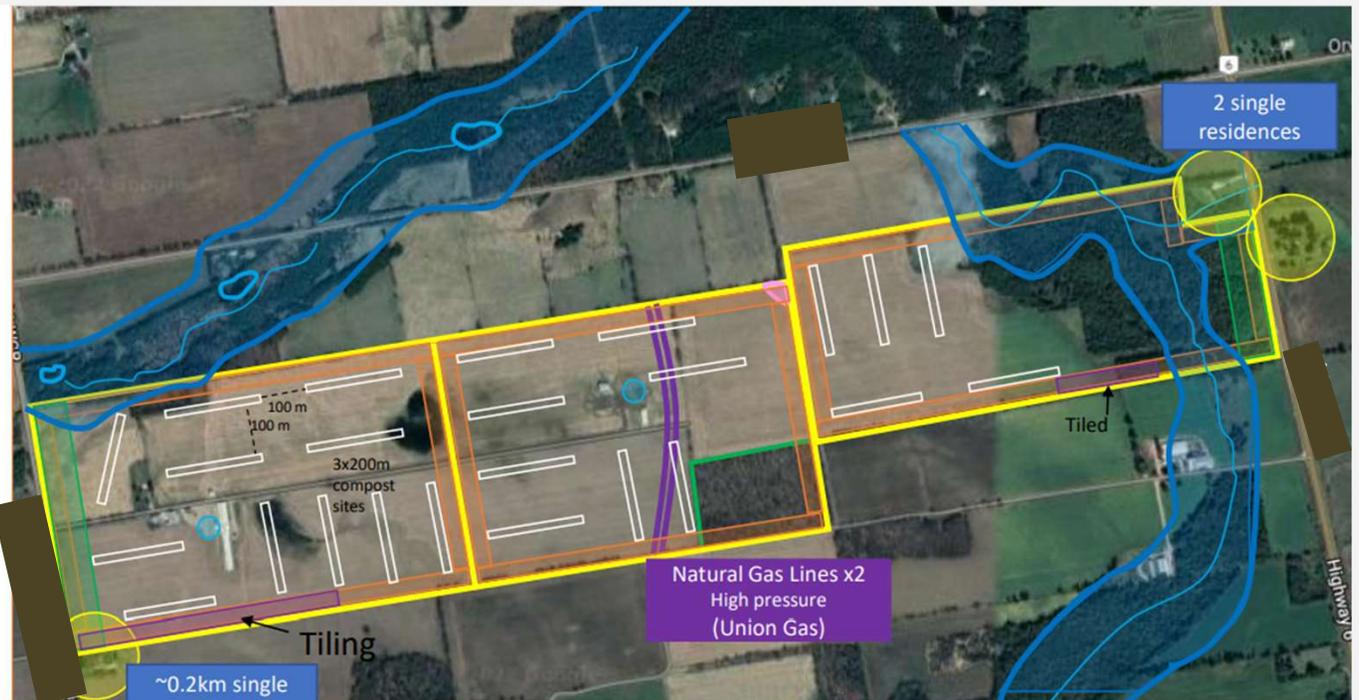
- 100m Drains
- 30m Highway
- 15m Lot Lines
- 100m Neighbors (all types)
- 50m Wells (all types)
- 100m Surface Water
- x Floodplains

Burial Setbacks

(600 sows/gilts x 250 kg) +
 (5 boars x 325kg) + (600
 feeder/nursery x 20kg)
 =163,625kg /120,000kg per site
 =2 sites needed

25 compost sites possible

100% of hogs can be composted



- 50m Drains
- 30m Highway
- 15m Lot Lines
- 100m Neighbors (all types)
- 15m Wells (all types)
- 50m Surface Water
- x Floodplains

Compost Setbacks

OUR FINDINGS

Hidden Tiles

- Through old maps at OMAFRA, it was determined portions of our farm had been previously tiled. Previous owner had no knowledge of this
- This discovery had the potential to effect how we would manage our deadstock

Land Use Issue

- We currently rent out our farmland, which would jeopardize our ability to manage our deadstock on farm
- New agreement was drawn up in addition to a rental agreement

Comfort

- We have a clear plan, and that plan can be made accessible to an authorized person if we are not in the right frame of mind to make those decisions.

CONCLUSION

When the disease first hit, we focussed on:

1. Managing the sick animals
2. Finances

We did not think of:

1. Large Scale Deadstock Removal
2. Mental Health Impacts

The Emergency Farm Plan

- Starts the conversation
- Localizes all important contact information
- Creates a plan
- Aides in overall disease prevention
- Brings some comfort with the unknown

Thank you for your time!

For all inquiries regarding your **Emergency Farm Plans**

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