Manitoba Hog Industry Review

I am writing in regards to the hog operations in our municipality (R.M. of Turtle Mountain).

The hog industry in this area has become very saturated, which will have grave consequences in the future.

The barns have become so large, housing 5,000 - 10,000 hogs in one location which is bound to cause problems.

I am very concerned that there is or will be ground water contamination, as most of these barns are built on aquifers.

Clay lagoons are not good enough, there should be liners in all lagoons or above ground storage.

I have seen slurry laying on top of the ground, after so called injection has taken place. I have observed dead legs protruding out of dead animal lungs, with no lids in place.

Odor pollution is a real problem, we have lived close to large scale hog operations for numerous years, and have had to close our windows many hot humid nights when the putrid smell of hog manure entwined.

Straw covers are mandatory in this municipality, but they do not work, as they aren't applied or they blow off.

We live in the country, and we are farmers, we have seen the slurry laying on top the ground and smelled the hog manure odor in our home.