



NORTH CAROLINA
Environmental Quality

ROY COOPER
Governor

MICHAEL S. REGAN
Secretary

S. DANIEL SMITH
Director

To: Animal Feeding Operation Owners, Operators-In-Charge, and Certified Technical Specialists

From: Ramesh Ravella, Animal Feeding Operations Program Supervisor

Date: March 24, 2020

RE: Annual Report and Waste Sampling

DS
RR 3/24/2020

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated disruptions to routine operations and technical support, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has made the following decisions:

1. DEQ will accept an Animal Facility Annual Report Form under State General Permits AWG100000, AWG200000, and AWG300000, Condition III.18 for a covered facility as timely if the report is received by June 1, 2020. This means that the deadline for submission has been extended from April 1, 2020 to June 1, 2020.
2. DEQ has granted a waiver from March 20, 2020 until June 1, 2020 for waste sample collection and analysis requirement for all permitted animal feeding operation facilities. This waiver will be re-evaluated for an extension depending on the COVID-19 outbreak status before June 1, 2020.

For routine waste applications, permittees have three options. They may use the most recent waste analysis, they may use the waste analysis done during the same time last year, or they may use the average of the past three years' waste analysis to calculate the quantities of nutrients that are land applied. Permittees need to make a note in their records of the chosen option. All permittees are encouraged to retain a copy of this memo in the facility records to show the lapse in the waste analysis due to COVID-19 disruption in fulfilling general permit conditions.

Under special circumstances such as Sludge Cleanout and Lagoon Closures, the permittees should collect a sample of the sludge and submit for analysis. The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) Agronomic Laboratory will be operating on a limited schedule and will continue to analyze sludge samples and other samples necessary for critical/special circumstances. The NCDA&CS Agronomic Laboratory's operating status is subject to change as this COVID-19 outbreak is ever-evolving.

Please feel free to contact Ramesh Ravella at 919-707-3702 and Christine B. Lawson at 919-707-3664 should you have any questions.



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