

Windrow Composting (Litter Pasteurization) in the Broiler House

There are a few issues currently driving adoption of in-house composting throughout the US. One of which is bedding materials cost, quality, or availability. At the same time, our industry has been under increased regulatory oversight as it relates to adoption of nutrient and waste management plans. The BroilerCat may aid in minimizing the need for onsite litter storage, and may reduce or eliminate the need for decaking houses.

It is likely public pressure will continue to demand our industry minimize the use of many anti-microbial products to treat for disease. In-house composting may aid in the reduction of anti-microbial products, improving the birds' immunity and reducing the darkling beetle population in built-up litter by natural pasteurization.

The BroilerCat straddles the windrow enabling it to turn the pile quickly and thoroughly without struggling to reposition the windrow. Using the serrated center-flow auger, it breaks up the cakes and utilizes the trapped moisture to aid in the heating process. The litter is turned again before it is spread out, effectively processing all the litter.



The essential point is that we see increased profits for many growers and companies that have adopted this litter management technique. The BroilerCat is an effective machine to accomplish all stages of broiler house litter preparation.

Conserve Litter

Reducing the amount of new bedding is an instant savings in material and time to spread it. The BroilerCat can pulverize the cakes back into safe reusable litter reducing the amount of material that is subsequently lost in decaeking by conventional means.

Composting is more thorough in processing microorganisms by insuring the inclusion of nearly all of the litter into the process. Having the ability to collect hard pan litter ensures a more complete process.

Complement Waste Management

In some demographics, it is difficult to displace litter from farms resulting in additional costs of logistics and large storage facilities.

The ability to sanitize and reuse litter eliminates the process of removing and replacing the litter in the house after each flock.

Environmental regulations and restrictions on water runoff will make it necessary to remove the material from the farm. Reducing material that must be moved from the farm will reduce the risk of post facility disease.

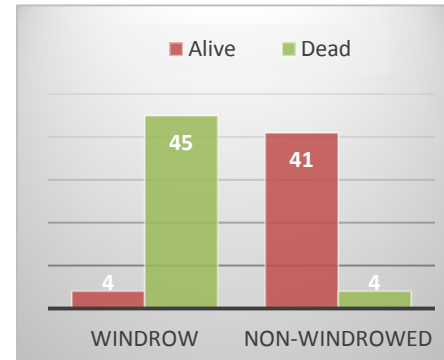


Reduce Disease Challenges

- Eliminates E. coli, Staph, Aspergilla, Salmonella, and Respiratory Virus.
- Reduces Aerobic and Anaerobic bacterial populations
- Eliminates/Reduces Cocci

Windrowing between flocks has emerged as a proven technique to reduce many types of pathogens in litter when combined with timely insecticide treatment, nearly eliminating darkling beetles.

This graph indicates an insect count recorded at the end of a windrow process, typical of average results found in this process.



The BroilerCat specializes in the process of making desirable windrows, breaking up the cakes and aerating the pile, which aids in the composting. Litter moisture typical in most houses is often adequate to achieve desired temperatures.

