

Slurry storage capacity at Closes Hall Farm

An application is being made for an additional 90 cubic metres at Closes Hall Farm. An assessment has taken place to show that the infrastructure is in place to meet the statutory requirements for slurry storage.

The 550 dairy cattle at Closes Hall Farm are housed for 365 days through the year. There is currently a shortfall of cubic metres which would threaten the farm assurance status required for the current milk contract.

No youngstock are housed at the holding.

The current statutory requirement for slurry storage to meet legislation is 4 months outside Nitrate Vulnerable Zones. In addition to faeces and urine from a cubicle system slurry storage should include:

- runoff from stacked farmyard manures not in temporary field heaps
- runoff from bedding materials, for example woodchips, straw-bedded corrals, stand-off pads
- liquid element of separated slurry runoff from stacked separated slurry solids
- separated slurry from weeping wall stores or strainer boxes
- rainwater that falls directly into a store or flows into store system
- wash water from fouled concrete areas (including parlour washing)
- rainwater runoff from fouled yards or concrete areas

The assessment of slurry storage at Closes Hall has been undertaken using the government's Slurry Wizard (attached separately) which shows the current storage at Closes Hall Farm is 8 months storage.