

“Truth in Advertising”

Alpenrose Dairy & Alar Dewatering

A Case Study

Alpenrose Dairy goes beyond being a producer of high quality dairy products; it is a family fun center. There is Alpenrose Stadium, “Dairyville”, the Quarter-Midget Racing Arena, an Outdoor Velodrome, Opera House, and they also host the Little League Softball World Series.

Behind the scenes of family fun is the function... the making of a premium dairy product and, in turn, its byproduct. Alpenrose Dairy generates up to 60,000 gallons of wastewater per day. The wastewater is equalized for pH and then separated using a DAF unit (dissolved air floatation). The biological wastewater goes to a SBR (sequential batch reactor), and the non-organic portion from the DAF unit is transferred to a holding tank. The SBR ferments organisms that produce dead bio-bugs, and the DAF generates a “float” of suspended solids.

The combined systems create up to 5,000 gallons of sludge per day. Though pleased with the performance of the SBR and DAF, Alpenrose faced future regulations and current high hauling costs for liquid waste disposal.

Warren Bailey, Alpenrose QA Manager, approached Bio-Systems International with this disposal dilemma. Bio-Systems said that they use an Alar AutoVac[®] Filter that generates landfill ready solids and clean effluent for city sewer discharge.

The project was turned over to Eric Trummel, who put Alar to the test. Eric began his research by sending Alar a 5-gallon sample of wastewater for bench testing.

Eric also looked into belt press and centrifuge technologies. More so, he found a filter press in a storage area that Alpenrose was no longer using. Eric field-tested the plate-n-frame and discovered that the thick sludge plugged the plates and the end results were unacceptable. The filter press, even at no capital cost to Alpenrose, was ruled out.

Deciding Factors for Alpenrose Dairy's AutoVac[®] Purchase

- ✓ Performed as Promised
- ✓ Self-Cleaning Filter
- ✓ Landfill Ready Solids or Used as Compost/ Spreading
- ✓ Clean Filtrate for City Sewer Discharge or Irrigation
- ✓ Return on Investment (\$72,000 Savings in 1st Year)
- ✓ Made in USA

Alar's bench simulation was successful, and Alpenrose made arrangements for an on-site pilot test. An Alar rental unit was shipped to Alpenrose and, after several slipstream tests, generated quality filtrate and dry solids. Eric knew, within five minutes of the Alar rental startup, that the AutoVac[®] “performed as promised”.

Alar designed and built an AutoVac[®] AV640 for Alpenrose. The Alar unit arrived pre-piped, pre-wired and skid mounted for easy installation; and it delivered results.

Alar advertises that the AutoVac[®] reduces costs; Alpenrose saved \$72,000 in the first year, proving there is... “Truth in Advertising.”

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