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## Methane gas as fuel

Posted by CarolV - 2006/07/01 18:42

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Useing methane gas as a fuel was brought up in a previous thread. I thought I would start a new thread for it.

CBS showed article about a large dairy in a small town that is using the methane gas from the cows dung to create electric power that runs the entire dairy, including the cheese factory, etc. They did show the left overs from the process, which they refered to as the best fertilizer going. Dry, grainy, and "clean" enough that they were picking it up with bare hands. It should make very good worm bedding.

The technology was giving the town new hope for the future.

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## Re:Methane gas as fuel

Posted by bestbait - 2007/01/21 13:55

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When I was farming cattle I had a setup to produce methane gas from raw manure. But the gas was used mainly for heating. My "leftovers" were always in a liquid state and when I was done obtaining gas from them I pumped it into a big poo pond. From there the leftovers were sprayed on my fields as a liquid fertilizer. The process involves big tanks where the manure and water are constanly being mixed. Methane gas and carbon dioxide are produced from this reaction. The gas is then passed through a CO2 scrubber , I used barrel lime cartridges, then a compressor pumps it into holding tanks. As for using the leftovers for worm bedding I'm not quite sure. The gas reaction is dependant on bacteria and they may break down the manure too much for the worms leaving a weaken material for bedding. I usually use peat moss, pulverized paper, and sand.

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## Re:Methane gas as fuel

Posted by Subike - 2007/01/22 19:51

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In the 70 the Christchurch City Council in the south island of New Zealand ran their fleet of service vehicles for the city on methane gas captured from the Christchurch sewage plant. There vehicles per all converted from petrol to methane, from 1200cc councilers care to the rubbish collection trucks. It was a saving of thousands of taxpayers money every year and was very efficent. With the advent in the late 80's of cheap Japanese Deisel trucks the practice stopped. The methane gas is now burnt off. A waste

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## Re:Methane gas as fuel

Posted by nineandahalfacres - 2007/01/23 12:30

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I was watching Dirty Jobs the other evening and the owner of a dairy farm in Vermont was the main focus of this episode; he composts his manure to manufacture what he calls ?CowPots?, manure-based pots for his wife who has a nursery. But he also uses the methane to heat his barn and home. I don?t know much other than that but you might be able to contact the family and find out more on the specifics. During the episode, the folks stated that they were in Vermont, however, the contact page states East Canaan, CT. <http://www.freundsfarmmarket.com/cowpots/contactus.html>

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