

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Laura Friend](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: rebuttal from Stan Taylor  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 26, 2020 3:22:09 PM  
**Attachments:** [rebuttal.docx](#)  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[Source Alberta Farmer Express.docx](#)  
[ATT00002.htm](#)

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Attached is the rebuttal and supporting article

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** May 26, 2020 at 3:17:48 PM MDT  
**To:** [REDACTED]

In 1973 my Dad helped me to buy NW 18 40 4W5. At the time there were no other people living around except two old bachelors down the road. I started to feed my cows at this 1/4 section then. There was no talk of environmental issues or problems with the neighbours. I started feeding my two neighbours' cows, as well as my own, in 1976. They told others and my business started to grow in that location. By doing the same for older farmers, widow ladies, and oil workers who couldn't be home, so they could get started farming. In 1980 I saw that I had to upgrade the place and started to put down concrete. I didn't know that the neighbours had any issues with the upgrades I was doing to the farm. A lot of neighbours' kids worked on the feedlot after school and during summer break. Many neighbours, including my current neighbours, came and used some of my equipment, whether to get started with their own place or just for general assistance, at no charge and sometimes with help from myself or workers at the feedlot. There were many examples from assistance on their operations using the farm's equipment to simply pushing snow or helping start cars when it was cold to get them to their work. The feedlot got very large compared to others in the area until 2002 when the effects of the mad cow crisis changed a lot of my customers' needs and plans.

In 1987 I voluntarily built a catch basin to protect the creek. This was done with the cooperation and the expert advice from the MD of Clearwater, the Agricultural Service Board and the Alberta Agriculture PFRA. This was done at my cost and is monitored with a weather station and has pylons to make sure that there is no seepage from the catch basin. The water quality is monitored both upstream and downstream of the catch basin to assure that the drainage is properly filtered. The South East corner of the feedlot was also involved in a pilot project with Clearwater County Agricultural Service Board. This was to help determine the feasibility of composting..

There has been no more construction to expand the size of the feedlot since 1989, only maintenance work such as improving the drainage and adjusting the pen sizes to suit customers.

To the best of my knowledge all of the neighbours that I have around the feedlot came after these provisions were put in place. The feedlot was up and running. If they moved in because I was sick or whatever I'm sorry if they misunderstood that this feedlot still serves an active need for the local cattle industry.

None of my neighbours work in the area or are farming for a living. Mr. Black works in Fort McMurray, Mrs. Berry is a teacher that worked in Sylvan Lake. Mr. Calvert is a welder that works in Edmonton and Mr. McPhee lives in Red Deer.

The feedlot has helped a lot of people with the marketing of their hay, straw, grain, and livestock year after year. Some area residents also buy pressed grain from the feedlot for their animals at home.

Since 1973 I have worked hard to be proactive and conscientious in preserving the environment and working with and for the betterment of the area. I sincerely hope that we can create harmony amongst the members of our community.

Thank You

Source Alberta Farmer Express

# Fifteen-Year Project Successful At Reducing Manure Impact



By [Alexis Kienlen](#)

*Reporter*

Reading Time: 2 minutes

Published: September 26, 2011

[News](#)



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A catch basin and filter strip system is minimizing the run-off of nutrients from manure from an 8,000-head-capacity feedlot near here.

Hillbrook Feeders, located on the southerly slope in the Blueberry Creek valley, built the system in 1995.

The idea was to create the collection pond to catch spring run-off but also high-rainfall events, said Gary Lewis, environmental extension lead with Clearwater County.

The catch basin is 150 feet wide by 300 feet long and was built at an elevation so that gravity can help drain the basin during the summer.

When the collection pond is full, water is released into a constructed wetland. Solids settle to the bottom and the water collects on top. Over the season, the pond fills up, solids settle to the bottom and liquid is drained through the pipe.

The constructed wetland was seeded to grasses, but cattails emerged as the wetland developed. Cattails are a natural filter and help purify water in wetlands. Vegetation that has seeded in the filter strip area has flourished.

Most of the filtering action happens in the grasses and in the cattails, said Lewis.

The filter strip is three acres in size, runs along the creek and is separated from the creek by a berm. Native forage species and willows distance the creek from the filter strip and the basin. At the end of the filter strip, the waste water is released back into the creek s riparian area. Tests have shown that the vegetation from the filter strip accepted the nutrients of the waste water without negative effects.

The idea is not to overload this area at all, so you re not going to damage the vegetation, said Lewis. The slow release is really important.

The project was developed by former owner Stan Taylor, Clearwater County Agricultural Service and Alberta Agriculture.

Spring water samples taken in 1995 showed high phosphorus levels in the creek.

Water quality was tested over time. Samples taken in 2000 showed the riparian filter strip system was a cost-effective way of removing harmful manure run-off pollutants. This system can be adapted to wintering sites and other areas where run-off is a concern.

For the most part, this is a very successful project, said Lewis.

Lewis said this project could be reproduced on a smaller scale. The Growing Forward program also has funding available for producers who are interested in creating these types of manure management projects on their land.

## About the author

### [Alexis Kienlen](#)

Reporter



Alexis Kienlen lives in Edmonton and has been writing for Alberta Farmer since 2008. Originally from Saskatoon, she has also published two collections of poetry and a biography about a Sikh civil rights activist. Her freelance work has appeared in numerous publications across Canada.