Anaerobic Digesters

Rising energy prices, broader regulatory requirements, and increased competition in the marketplace are causing many in America's agricultural livestock sector to consider anaerobic digestion of animal wastes. They view the technology as a way to cut costs, address environmental concerns, and sometimes generate new revenues by processing other bio-degradable products such as food processing waste and table scraps.

The key by-products of anaerobic digestion include methane gas, potting soils and purified water. The primary component, methane gas, can be used to fuel a variety of cooking, heating, cooling, and lighting applications, as well as the generation of electricity. Capturing and using the methane also precludes its release into the atmosphere, where it is 20 times more damaging to the ozone layer than carbon dioxide.

