

# Manure processing

Demeter-farm Marchstein in Schelten, Bernese Jura, Switzerland  
 „The treated manure is of excellent quality“



## Farm Marchstein, Schelten

### Operation

**1 Manure Pit**  
**Capacity: 67 m<sup>3</sup>**  
**Depth: 2.8 m**  
**with 1 OLOID Type 400**

### Period

**Since 2001**

### Success

**Organic high quality,  
 well rotted,  
 well mixed manure**

### Odour prevention

## Description Hof Marchstein

The Demeter farm is located in a valley below the Scheltenpass in the Bernese municipality Schelten between the cantons of Jura and Solothurn. It is a family business with 12.5 ha of agricultural land, with about 5 cows, 2 cattle, calves, 10 goats and some ponies. The young animals suckle from the mothers, sometimes some cows and goats are milked. In 2001, a manure composting area and a subsequent almost square manure pit were built from concrete. The very thin liquid manure with a very low solids content consists of the seepage of the manure compost mixed with rainwater and flows directly into the manure pit.

Manure and manure compost are treated 2 - 3 times a year with biodynamic compost preparations. The liquid manure is stored on average 3 - 4 months (in the summer) and 4 - 5 months (in the winter) in the manure pit and distributed every 4 - 5 months predominantly on the meadows.

## OLOID use

Treatment of manure with 1 OLOID type 400 on floats in a with a tinfoil covered manure pit, where under the cover is an approximately 40 cm wide air gap: The aim is a good mixing and rotting of the manure and the prevention of odour and decomposition with for plants and animals often poisonous products. The OLOID is immersed such that it simultaneously aerates and circulates the manure. It runs sporadically every 2 - 4 weeks either for one week daily for 1 - 2 hours or once for 12 - 16 hours.

## Success

The treated manure is of excellent quality: Well mixed, well rotted, organically high quality and therefore ideal for a healthy, fertile soil and a balanced biological circulation. Even if rotted compost is emptied directly into the manure pit from time to time, sufficient mixing can be observed with a longer circulation time.