



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

DR. TIM BORING
DIRECTOR

December 29, 2025

Mr. Chad Mills
4650 S. Ransom Road
Ashley, MI 48806

Dear Mr. Mills:

On December 2, 2025, I met with you to discuss manure management practices at your equine and row crop operation in Gratiot County. This meeting was prompted by a complaint received through the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD), Right to Farm Program concerning stockpiles of manure that could possibly drain into a county drain.

During our meeting, I observed the manure was not removed from the area of concern. This does not follow the practices outlined in the Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices (GAAMPs) for Manure Management and Utilization (Manure GAAMP). To correct these issues, I asked you to implement practices as described in these GAAMPs.

However, you have subsequently not submitted a written schedule of implementation, a letter of intent, or made the necessary changes in your farm operation. Thus, the complaint against your farm operation will be classified as verified, and the file will be closed.

The Right to Farm Program is voluntary, and you are not required to follow GAAMPs. However, MDARD is obligated to notify the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) of verified environmental complaints. EGLE may choose to investigate this complaint. Also, you may not be able to successfully use the Michigan Right to Farm Act in your favor if your farm operation faces nuisance litigation.

If you have any questions on this matter, contact the Right to Farm Program office at 877-632-1783 or me at 517-930-2966 or MahoneyS@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Stephen J. Mahoney
Stephen Mahoney, CCA/CPAg
Resource Analyst

Conservation and Stewardship Division

cc: Gratiot County Clerk

Hamilton Township Clerk

Ms. Molly Rippke, EGLE

Ms. Karen Mills



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DR. TIM BORING
DIRECTOR

December 29, 2025

Mr. Seth Bebow
Bebow Farms
2410 E. Monroe Road
St. Louis, MI 48880

Dear Mr. Bebow:

On October 27, 2025, I met with Mr. Kevin Bebow to discuss manure management practices at your poultry operation located in Gratiot County. This meeting was prompted by a complaint received through the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD Right to Farm Program) concerning excessive odor from stockpiling turkey manure next to property lines.

During our meeting, we discussed changes in your farm operation's manure management practices. On December 19, 2025, MDARD received a copy of your Corrective Action Plan indicating manure management practices to be implemented in the future.

You indicated that you are willing to maintain these changes. As such MDARD is classifying the complaint against your operation as verified and abated and the case will now be closed.

This complaint response did not determine conformance with all the Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices (GAAMPs) that may apply to your operation. Only the GAAMPs relevant to the complaint were reviewed at this time. For full determination of your farm operation's conformance with GAAMPs, please contact the Right to Farm office at 877-632-1783.

If you have any questions, contact the Right to Farm Program office or me at 517-930-2966 or MahoneyS@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Stephen Mahoney, CCA/CPAg
Resource Analyst
Conservation and Stewardship

cc: Gratiot County Clerk
Emerson Township Clerk
Kevin Bebow, Bebow Farms