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## Considering a digester?

Digesters are a very useful tool available to farmers today. Digesters can help you create additional sources of income and help you with your nutrient management goals. There are a lot of choices in digester technologies out there today. Be sure to get a technology that is going to provide the most benefit to you and your farm.

### Here is a list of important questions to ask when considering different digester technologies;

Is the digester Thermophilic or Mesophilic?

What is the electrical load and cost to operate the system?

What is the life expectancy of the vessel?

What is the Volatile Fatty Acid destruction guarantee?

Will my existing manure handling infrastructure work?

Is there a guaranteed retention time?

What is the maintenance cost? Is it guaranteed?

Is the system turn key and quoted costs all inclusive in regards to equipment, civil work, permitting, start up costs, warranty, and utility interconnection?

What is the digester technology's performance on dairies in the United States with and without substrates?

Is there any third party verification of performance?

What is the pathogen kill in the manure coming out of the digester?

How much dairy labor is required to operate the digester?

Will the digester enhance the potential of adding a post digester nutrient recovery system?

Will there be an experienced general contractor building the digester?

How long does it take to construct?

Is it recognized as proven with financial & regulating agencies?