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The Challenge





How to handle and utilize lignocellulosic substrates in biogas plants?







Findings revealed on the performance of Landia GasMix digester mixing system Alastair James Ward, Aarhus University





What is Landia GasMix?

Landia GasMix is a Patent Pending Digester Mixing System

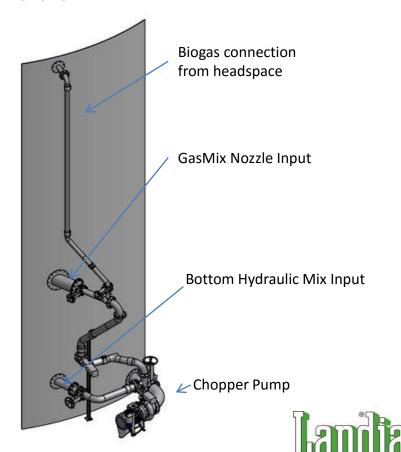
Externally mounted – no parts inside the digester

Venturi upstream of GasMix draws headspace biogas into liquid stream

Mixing by means of mixture of biogas and liquid

Part of the GasMix is Chopper Pump with effective chopping device in terms of cutting blades

More than 200 GasMix sold worldwide



Examples of Landia GasMix Applications







Pre-treatment

Digester Mixing

Sludge Mixing- and Treatment



Processes examined

- 1. Energi Viborg Spildevand A/S wastewater treatment plant: GasMix fitted to paired anaerobic digesters treating primary and secondary sludge and waste grease
- 2. Madsen Bioenergi I/S agricultural biogas plant: GasMix fitted to paired heat exchange tanks upstream of primary anaerobic digestion tanks

3. LBT Agro K/S agricultural biogas plant: GasMix fitted to one of three anaerobic digester tanks for evaluation prior to GasMix being fitted to all tanks

1. Energi Viborg Spildevand, Waste Water Treatment Plant

Parallel paired reactors @ 1600m³ each 37°C operating temperature HRT 20 days GasMix fitted to R1 – R2 hydraulically mixed TS ~2%

The methane production from R1 with GasMix was 2.7% greater than R2





2. Madsen Bioenergi

Treats 285 tons cattle and pig slurry, deep litter manure and maize silage daily

Single mixing tank feeds two heat exchangers (HE) of 25m³. HE1 fitted with GasMix system - HE2 fitted with pump mixing. TS 11%

Process maintains two line parallel operation to main digesters and post digesters before being mixed in final storage tanks (all 4600m³ 30 day HRT in each)





Very comparable process lines fed from the same mixing tank

Samples taken for viscocity measurement

Electrical power consumption to the GasMix Chopper Pump measured throughout the heat exchange process

Gas flow rate is not measured for individual reactors but a mass balance of volatile solids was made





Viscocity Measurements

Visibly very different, also "feels" different

Viscocity in HE2 (no GasMix) was 46% greater than HE1



HE1 HE2



Plant Mixing Requirements

The plant operator has felt confident to reduce the mixing in the digesters and post digesters following GasMix application in the HE1 unit:

| Tank | Operation time (mins) | Pause time (mins) | Mixing power per day (kWh) | Saving per day (kWh) |
|------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| R1 | 100 | 140 | 750 | 150 |
| R2 | 120 | 120 | 900 | |
| ET1 | 110 | 130 | 660 | 60 |
| ET2 | 120 | 120 | 720 | |



Mass Balance

Samples collected on different dates had different TS and VS but input to the HE tanks was almost identical on each occasion

There was a 11% greater removal of VS in the post digester that used HE1 (GasMix)

No significant difference was found in the main reactors, suggesting the more slowly degradeable material was affected by GasMix



3. LBT Agro

 Treats around 250 tons of liquid manure, deep litter, glycerol and a variety of agricultural wastes daily

- Three parallel reactors of 1500m³ each plus post digestion/storage
- > Thermophilic operation 50°C
- Gas scrubbing and grid injection

Data collected showed that the GasMix reactor had a 10.8% greater methane production than those without





What does GasMix do?

Improves mixing of floating layers by reducing density near the surface: floating material sinks into reactor

~ 11% greater methane production / VS reduction on high TS agricultural plants

Smaller advantage on sludge reactors (TS only 1.9%)

Pre-treatment effect on the substrate, more noticeable on lignocellulosic material

The Landia GasMix system causes particle size reduction and reduction in cellulose crystallinity



Summary of GasMix Advantages

Increased biogas production

Greater VS removal

Reduced viscocity = lower mixing requirements



