SUPPLEMENTATY MATERIALS

**Link to Texas Manure YouTube channel**

All the VR videos can be accessed through the following link.

<https://www.youtube.com/@texasmanure249>

Only the playlists ‘VR Farm Tour Series’, ‘VR Educational Video Series on Composting’, ‘VR Educational Video Series on Anaerobic Digestion’, ‘VR Educational Video Series on Animal Waste Separation and Disposal’ and ‘VR Educational Video Series on Mixed Farming’ were used for the study purposes.

**Informed Consent Form**

**Title of Research Study**: Delivery of extension educational materials on manure and mortality management through virtual reality videos

**Investigators**: Zong Liu and Danadhi Pamuditha Gunawardana Gunawardana Liyanage

**Why am I being asked to take part in this research study?**

You are invited to participate in this study because we want to evaluate the effectiveness of Virtual Reality (VR) videos for educating the public on manure management.

You were selected as a possible participant in this study because we believe you may benefit from learning manure and mortality management. You must be 18 years of age or older to participate.

**Why is this research being done?**

This research is done to identify if VR videos can be used to increase the awareness of the public on manure and mortality management.

**How long will the research last?**

It will take about 10-15 minutes to watch the VR videos. Completing the survey will take around 5 minutes.

**What happens if I say “Yes, I want to be in this research”?**

If you decide to participate, you will be first asked to watch a few VR videos. Then you will be asked to answer some survey questions about the VR videos you watched.

**What happens if I do not want to be in this research?**

Your participation in this study is voluntary. You can decide not to participate in this research, and it will not be held against you. You can leave the study at any time without any consequences.

**Is there any way being in this study could harm me?**

There are no sensitive questions in this survey that can cause discomfort. However, you can skip any question you do not wish to answer. You can also exit the survey at any point.

**What are the potential benefits of this research to me?**

The videos contain educational content on manure management. They may be useful to you if you are engaging in or supervising manure management operations.

**What are the potential benefits of this research to the society?**

The information gathered through this research will help researchers and extension specialists working on manure management, to effectively convey their knowledge to the public using distant education.

**What happens to the information collected for the research?**

The surveys will be conducted via Qualtrics. You may view the survey host’s confidentiality policy at <https://www.qualtrics.com/privacy-statement/>.

The results of this research may be published in a group format. However, no direct personal identifiers will be collected, and no one will be able to identify your specific input.

**Who can I talk to?**

Please feel free to ask questions regarding this study. You may contact the researchers at [danadhi@tamu.edu](mailto:danadhi@tamu.edu) or [Zong.Liu@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Zong.Liu@ag.tamu.edu).

You may also contact the Human Research Protection Program at Texas A&M University (which is a group of people who review the research to protect your rights) by phone at 1-979-458-4067, toll free at 1-855-795-8636, or by email at [irb@tamu.edu](mailto:irb@tamu.edu) for:

additional help with any questions about the research

voicing concerns or complaints about the research

obtaining answers to questions about your rights as a research participant

concerns in the event the research staff could not be reached

the desire to talk to someone other than the research staff

If you want a copy of this consent for your records, you can print it from the screen.

If you wish to participate, please click the **“I Agree”** button and you will be taken to the survey.

If you do not wish to participate in this study, please select **“I Disagree”** or select **X** in the corner of your browser

**Sample Survey**

This is only a sample survey. The actual survey was administered through Qualtrics, and data on questions 5,6 and 7 were collected separately for each video series based on the answer given in question 4.

**SURVEY ON VR VIDEOS ON MANURE AND MORTALITY MANAGEMENT**

1. Which of these options best describe your work?

○ Producer/Manager ○ Extension specialist/Agent

○ Researcher/Academic ○ Other

1. Do you directly engage in manure and mortality management operations or supervise/advise people doing manure and mortality management operations?

○ Yes, directly engage ○ Yes, supervise ○ No

1. How long have your engaged in/supervised/advised manure or mortality management operations?

○ Less than 2 years ○ 2-10 years

○ More than 10 years

○ Have not engaged in/supervised/advised manure/mortality management operations

1. Which of our VR video series did you watch? (Select all that apply)
   * VR Farm Tours
   * VR Educational Video Series on Composting
   * VR Educational Video Series on Anaerobic Digestion
   * VR Educational Video Series on Animal Waste Separation and Disposal
   * VR Educational Video Series on Mixed Farming
2. From a scale from 1 (no awareness at all) to 5 (very high knowledge) how would you rank your knowledge/awareness on manure and mortality management **before** watching these videos?
3. From a scale from 1 (no awareness at all) to 5 (very high knowledge) how would you rank your knowledge/awareness on manure and mortality management **after** watching these videos?
4. From a scale from 1 (not effective at all) to 5 (very effective) how would you rate the effectiveness of our VR videos in **educating the public** about manure and mortality management?
5. From a scale of 1 (not interesting at all) to 5 (very interesting) how interesting did you find our VR videos compared to conventional videos?
6. From a scale of 1 (not interested at all) to 5 (very interested) how interested are you in learning more content through our VR videos?
7. From a scale of 1 (not likely at all) to 5 (very likely) how likely are you to recommend our videos to your colleagues?