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Abstract

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Feed has a great influence on the composition of swine manure, which is the principal cause of odor. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to simply change the shape of pig feed and control calories to find a suitable feed form for reducing the smell of swine manure. The experiment was conducted on 15 pigs from July to August 2021, and a total of three measurements were done. Three types of feed were evaluated in this study. The analysis items related to odor of swine manure are complex odor, ammonia, sulfur-based odors, and VOCs. In the case of complex odor, dilution multiples tended to decrease over time, except for type A feed. The concentration of ammonia in all types of feed decreased over time. Most sulfur-based odorous substances except hydrogen sulfide at the first measurement were not detected. Representatively, Decane, 2,6-Dimethylnonane, and 1-Methyl-3-propylcyclohexane were detected in VOCs generated from swine manure. The major odorous substances in swine manure have changed from ammonia and sulfur compounds to VOCs. In order to reduce the odor caused by swine manure, it is advantageous to use low-calorie feed consisting of pellet-type.

Keywords: Odor; Feed; Swine; Manure; Farm

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Introduction

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24 The odor emitted from swine farms is a serious problem for nearby residents and hinders the
25 development of the swine industry [1]. Odor can also have a significant im-pact on human health and
26 quality of life [2]. The operational conditions such as com-posting facility aeration process, sealing
27 level, emission source identification, gas emission treatment and collection are considered as the form
28 of basic swine odor management [3]. In addition, pertinent management of livestock manure
29 composting can help minimizing the effects of odors, although odors cannot be completely avoided [4].

30 It is also very important to understand the chemical composition of the odor and the concentration of
31 the odorous substances. Ammonia and sulfuric compounds are the representative livestock odor
32 substances found in previous studies [5], but the composition of odor-forming substances is not simple
33 [5,6]. Analyzing individual substances that make up complex compounds can greatly contribute to
34 finding causes of odor and ways to reduce odor [7].

35 Until now, studies conducted to reduce the odor released from swine farms have focused on
36 remodeling swine farm facilities, application of odor reducing substances such as deodorants, and
37 identification of odor causing substances [8]. Although various techniques have been tried to reduce
38 odor emitted from swine houses, there is no pertinent odor control method suggested to meet efficiency,
39 economics and safety. Biofiltration methods such as biofilter, bioscrubber and biotrickling filter are
40 proven efficient to reduce odor emission in pig building by many researchers [9]. However, they can be
41 difficult to operate and more expensive than other odor reduction strategies in terms of construction
42 cost. The chemical methods using many different oxidizing agents like ozone are also effective in
43 reducing malodors in pig building, but these have relatively short periods' effectiveness and can be
44 potentially toxic to farmers and pigs if applied excessively [10]. However, these methods can be suitable
45 as countermeasures after the occurrence of odors.

46 The swine manure is the principal cause of odor derived from swine farms [11]. In addition, main
47 factor affecting the composition of swine manure was reported to be the feed [12]. Previous research
48 has shown that amino acid supplementation in feed affects odor intensity, ammonia release and swine
49 manure properties such as PH, ammonia, nitrogen, sulfur, phenolic compounds and VFA. Their results
50 showed that supplementing crystal-line S-containing AA(amino acid) in surplus of the requirement
51 increased odor emission ($P < 0.001$) and odor intensity ($P < 0.05$) and reduced odor hedonic tone ($P <$
52 0.05) from the air above the manure pits. To reduce odor from pig manure, dietary S-containing AA
53 should be minimized to just meet the recommended requirements [13]. However, there are little
54 information on the generation pattern of swine odor substance according to feed processing form and
55 composition.

56 Therefore, the purpose of this study is to find a form of feed suitable for reducing odors by changing
57 the processing mode and caloric value of feed that directly affects swine manure composition.

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ACCEPTED

Method

Subject

The experimental procedure was approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee at Seoul National University of Science & Technology (approval No. : 2021-0002). The experimental period was between July and August in 2022. Three types of feed (A type: powder & general calorie feed, B type: pellet & general calorie feed, C type: pellet & low calorie feed) were evaluated in this study. Table 1 shows the general ingredient information for feed.

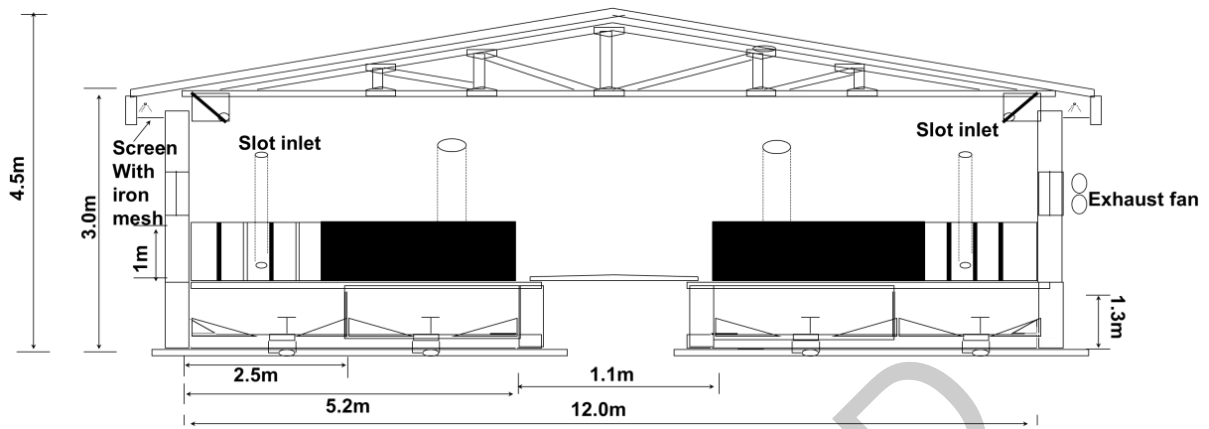
Table 1. General ingredient information on feed.

Item	Type A	Type B	Type C
Dry matter, %	87.82	87.64	87.37
Gross energy(GE), kcal/kg	3,907	3,844	3,820
Crude protein(CP), %	12.51	12.73	13.71
Ether extract(EE), %	5.20	4.26	4.29
Crude ash(Ash), %	3.72	3.86	3.82
Neutral detergent fiber(NDF), %	13.66	14.46	11.75
Acid detergent fiber (ADF), %	2.89	3.57	3.31

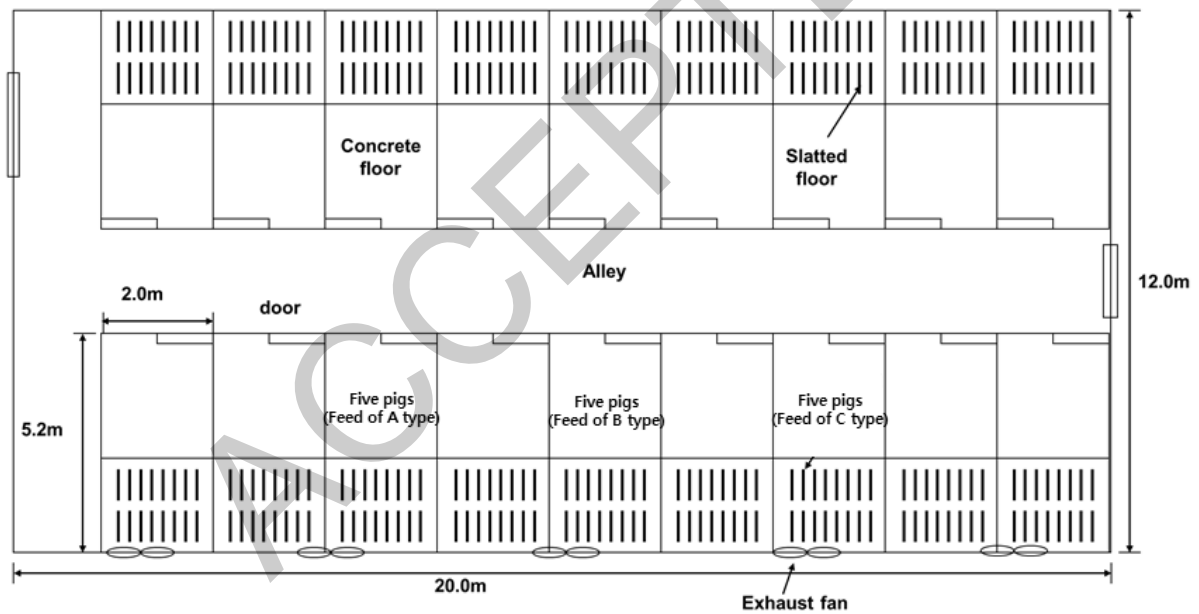
Experimental swine house (4.5m×12.0m×3.0m) selected in this study was located at the National Institute of Animal Science, Korea. It had two pig housing rooms and 10 pens (L:6.0m X W:5.2m X H:0.5m) in each room installed with open partitions and constructed from galvanized steel spindles 3.7cm apart, on either side of a 1.1m wide central alley. A 1.3m deep manure pit was under a partially slatted and concrete floor with a pit surface area of 22.8m². Inside, the building was insulated with 0.8mm steel plate and 50mm styrofoam in the side walls and ceiling. The ventilation mode in the pig building is a negative pressure system equipped in the wall. The 70cm-diameter wall exhaust fan in the compartment removed the stale air. Fundamentally, an automatic controller adjusted the wall ventilation rate based on the optimal room temperature (15-25°C) and relative humidity (40-70%) for growing pig well. The layout of the experimental swine house is well described in figure 1.

Total fifteen crossbred (Landrace×Yorkshire×Duroc) growing pigs with the approximate average weight of 50kg were housed and five pigs were placed shown in Figure 1 to investigate the odor generation pattern according to three types of feed with different processing form. All the pigs were feeder-fed at 16% protein corn-soybean meal-based diet that satisfied the NRC(National Research

86 Council) nutrient requirements. The feeders were manually filled once every two days. Pigs were given
87 ad libitum access to feed and water supplied by a nipple.
88



(a) View of vertical cross-section



(b) View of horizontal cross-section

Figure 1. The layout of experimental swine house

100 **Measurements**

101

102 1kg of swine manure collected from pit of three treatment pens was placed in a glass bottle and
 103 maintained at 25°C through a thermostat and air was sampled thrice every two weeks after the initial
 104 concentration measurement to evaluate the odor generation pattern during experimental period. The
 105 odorous air samples were collected in a 3L capacity Tedlar bag using portable air sampler (FIBOX,
 106 Odortech, South Korea). Complex odors were analyzed by using human sense of smell according to the
 107 standard test protocol presented by the Korean Ministry of Environment. The concentration of ammonia
 108 and the sulfur-based substance (Hydrogen sulfide, Methyl mercaptan, Dimethyl sulfide, Dimethyl
 109 disulfide), which are the main substances of swine odor, were measured using a direct recording
 110 measuring device (BL-002, Baseline, Korea) connected to the Tedlar bag. The operation mode of the
 111 direct recording measuring device was continuous monitoring in seconds for 1 minute using the periodic
 112 measurement mode and the average of values measured for 1 minute was used as a representative value.

113 For qualitative analysis of swine manure odor substances, air samples were collected in a solid
 114 adsorption tube (Tenax TA tube, Carbograph1, U.S.) at a flow rate of 100ml/min for 20 minutes. After
 115 condensing and adsorbing the collected air sample to 2L each, TD (APK, KNR, Korea)-GC (7820A,
 116 Agilent, USA)-MS (5977E, Agilent, USA) was used for detecting individual volatile organic
 117 compounds. Table 2 shows the detailed analysis conditions of TD-GC-MS.

118

119 **Table 2. Analysis conditions of TD-GC-MS**

TD-GC-MS		
Thermal desorption (APK720R)		
Valve oven temperature	150°C	
Transfer line temperature	180°C	
Concentration	1st Desorption temperature	300°C
	Focusing temperature	-20°C
	Focusing time	10 min
Desorption	Temperature	300°C
	Desorption time	3 min
GC-MS (Agilent7820A-5977E MSD)		
Inlet	Temperature	250°C
	Flow rate	1 ml/min
Oven temperature	35°C (20min) 5°C/min to 50°C (10min) 5°C/min to 100°C (10min) 5°C/min to 130°C (10min) 5°C/min to 185°C (0min) (total 80 min)	
MS	Aux-1 Temperature	300°C
	MS source	230°C
	MS quad	150°C

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Results

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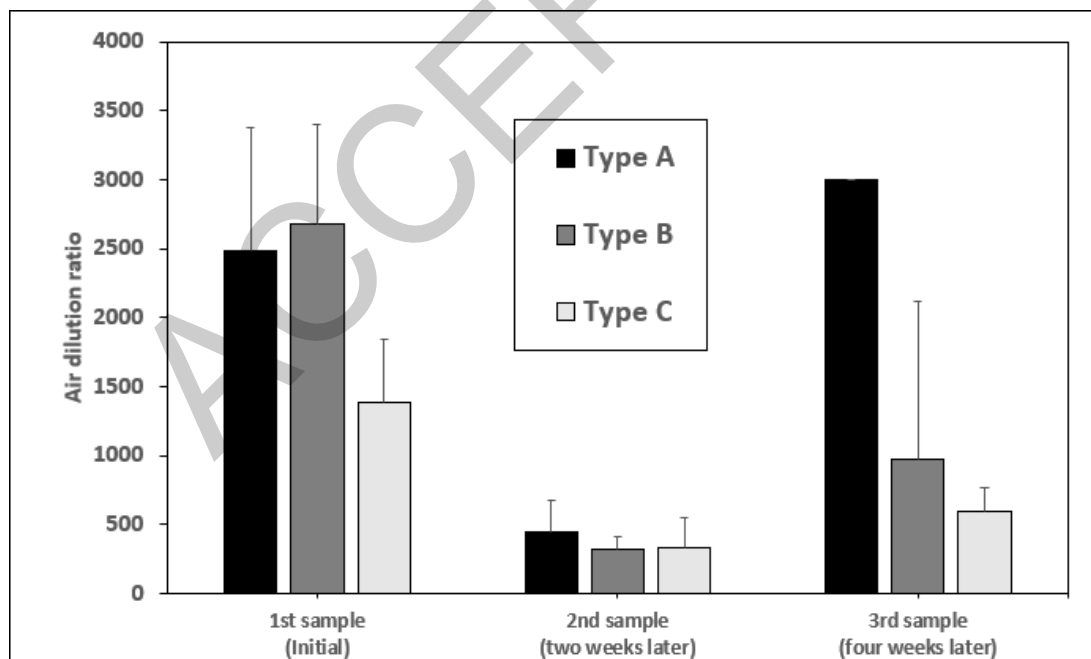
122 **Complex Odor**

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124 The results of sensory evaluation for complex odor are shown in Figure 2. In this data, a high air
125 dilution ratio means a severe odor. In all types of feed, the highest air dilution ratio was found at the
126 first sampling and it was very low at the second sampling. However, it tended to increase again at the
127 third sampling.

128 In case of type A feed, the air dilution ratio was measured at an average of $2,481(\pm 890)$ when first
129 sampled, but at the last sampling, it was measured at $3,000(\pm 0)$ higher than the first, indicating that the
130 odor became worse. For type B feed, the air dilution ratio was determined to be the highest at
131 $2,678(\pm 719)$ at the first sampling, but the odor decreased the most at the second sampling over time.
132 And it was found that the odor increased when the last sample was collected four weeks later. For type
133 C feed, the air dilution ratio was $1,386(\pm 451)$ at the first sampling and $486(\pm 217)$ at the second sampling,
134 and the odor level decreased as time passed. However, the type C feed also showed an air dilution ratio
135 of $595(\pm 165)$ in the sampling after 4 weeks (third sampling), indicating that the odor level increased
136 again.

137



138 **Figure 2. Temporal trend of the air dilution ratio (complex odor) by feed types**

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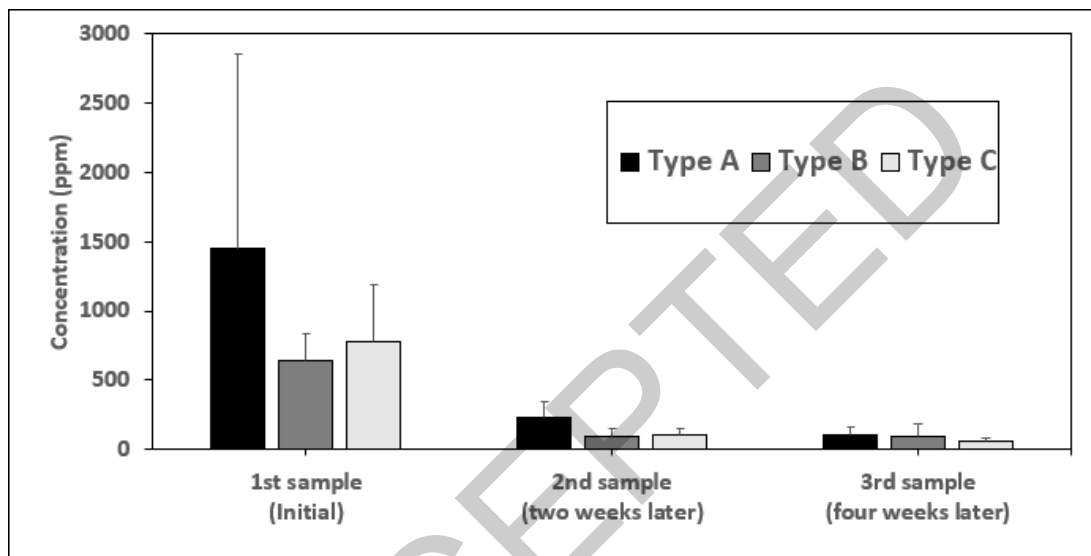
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144 **Ammonia**

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As shown in Figure 3, ammonia concentration decreased over time in all types of feed. The Type A feed reduced ammonia concentration from 1,452(±1,395) ppm at the first sampling to 234(±115) ppm at the second sampling and 111(±48.6) ppm at the third sampling continuously. The type B feed decreased from 646(±188) ppm at the first sampling to 96(±54.3) ppm at the second sampling, but slightly increased to 100(±89.5) ppm at the third sampling. The type C feed showed a stable decrease in concentration from 780(±413) ppm to the last 60(±21.7) ppm.



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Figure 3. Temporal trend of ammonia concentration by feed type

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Sulphur-based odorous substances

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At the first sampling, all substances (MM, DMS, DMDS) except H₂S were below the detection limit or the quantitative limit. Hydrogen sulfide was measured at a level of 3.26 to 3.72 ppm in all samples regardless of feed type. In the case of the second sampling, 1.29 ppm of DMDS was detected in swine manure sample No. 1 among Type A feeds, and 0.18 ppm of DMS was detected in swine manure sample No. 2. In addition, 0.22 ppm of MM and 0.70 ppm of DMS were detected in the manure sample No. 3. H₂S was detected at 0.27 ppm in the 12th odor sample of Type C feed. And all the rest of swine manure samples were below the detection limit or below the quantitative limit. The third sampling was analyzed below the quantitative limit in all samples (refer to Table 3).

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Table 3. Analysis results of sulphur-based odorous substances

Sampling	Feed type	No.	Concentration(ppm)			
			H ₂ S	MM	DMS	DMDS

1 st sample (Initial)	A	1	3.65	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
		2	3.71	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
		3	3.72	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
		4	3.68	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
		5	3.71	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
	B	6	3.36	n.d.	n.d.	b.d.l
		7	3.26	n.d.	n.d.	b.d.l
		8	3.44	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
		9	3.49	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
		10	3.37	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
	C	11	3.64	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
		12	3.4	n.d.	b.d.l	n.d.
		13	3.43	n.d.	b.d.l	n.d.
		14	3.43	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
		15	3.62	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
2 nd sample (two weeks later)	A	1	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	1.29
		2	n.d.	b.d.l.	0.18	b.d.l.
		3	n.d.	0.22	0.7	b.d.l.
		4	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
		5	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
	B	6	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	b.d.l.
		7	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	b.d.l.
		8	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
		9	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
		10	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
	C	11	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
		12	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
		13	n.d.	n.d.	b.d.l.	b.d.l.
		14	0.27	n.d.	n.d.	b.d.l.
		15	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	b.d.l.
3 rd sample (four weeks later)	A, B, C	1~15	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.

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- H₂S: hydrogen sulfide, MM: methyl mercaptan, DMS: dimethyl sulfide, DMDS: dimethyl disulfide

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- n.d.: not detected

171

- b.d.l.: below detection limit

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Qualitative analysis of VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds)

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Tables 4 to 12 show representative VOCs for each feed type detected through qualitative analysis.

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The major VOCs were analyzed by sorting the materials in the order of areas, and all chromatograms

177

had the same abundance range for mutual comparison. At the first sample, Decane (n-Decane, 2-

178 Methyldecane, 3-Methyldecane, 4-Methyldecane, 5-Methyldecane, etc.), 2, 6-Dimethylnonane, and
 179 1-Methyl-3-propylcyclohexane were commonly detected as shown in Table 4~6.

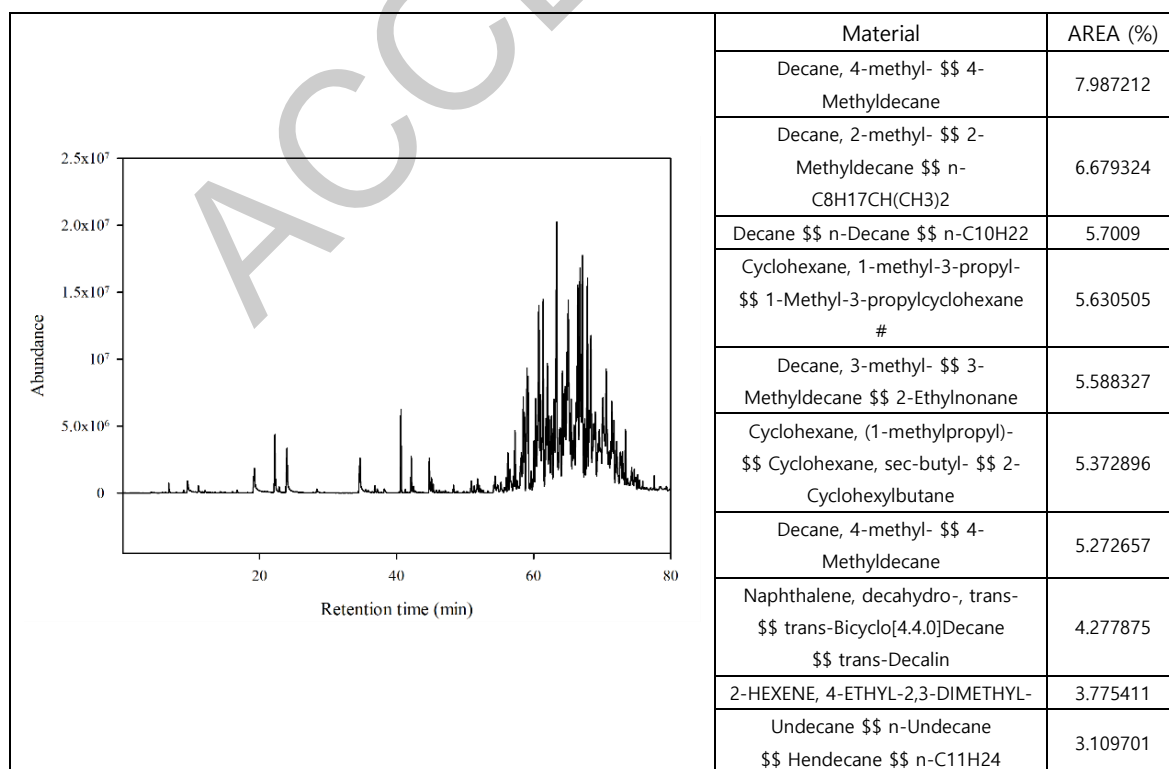
180 At the second sample of type A feed, Decane (n-Decane, 2-Methyldecane, 3-Methyldecane, 4-
 181 Methyldecane, 5-Methyldecane, etc.), and methyl disulfide were analyzed as the main components of
 182 VOCs. Overall the Decane accounted for most of the top areas of type A feed as shown in Table 7.

183 In case of type B feed, components such as Decane (n-Decane, 2-Methyldecane, 3-Methyldecane, 4-
 184 Methyldecane, 5-Methyldecane, etc.), n-Undecane, methyl disulfide, and Dimethylsiloxane cyclic
 185 trimer were analyzed as major VOCs. Overall about half of the top areas were Decane and the other
 186 half were other substances as shown in Table 8.

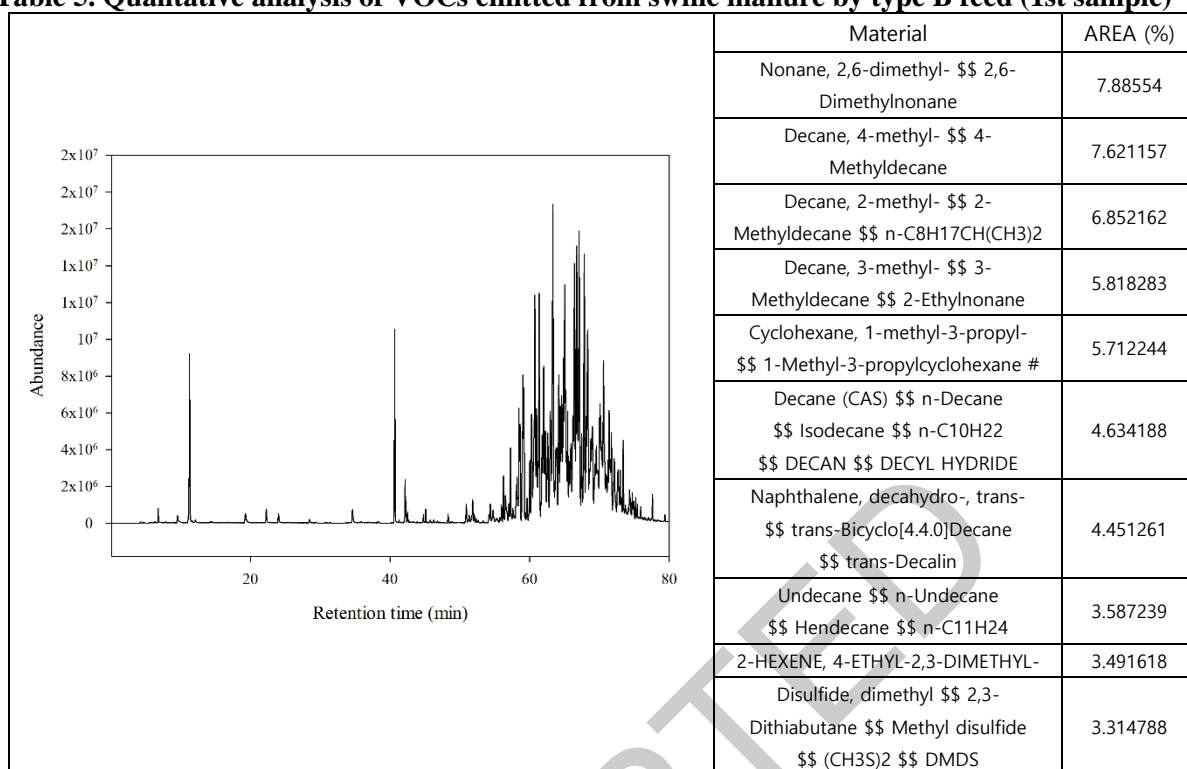
187 In case of Type C feed, the top three materials in the area were composed of only the four substances
 188 listed above and the substances were the main VOCs as shown in Table 9.

189 At the third sample, Butyl alcohol, Methyl disulfide, and n-Dodecane were analyzed as major VOCs
 190 in the case of type A. Many other substances were also detected besides major substances in case of
 191 type A feed as shown in Table 10. For type B and C feed, Dimethylacetamide, Dimethylsiloxane cyclic
 192 trimer, 1,1,3,3,5,5-Hexamethyl-cyclohexasiloxane, and n-Dodecane were analyzed as the main VOCs.
 193 In both type B and C feed, Dimethylacetamide accounted for the largest number of areas and the area
 194 itself of all materials was also smaller than the first and second sampling days as shown in 11 and 12.
 195

196 **Table 4. Qualitative analysis of VOCs emitted from swine manure by type A feed (1st sample)**

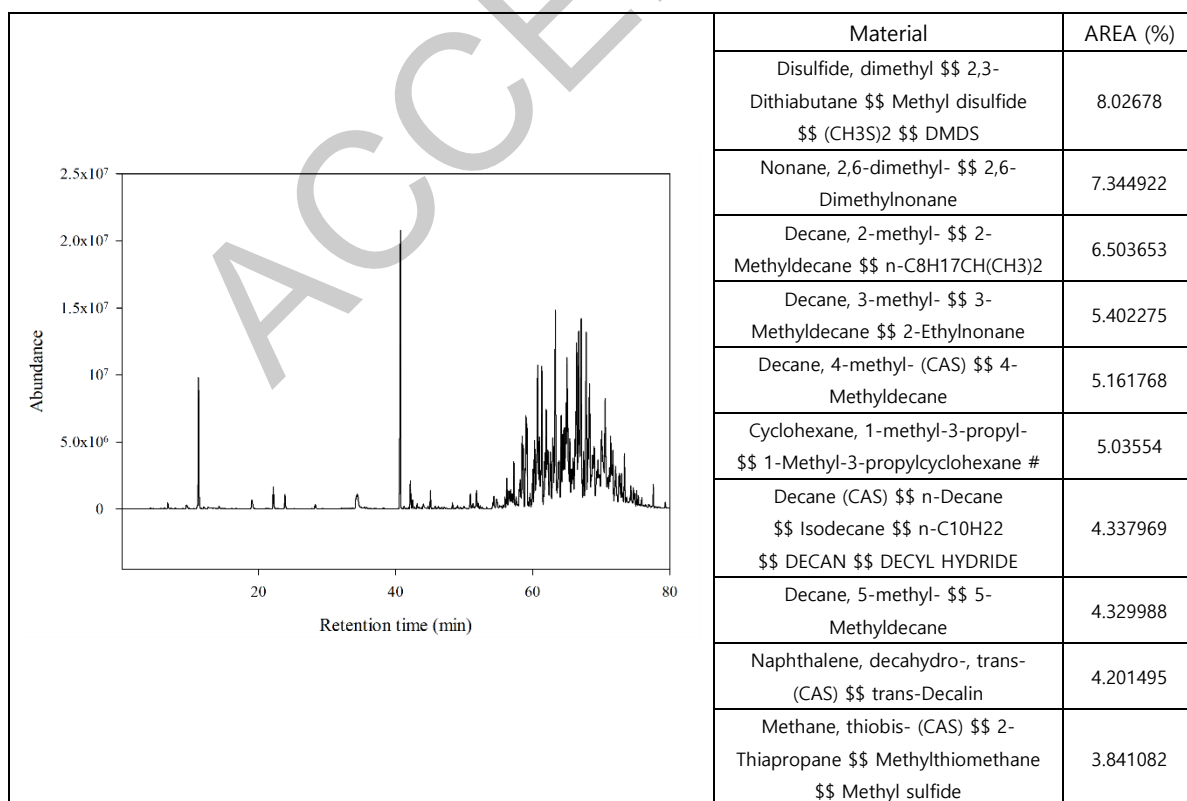


198 **Table 5. Qualitative analysis of VOCs emitted from swine manure by type B feed (1st sample)**



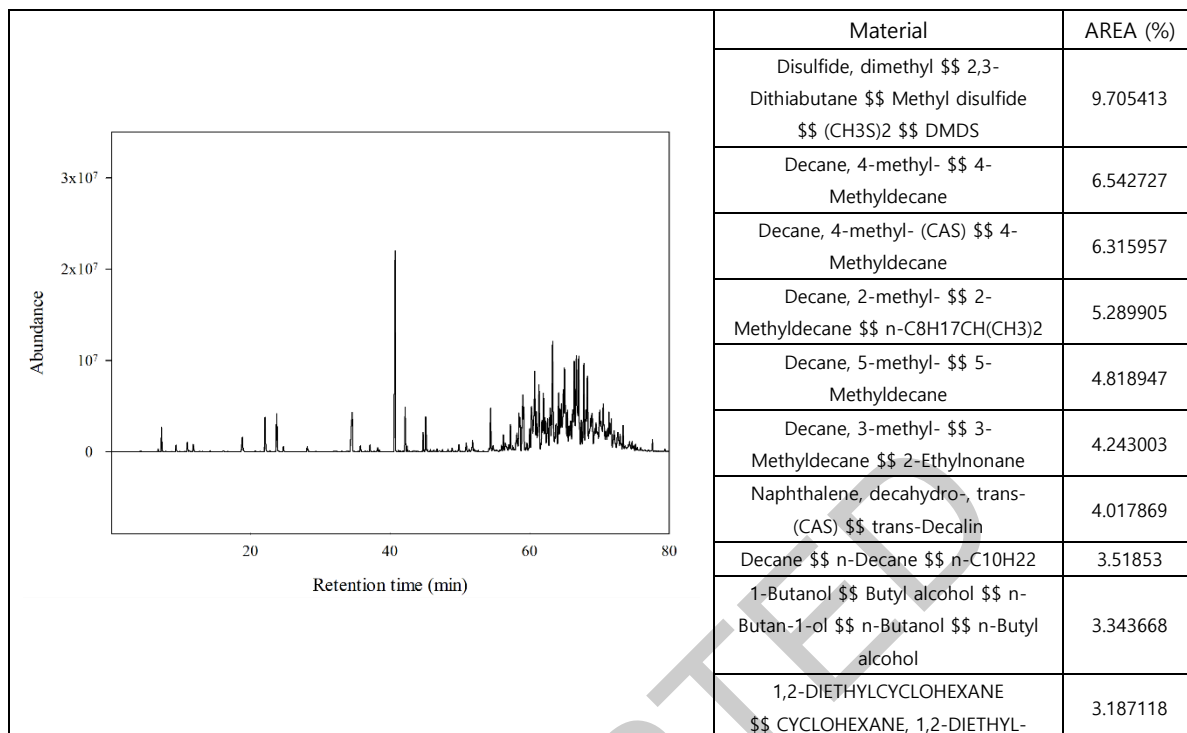
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200 **Table 6. Qualitative analysis of VOCs emitted from swine manure by type C feed (1st sample)**



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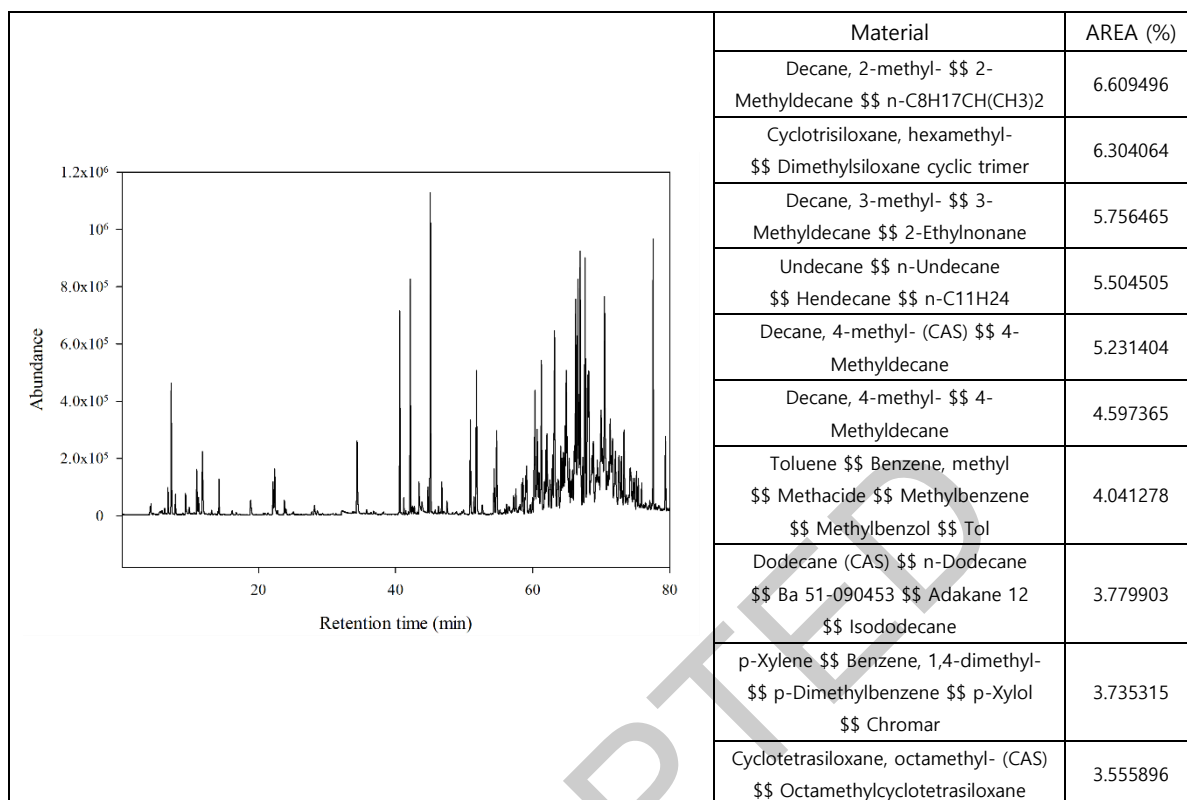
202 **Table 7. Qualitative analysis of VOCs emitted from swine manure by type A feed (2nd sample)**



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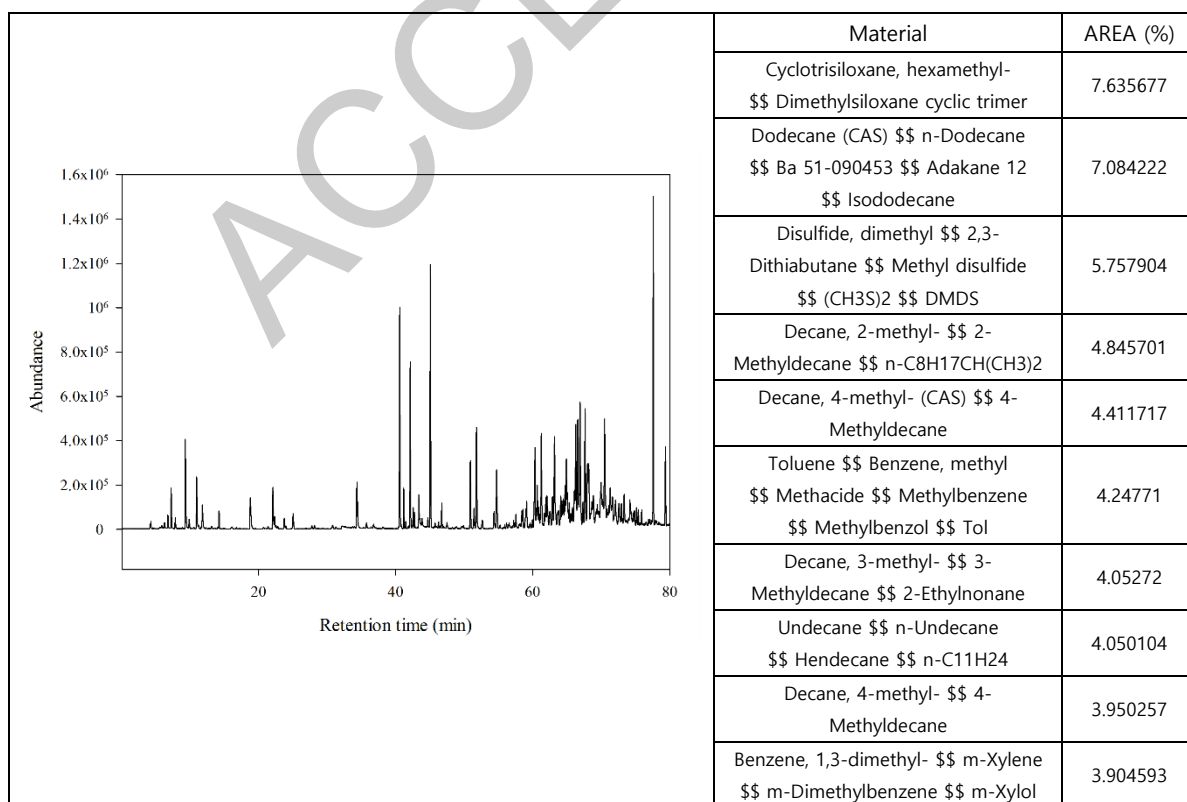
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205 **Table 8. Qualitative analysis of VOCs emitted from swine manure by type B feed (2nd sample)**



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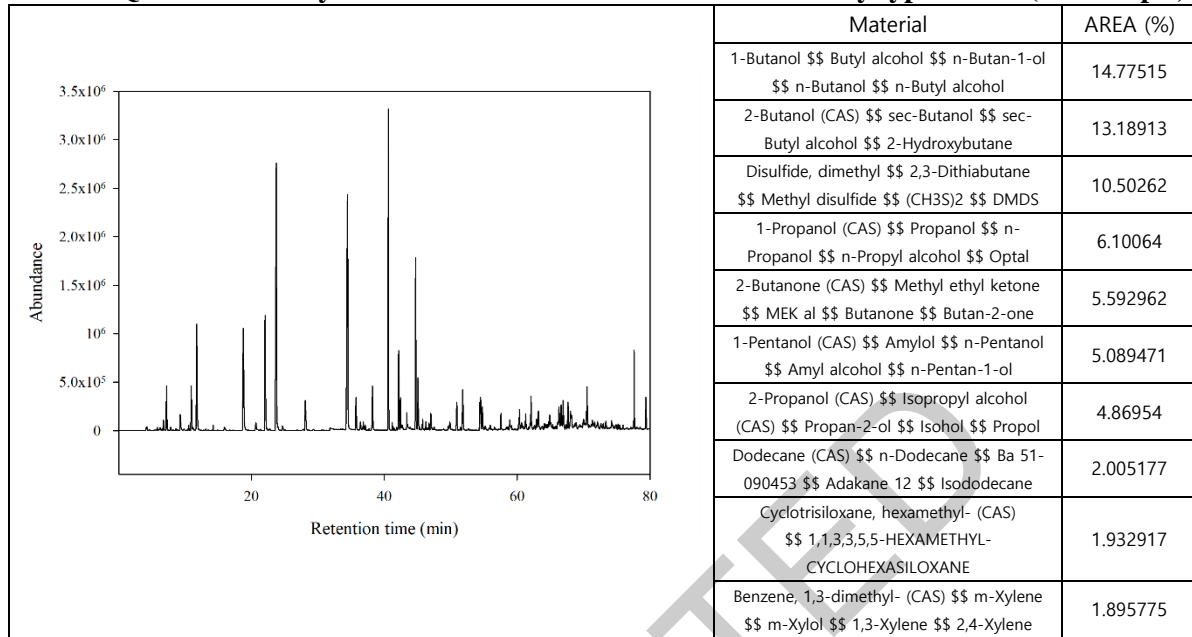
207 **Table 9. Qualitative analysis of VOCs emitted from swine manure by type C feed (2nd sample)**



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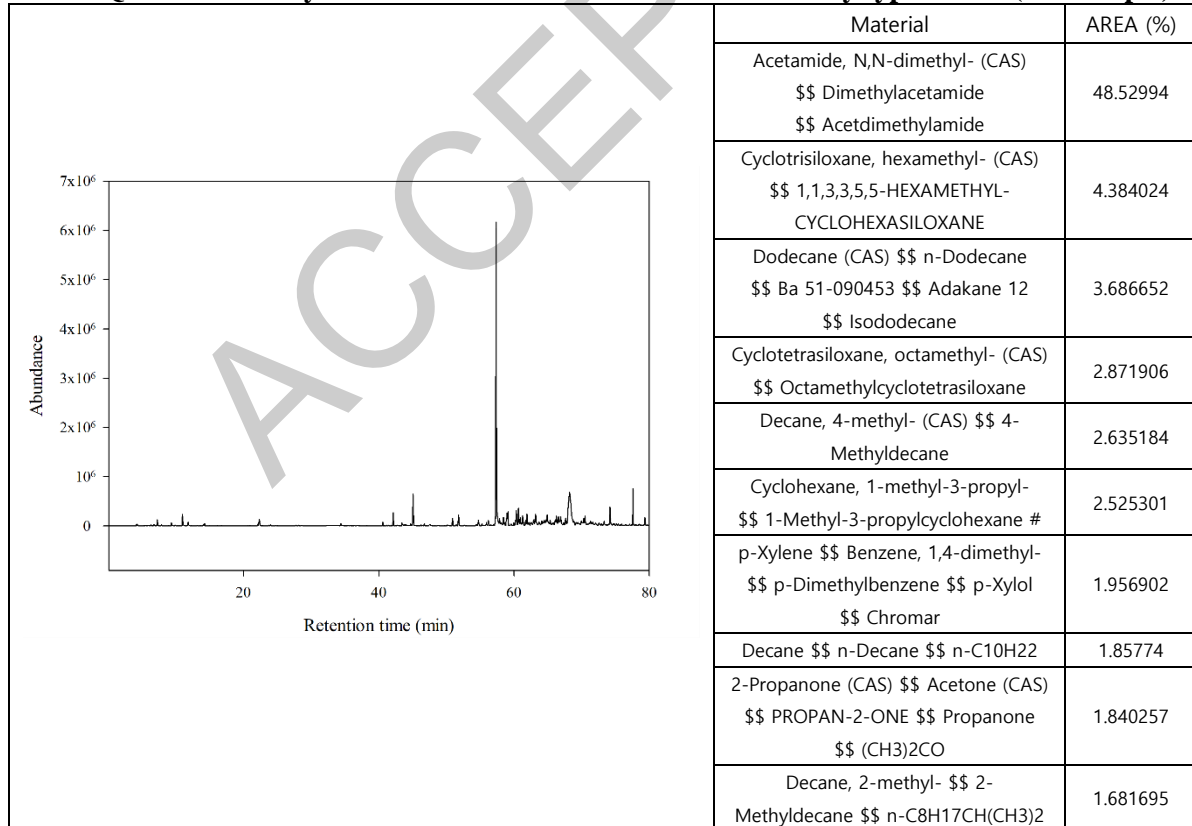
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Table 10. Qualitative analysis of VOCs emitted from swine manure by type A feed (3rd sample)



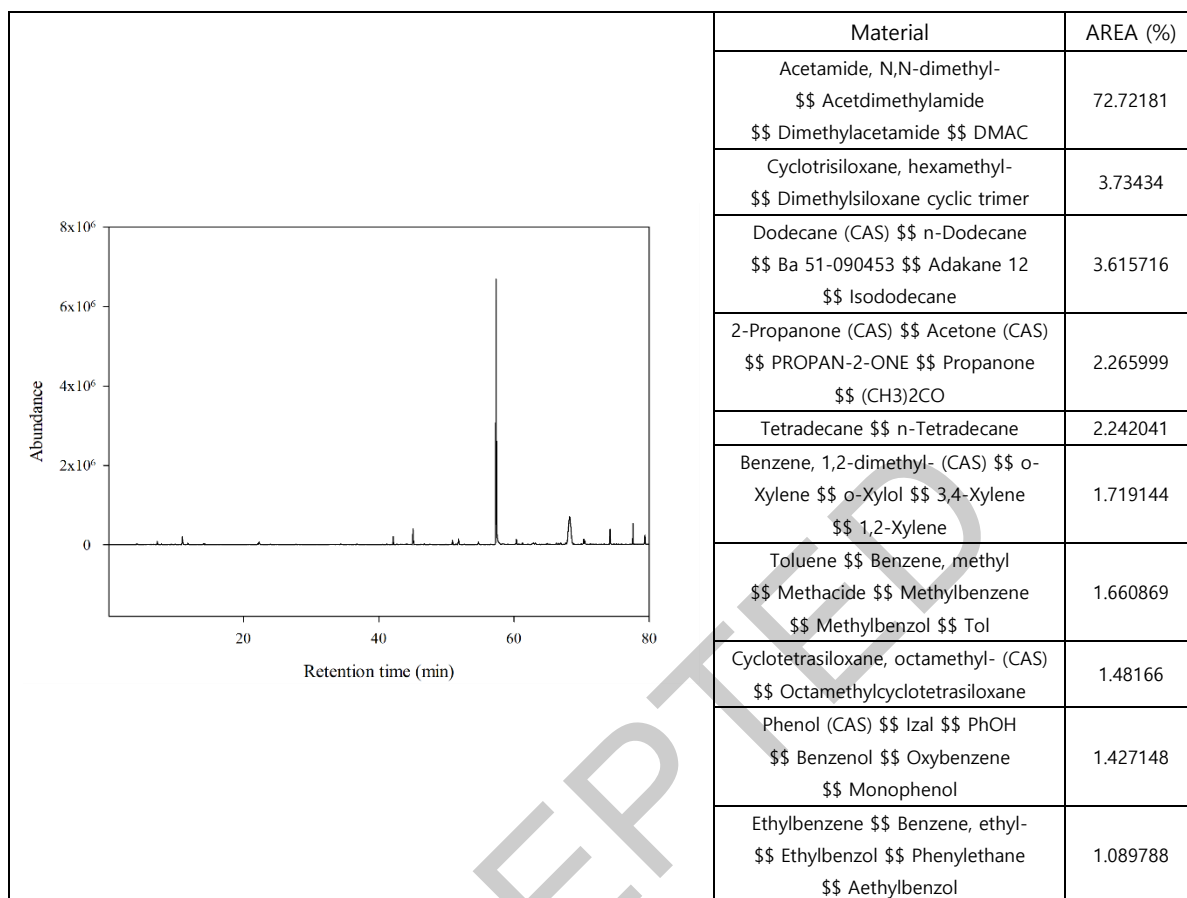
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Table 1. Qualitative analysis of VOCs emitted from swine manure by type B feed (3rd sample)



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217 **Table 12. Qualitative analysis of VOCs emitted from swine manure by type C feed (3rd sample)**



218

Discussion

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220

221 The most important part of the odor evaluation is the evaluation as soon as possible after the odor
222 sample is collected. It is usually recommended to evaluate within four to six hours because losses can
223 occur during the transport and storage of odor samples, which can be underestimated compared to the
224 actual degree of odor [14, 15]. In this experiment, the sampling site and the evaluation site are located
225 about 2 hours away, and accordingly, the loss of odor samples occurred in the preparation process for
226 transporting and evaluating the samples may be a limitation of this study.

227 As a result of the sensory evaluation of the complex odor, it was confirmed that the degree of odor
228 significantly weakened after two weeks compared to the collection day (1st sample) of swine manure.
229 However, after four weeks, the odor level increased again, which would be due to the decomposition of
230 swine manure. Therefore, it is recommended to set the evaluation period within two weeks when
231 evaluating the odor of swine manure.

232 There is a lack of information on feed in this study. However, information on the calories, mixing
233 conditions, and nutritional content of feed varies widely from product to product. Additionally it is very
234 difficult to manage all feed uniformly. In this study, we tried to propose a method that can reduce the
235 odor of swine manure by simply controlling the shape of feed and calories. For example, most of pigs
236 do not chew their food carefully like humans do. It can be seen from the fact that corn is not digested
237 in pig manure and is discharged as it is.

238 Ammonia and sulfur-based odorous substances are the causative agents that account for the majority
239 of swine manure odors [16]. Most previous studies have shown that ammonia and sulfur-based odor
240 substances have a constant decrease in concentration over time [17]. In this study, it was also confirmed
241 that the concentration of ammonia and sulfur-based odor substances decreased over time compared to
242 the concentration on the collection day of swine manure.

243 Based on the results of qualitative analysis of VOCs, Decane substances accounted for most of the
244 VOCs from the collection day of swine manure to two weeks later. Four weeks later, however, Butyl
245 alcohol, Methyl disulfide, and n-Dodecane dimethylacetamide be-came the main VOCs. It was found
246 that the composition of the major VOCs changed over time, which is also due to swine manure decay
247 [18]. The simple adjustments such as the shape of feed and calories were made in this study. In addition,
248 a qualitative analysis was conducted to investigate what odor substances were generated according to
249 the digestive state. In the future, however, we feel the need to propose a plan to control the nutrients in
250 the feed by matching the information on the blending conditions and nutritional components of the feed
251 with the quantitative analysis results of GC-MS.

252 In case of a study conducted on animals as in this study, the health status and condition of pigs subject
253 to the study may affect the results of the study. The fact that both the health and condition of the 15 pigs

254 during the experiment period are not consistent can also be a limitation of this study [19]. In the future,
255 thus, it is necessary to increase the number of pigs to be evaluated in order to obtain more reliable data
256 than the current re-search results. In addition, there is limitation for evaluating complex odor
257 concentration such as the small number (five persons), disproportionate gender ratio and the failure to
258 completely control the olfactory state of panels who conducted a sensory evaluation [20]. It is expected
259 that more reliable results can be obtained if further research, which is improved by reflecting these
260 limitations, is conducted in the future.

261

262

Conclusion

263

264 According to the processing mode and calorific composition of the feed, which is a factor that greatly
265 affects the odor of swine manure, 15 pigs were raised under different forms and calorific compositions
266 of feeds and the occurrence pattern of swine manure odor generated according to each condition was
267 analyzed simultaneously. On the collection day of swine manure, ammonia and sulfuric compounds
268 were the main substances affecting the degree of odor. After 4 weeks, however, it was confirmed that
269 the main odorous substances changed from ammonia and sulfuric compounds to VOCs. This finding
270 would be conversion of main odorous compounds due to decay of swine manure from two weeks later.
271 This phenomenon was more pronounced in pigs fed with powdered feedstuff and the higher the calories
272 of feed, the worse the odor. Therefore, it is advantageous to use low-calorie feed consisting of pellet
273 type to reduce the odor generated during the swine raising process. Furthermore, it is considered that
274 manure in swine farms should be treated two weeks before its decay occurs to effectively prevent
275 emission of odor derived from swine manure.

276

277

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281

282

283

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