

**Table S8.** Unconditional least square means estimated bacterial counts for different groups of bacteria, in farms using straw vs. recycled manure solids (RMS) bedding.

Bacterial group	Status	RMS		Straw	
		Log CFU/g*	95% CI	Log CFU/g*	95% CI
Total mesophilic flora	Unused	8.0 <sup>a</sup>	7.7, 8.3	7.0 <sup>b</sup>	6.8, 7.2
	Used	9.5 <sup>c</sup>	9.2, 9.8	8.6 <sup>d</sup>	8.4, 8.8
Staphylococci	Unused	5.3 <sup>a</sup>	5.0, 5.7	3.0 <sup>b</sup>	2.8, 3.2
	Used	6.9 <sup>c</sup>	6.6, 7.3	7.0 <sup>c</sup>	6.7, 7.2
Streptococci	Unused	5.1 <sup>a</sup>	4.6, 5.6	3.3 <sup>b</sup>	3.0, 3.7
	Used	6.3 <sup>c</sup>	5.8, 6.8	7.3 <sup>d</sup>	6.9, 7.6
<i>E. coli</i>	Unused	4.5 <sup>a</sup>	4.2, 4.8	2.2 <sup>b</sup>	2.0, 2.4
	Used	5.4 <sup>c</sup>	5.1, 5.7	4.5 <sup>a</sup>	4.3, 4.6
<i>Klebsiella</i> spp.	Unused	3.8 <sup>a</sup>	3.4, 4.2	5.2 <sup>b</sup>	4.9, 5.4
	Used	5.3 <sup>b, c</sup>	4.9, 5.7	5.6 <sup>c</sup>	5.4, 5.9

\* Least square mean estimate

<sup>a, b, c, d</sup> For a given bacterial group, estimates within a row or column with different superscripts were considered to be statistically different ( $P$ -value < 0.05) after adjusting for multiple comparison using the Tukey-Kramer adjustment.