



ANIMAL BEDDING

WHAT IS IT?

Animal bedding can be straw or sawdust and wood shavings or pellets. Wood texture and type can vary by animal type in animal husbandry and livestock operations.

MOST COMMON USES?

Animal bedding is used commercially and on local farming operations to provide a comfortable, dry habitat for farm animals, like cows, pigs, chickens and goats. A mix of sawdust and wood pellets help to absorb moisture and neutralize odors. The type of bedding use varies from animal to animal.

HOW IS IT MADE?

- Sawdust derived from mill activities can be a direct input to animal bedding.
- Wood-based materials are chipped into consistent sized pieces.
- Log shaving machines are used to make bedding materials for broilers, hogs, and pets.

DESTINATION/FATE

After animal bedding has been soiled, it can be composted and can be high in nutrient value.

CONCERNS

Animal bedding has urine, manure, and food pellets mixed in. It may also have antibiotics or other growth hormones found in feed.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTEGRATION

- Wood shavings can be a primary economic activity with residues used for energy and biochar.
- Bedding can be a co-product of stewardship logging and integrated utilization. firewood production.
- Biochar added to bedding can control odor and improve animal health by reducing stress from ammonia.