

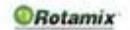


## Northeast Digestion Roundtable 2018

Quarterly webinars to share technical operations experiences & advance best practices regarding anaerobic digestion in this region.

# WELCOME.

NEDR # 10 is  
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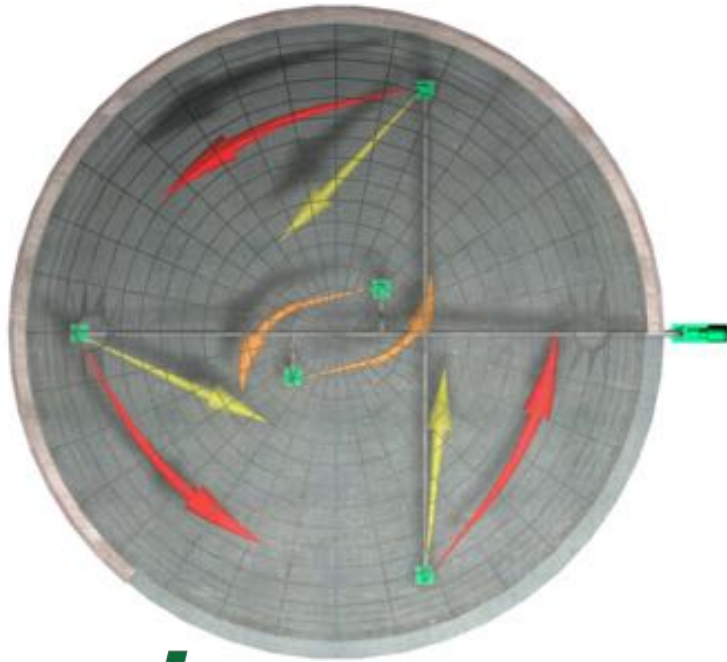
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Unmatched Reliability  
**Vaughan**<sup>®</sup>

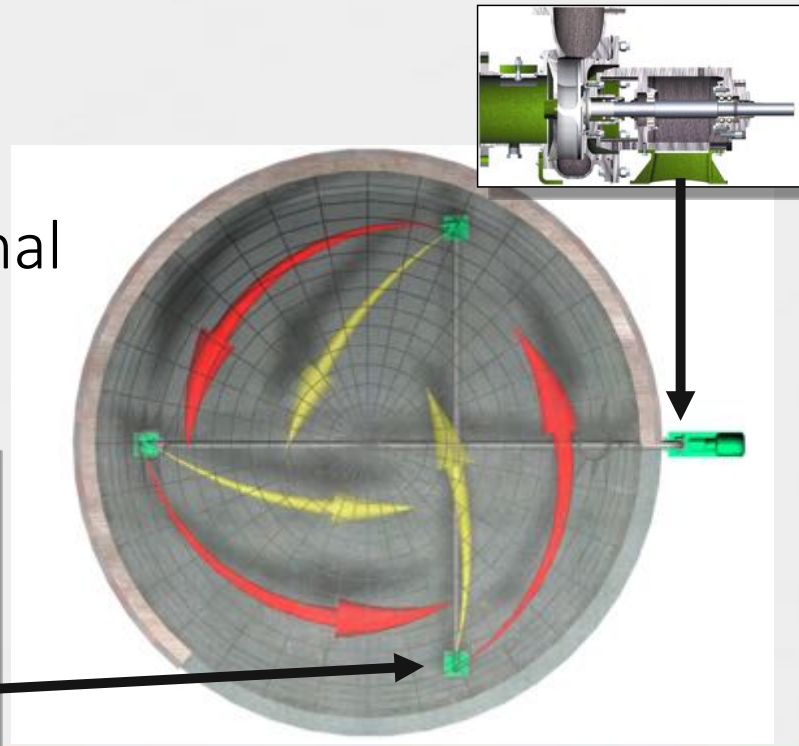


**Rotamix**<sup>®</sup>

**Process Mixing**



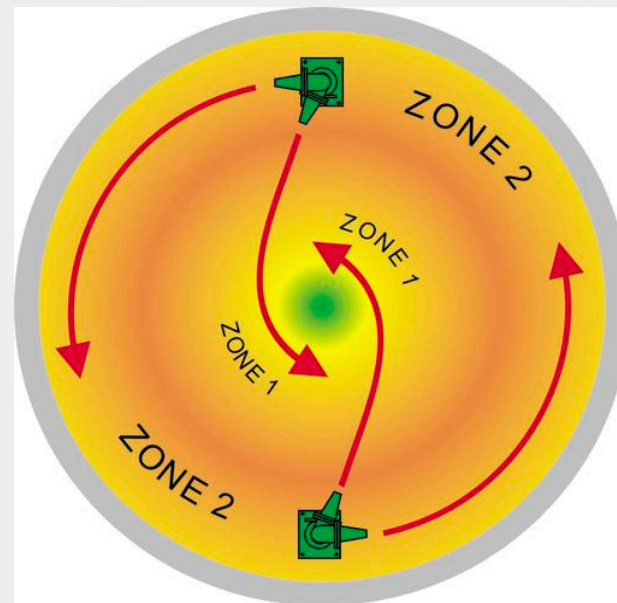
Hydraulic mixing system using fixed nozzles and an external Vaughan Chopper Pump





## DUAL-ZONE MIXING

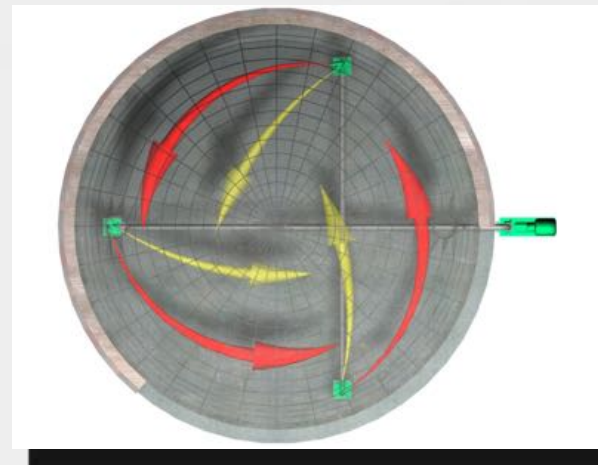
- **Zone 1:** Vortical flow pattern, and reduces settling in center of tank
- **Zone 2:** Uniform flow pattern, driving the tank contents.





## DESIGN FLEXIBILITY

- Ability to mix multiple tanks with one pump.
- The Vaughan Chopper Pump provides all motive force for distribution of flow while also *continuously breaking down solids.*





## WHY USE ROTAMIX?

- Low cost, effective means of mixing
- Easily maintained
- No moving parts in the tank
- Reliable operation using the Vaughan Chopper Pump
- Designs for all geometries
- Guaranteed mixing
- Computerized flow models optimize mixing





## Applications

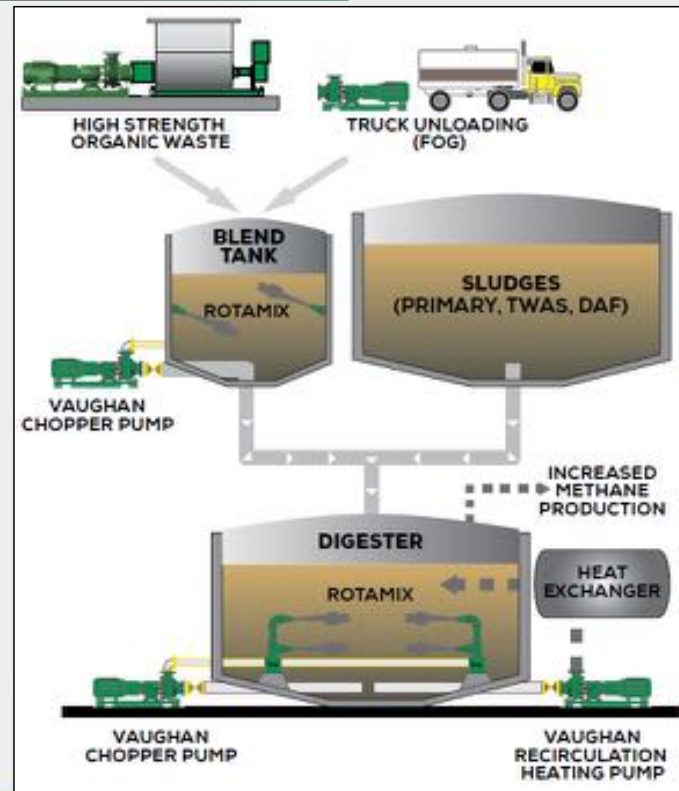
- Lime Stabilization
- Anoxic Zone Mixing
- FOG and High Strength (Food) Wastes
- Septage Receiving
- Skimmings Systems
- Influent Channels
- CSO Basins



**Vaughan**  
Unmatched Reliability



FOG  
(Fats, Oils and  
Greases)  
&  
High Strength  
Wastes (HSW)

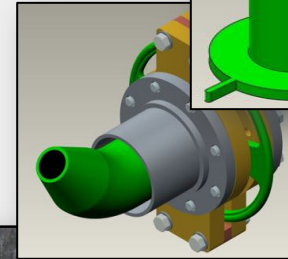
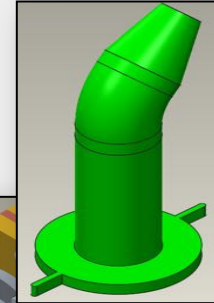






## Other Mixing Assemblies

- Externally Mounted Assemblies, available in several configurations with various features to suit the application .
- Foambuster with
  - 1" thick glass lined nozzle with 74C Rockwell Hard
  - 3M™ Scotchkote™ 134 Fusion Bonded Epoxy Exterior Coating
  - 10 year full warranty includes wear



**Vaughan**  
Unmatched Reliability



## Vaughan Chopper Pumps

- Mixing flows to 13000 GPM
- Ability to physically break down solids increases VSR
- Multiple Seal Options
- Self Primer, Vertical Wet Well and submersible pumps offer design flexibility
- Chopping action enhances Volatile Solids Reduction



Self Priming Chopper Pump





## OPERATIONAL ADVANTAGES

- ✓ Flexibility if feedstocks change.
- ✓ Chopper Pump conditions sludge
- ✓ Reduced Energy Option Savings
- ✓ Dual function-mix or load out
- ✓ Not liquid level dependent
- ✓ Optional Foam Suppression



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SPONSORED BY: **Vaughan** *Unmatched Reliability*

**Chopper**

**Triton**

**Rotamix**

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**WERF ENER12R13 :**

Understanding Impacts of Co-Digestion:

Digester Chemistry, Gas Production, Dewaterability, Solids Production, Cake Quality, and  
Economics

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**PIs**

Matthew Higgins, Bucknell University

Ganesh Rajagopalan, Kennedy/Jenks

**Technical Advisory Committee**

Sudhir Murthy, DC Water

Charles Bott, HRSD

Krishna Pagilla, University of Nevada, Reno

Chris Wilson, HRSD

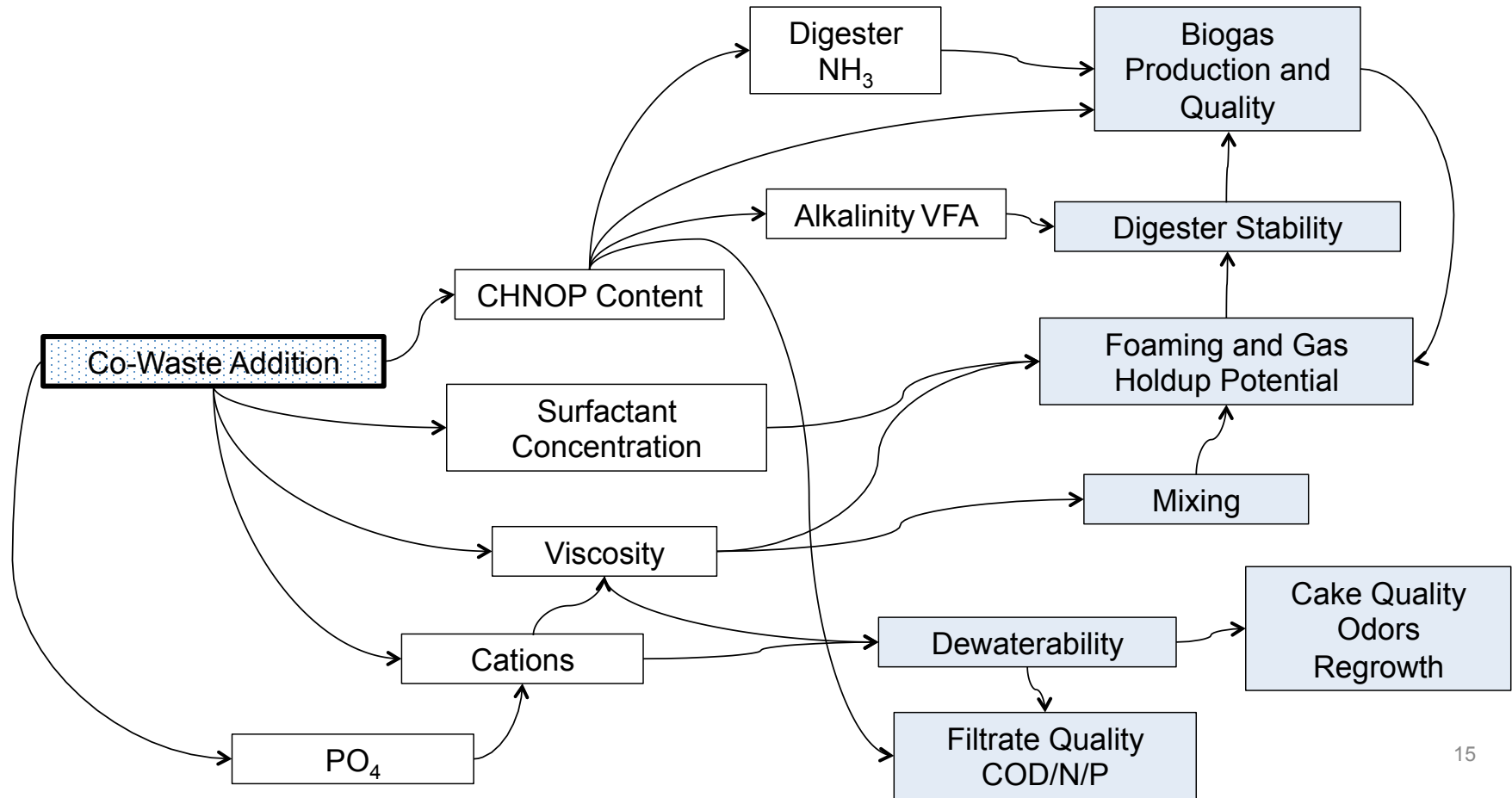
# What Happens When We Add Co-Wastes?

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## Possible Impacts:

1. Changes in Digester Chemistry
  - a. Alkalinity, pH, N, P, VFAs, COD (digester stability and sidestream impacts)
  - b. Gas Composition ( $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$  ratios)
  - c. Gas Production (gas holdup and rapid rise)
  - d. Cations: Na, K, Ca, Mg,  $\text{NH}_4^+$  (dewatering impacts)
  - e. C/N Ratios of solids (cake quality)
2. Changes in Viscosity and Surface Tension
  - a. Mixing, gas holdup, rapid rise and foaming, dewatering

# Causal Loop Diagram of Effects



## Goals of WE&RF Project

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Central Goal: Develop Tools to Understand Impacts

1. Develop stoichiometric model
  - a. central to predicting digester stability, gas production, chemistry, and side-streams...
2. Understand relationships between
  - a. rheology and volume expansion/foaming
  - b. cations, anions and dewaterability
  - c. CHNO and cake quality (odors)



## Phase I Approach: Field Studies

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1. Evaluate Full Scale Sites
  - side-by-side control and co-digestion
  - baseline testing followed by co-digestion
2. Characterize
  1. feed in terms of elemental analysis
  2. digester chemistry (pH, Alkalinity,  $\text{NH}_4$ , etc)
  3. gas composition and production
  4. digester rheology, rapid rise potential
  5. dewaterability and return liquor characteristics
  6. cake quality

## Phase II Approach: Lab Studies

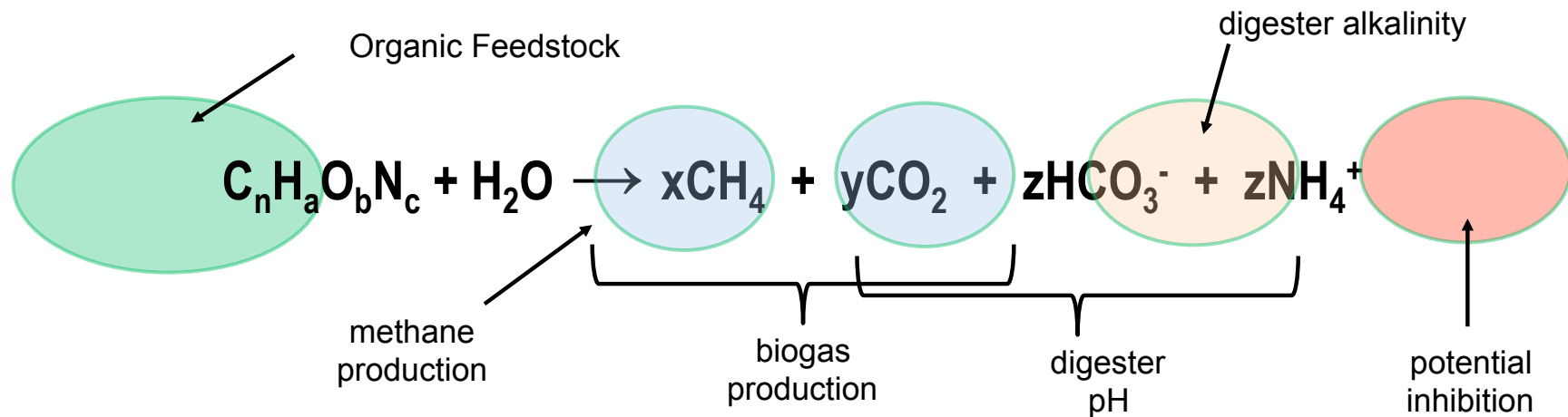
Fill in our knowledge gaps with controlled laboratory digestion studies.



- 10 L active volume
- $T = 37\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
- High Torque, 100 rpm Motor
- Gas Volume and Rate by Respirometer

# Stoichiometry of Anaerobic Digestion

## Theoretical General Equation (Buswell, 1952)



$x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  are a function of  $n$ ,  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$

# Stoichiometry of Anaerobic Digestion

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Parameters we can predict...	Importance	Ranges
Digester pH	Master variable for digester operation	6.7-7.8
Alkalinity	Helps maintain pH due to high loading	>1000
$\text{NH}_4^+$	Can lead to inhibition at high concentrations, dewaterability effects, side-stream composition	<2800
$\text{CH}_4$ Production	Gas/Energy Production	
Biogas Composition ( $\text{CH}_4/\text{CO}_2$ Ratio)	Biogas Production and quality	

# Stoichiometry of Anaerobic Digestion

Type	Formula	Source
Primary Sludges	$C_{17}H_{31}O_{7.2}N$	Bucknell Data (average of 5 plants)
Waste Activated	$C_{6.6}H_{12}O_{2.4}N$	Bucknell Data (average of 8 plants)
Food Waste	$C_{17}H_{30}O_6N$	Bucknell Data (average of 3 different FWs)
Fats	$C_{16}H_{32}O_2$	Rittman and McCarty
Carbohydrate	$C_6H_{10}O_5$	Rittman and McCarty
Protein	$C_{16}H_{24}O_5N_4$	Rittman and McCarty

# Applications of Stoichiometry

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## 1. Evaluate effects of different feed stocks on digester chemistry

- pH
- alkalinity
- ammonia
- gas production

## 2. Solve digester chemistry issues:

- pH (too low or too high)
- alkalinity (too low)
- ammonia inhibition (too high)

## Scenario 1: Low Loaded Digester

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### Scenario 1 Inputs:

#### Sludges

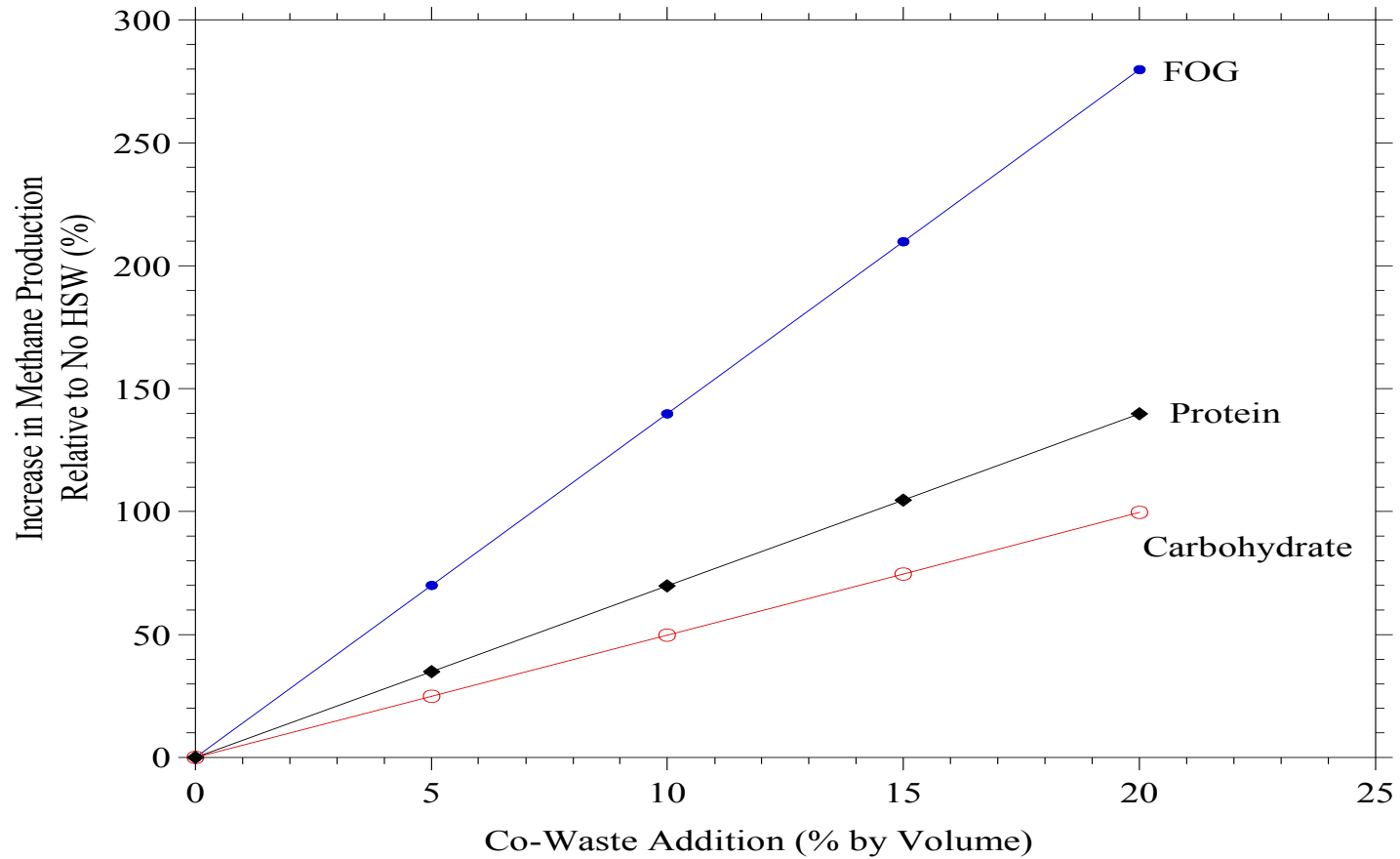
- 3% TS Inflow, 50/50 Mix of Primary and Secondary
- 20 d SRT
- VSR = 55%

#### Co-Digestion Feedstocks:

- Fats, Protein or Carbs
- 15% TS, VS/TS = 0.9 80% VSR

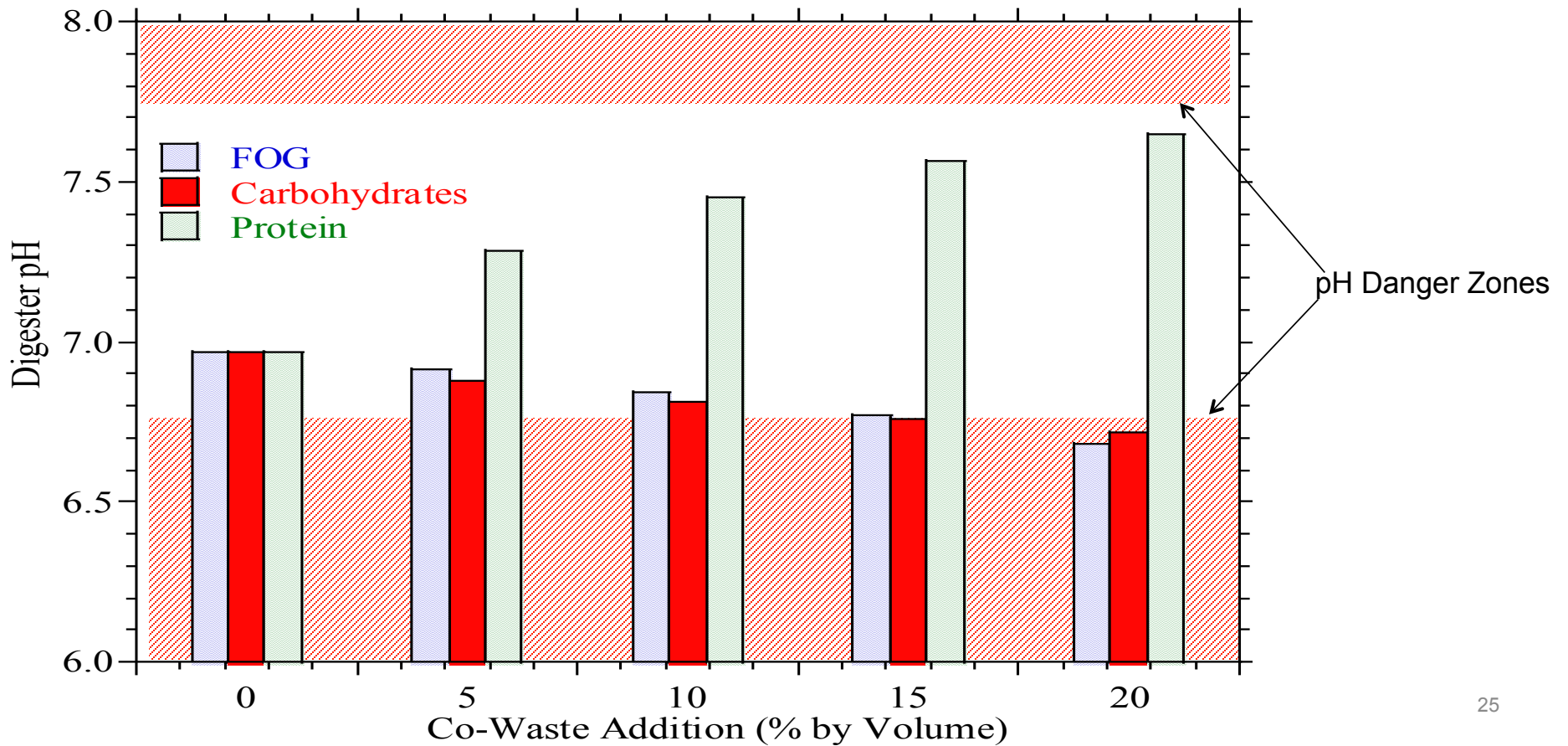
# Scenario 1: Effect on Methane Production

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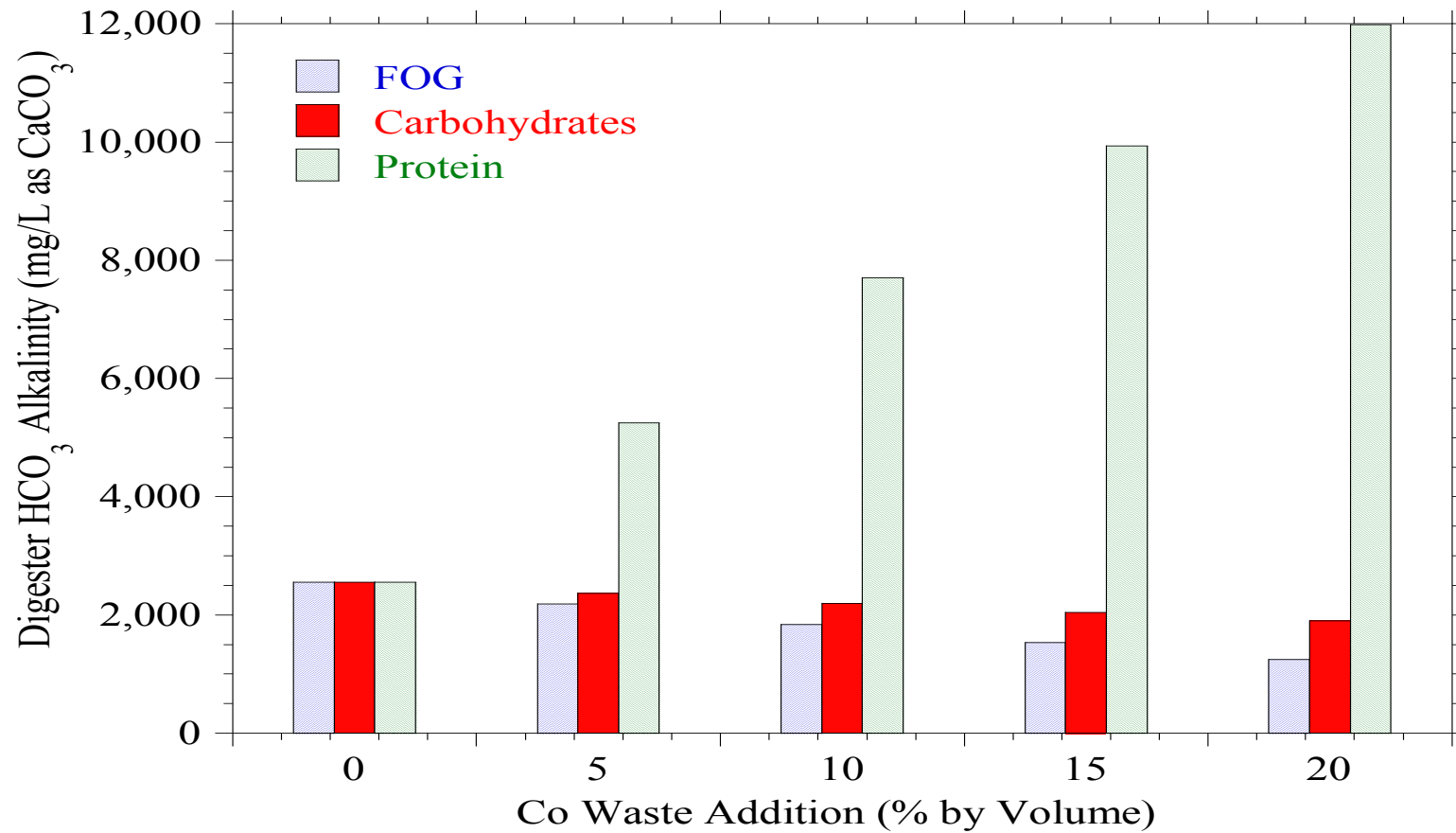




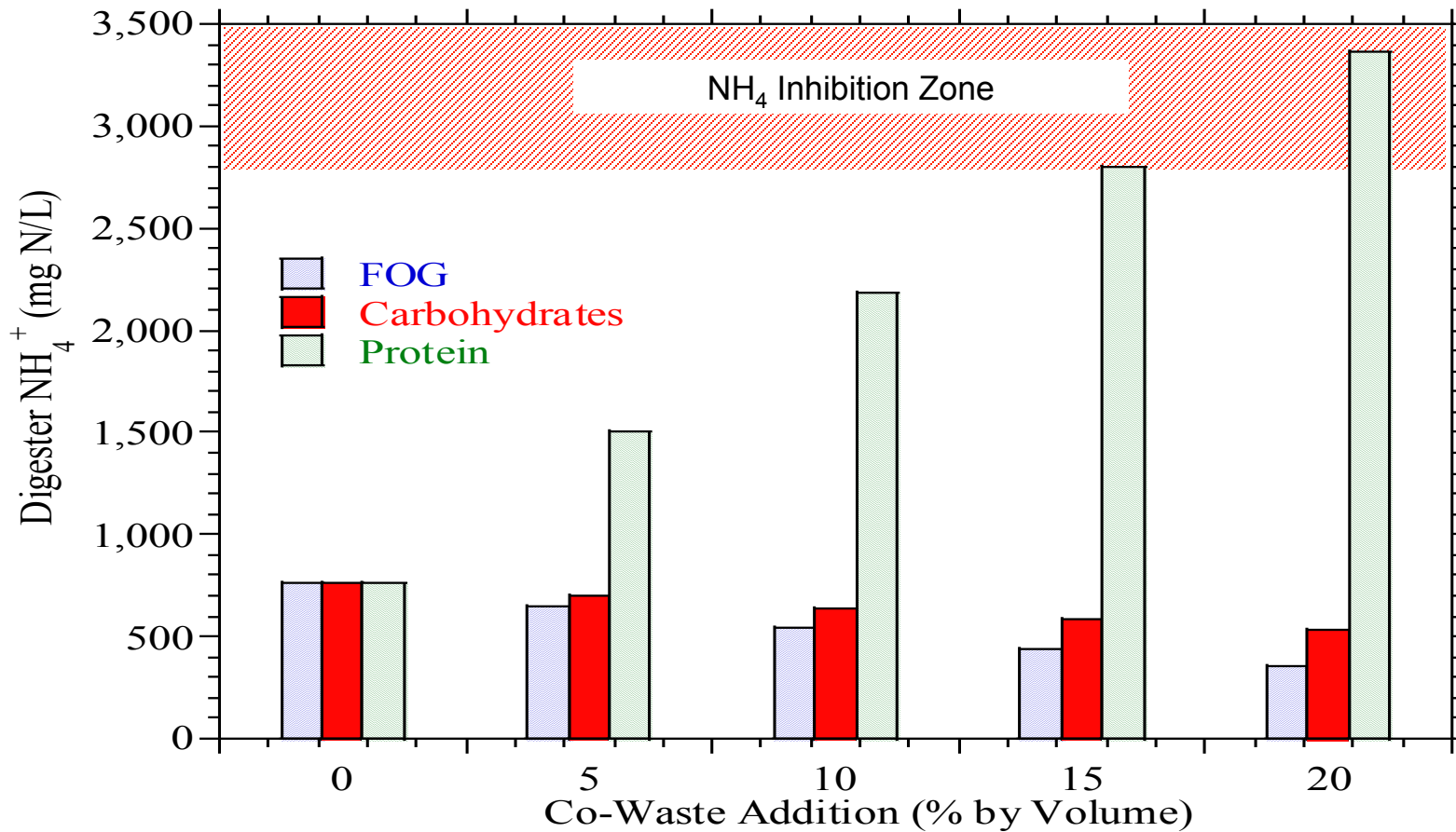
## Scenario 1: Effect of Co-Waste Addition on Digester pH



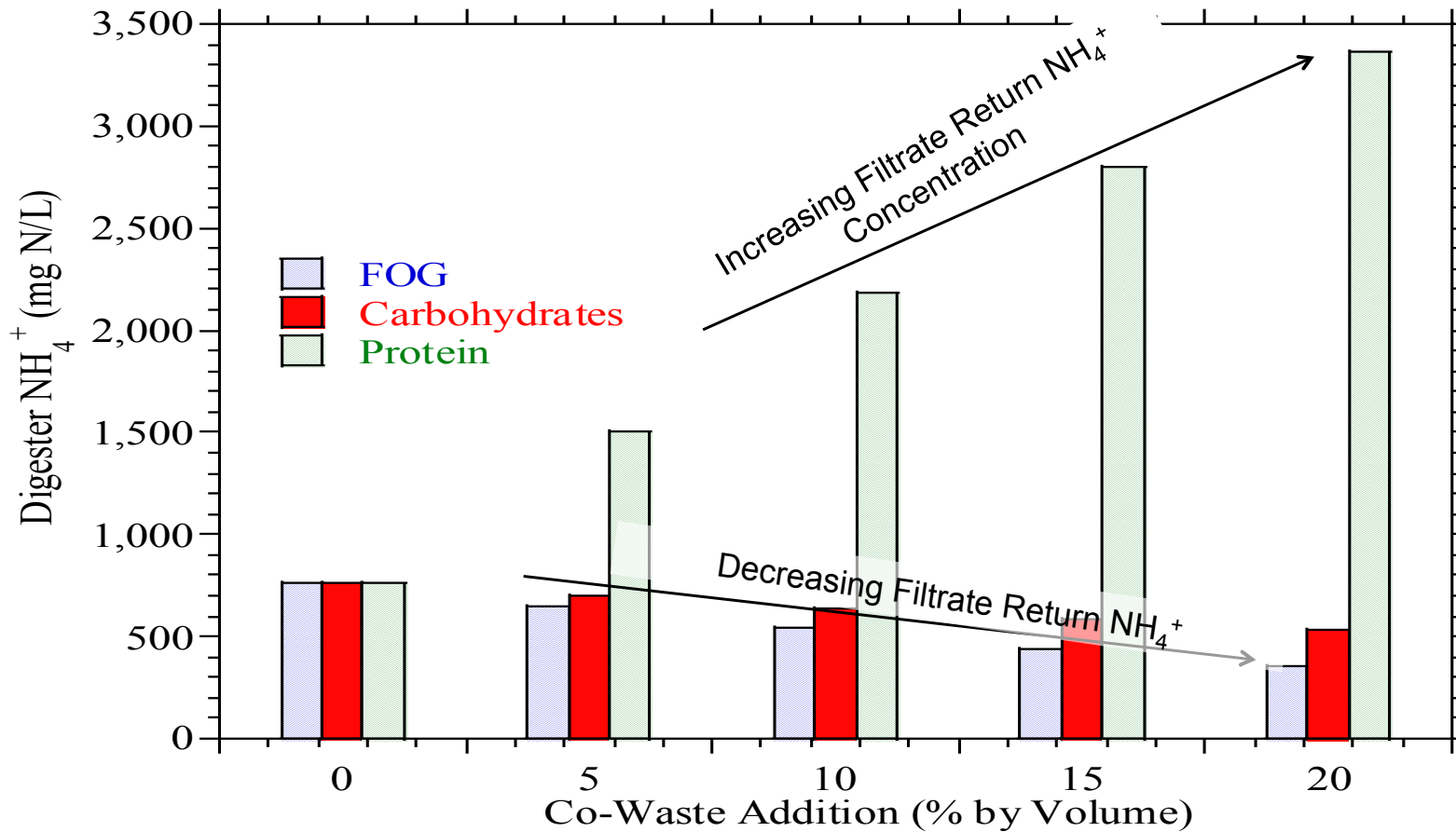
## Scenario 1: Effect on Digester Bicarbonate Alkalinity



## Scenario 1: Effect of Co-Waste Addition on Digester $\text{NH}_4^+$



## Scenario 1: Effect of Co-Waste Addition on Digester $\text{NH}_4^+$



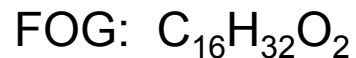
## We can use co-digestion to solve digester issues

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Issues with *highly loaded digesters* such as thermal hydrolysis:

- a. high ammonia concentrations > 3000 mg/L
- b. high pH and alkalinity
- c. inhibition of methanogens and possibly hydrolysis

Adding low N co-wastes can reduce inhibition by reducing pH and ammonia concentrations while also increasing gas production:



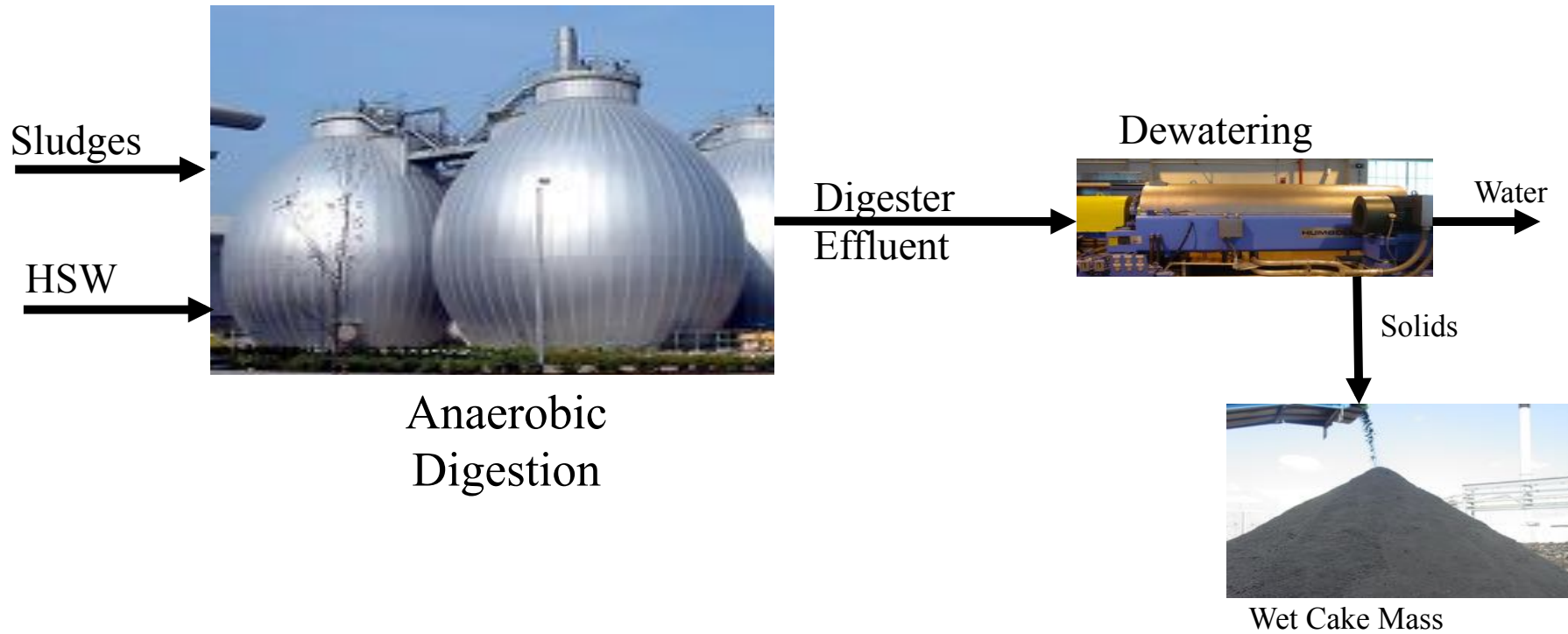
# Understanding Impacts

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1. Rheology and rapid volume expansion
2. Solids production – net mass of wet cake leaving plant
  - a. Dewatering – cake solids
  - b. Volatile solids destruction
3. Polymer Demand
4. Effects on cake quality in terms of odors

# Effect on Solids Mass Balance

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## Effect on Solids Mass Balance

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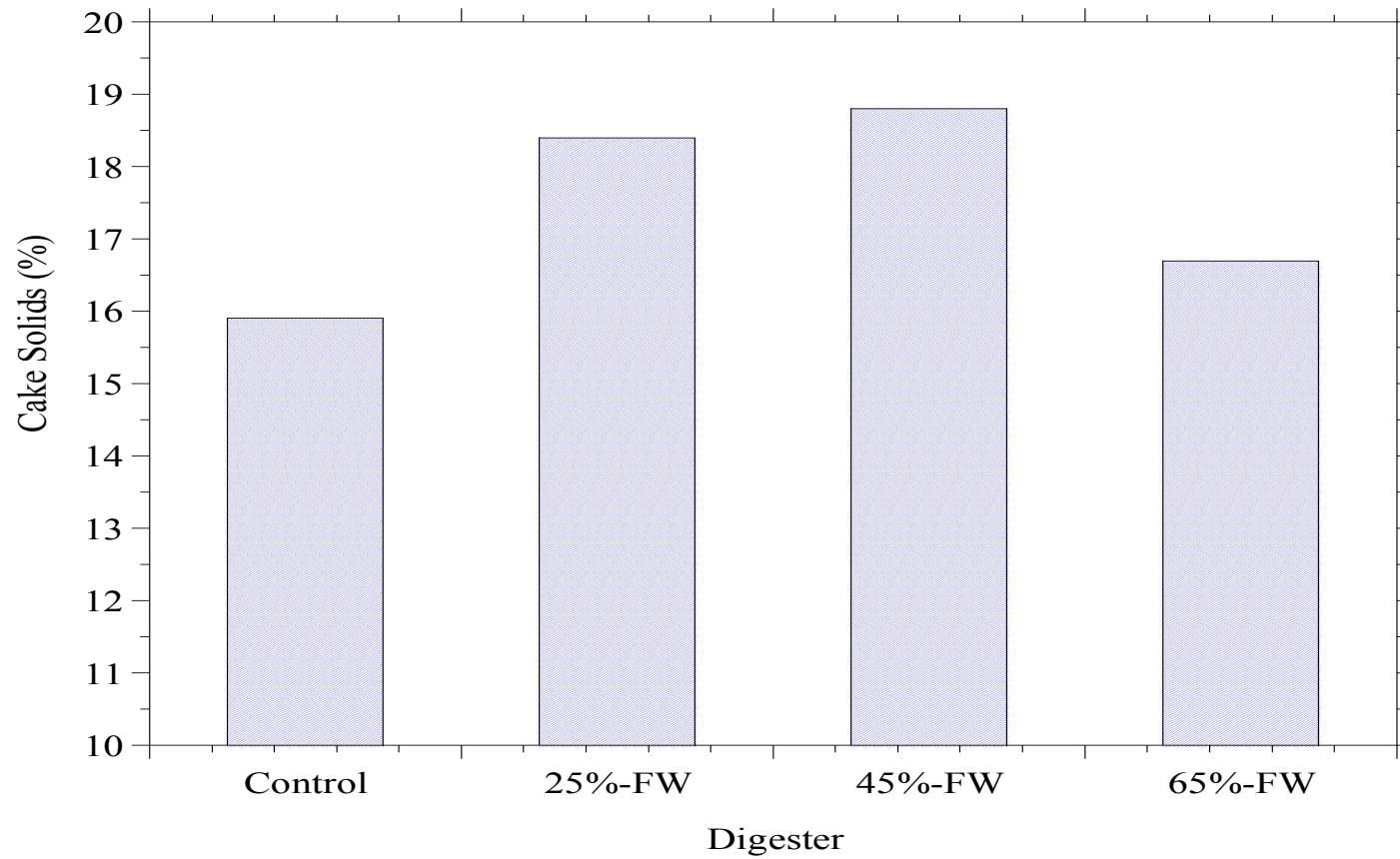
Orange County Project: Waste Management EBS Product (Food Waste)

1. Control – Sludges only
2. 25% additional VS from food waste
3. 45% additional VS from food waste
4. 65% additional VS from food waste



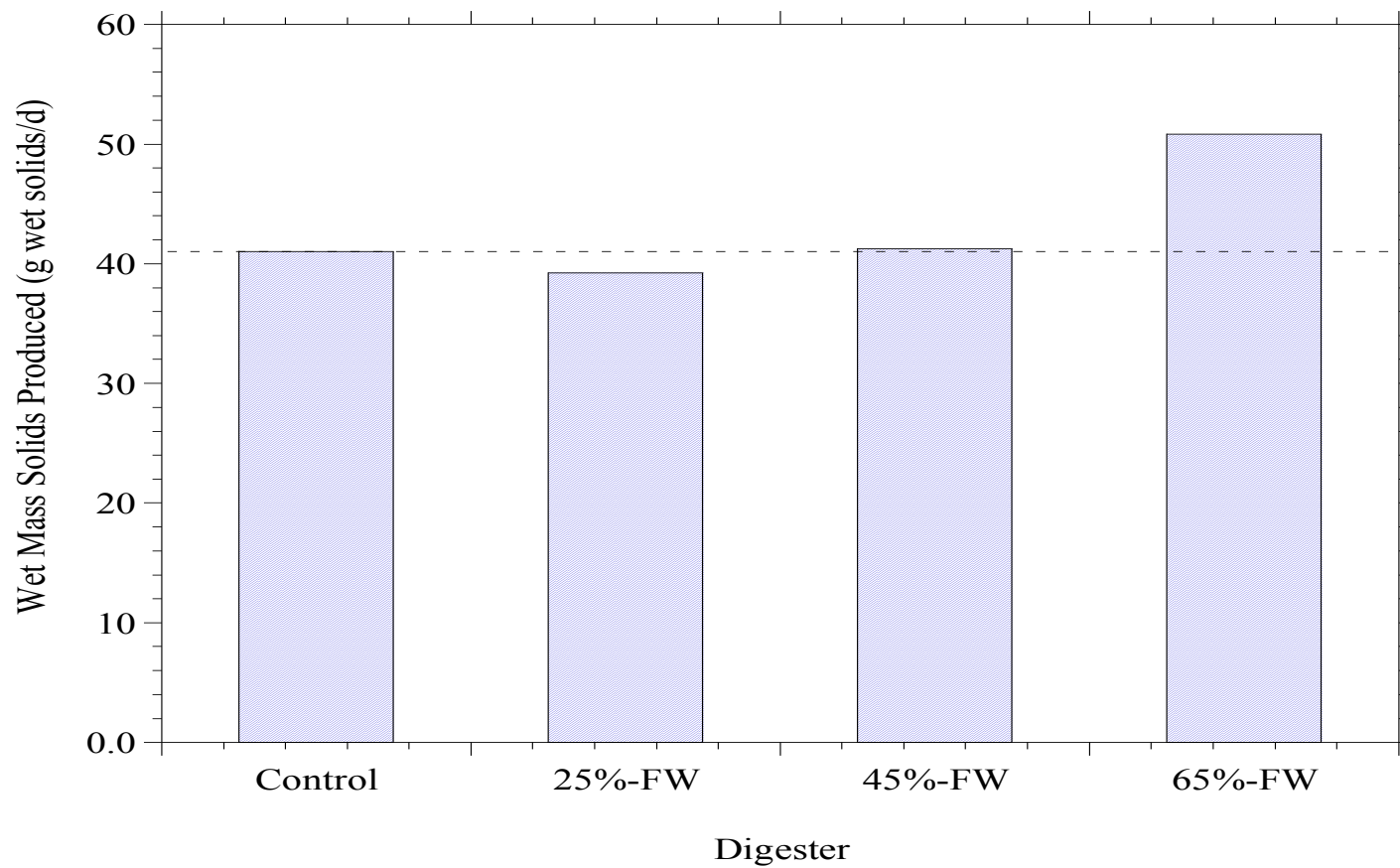
## Effect on Dewaterability

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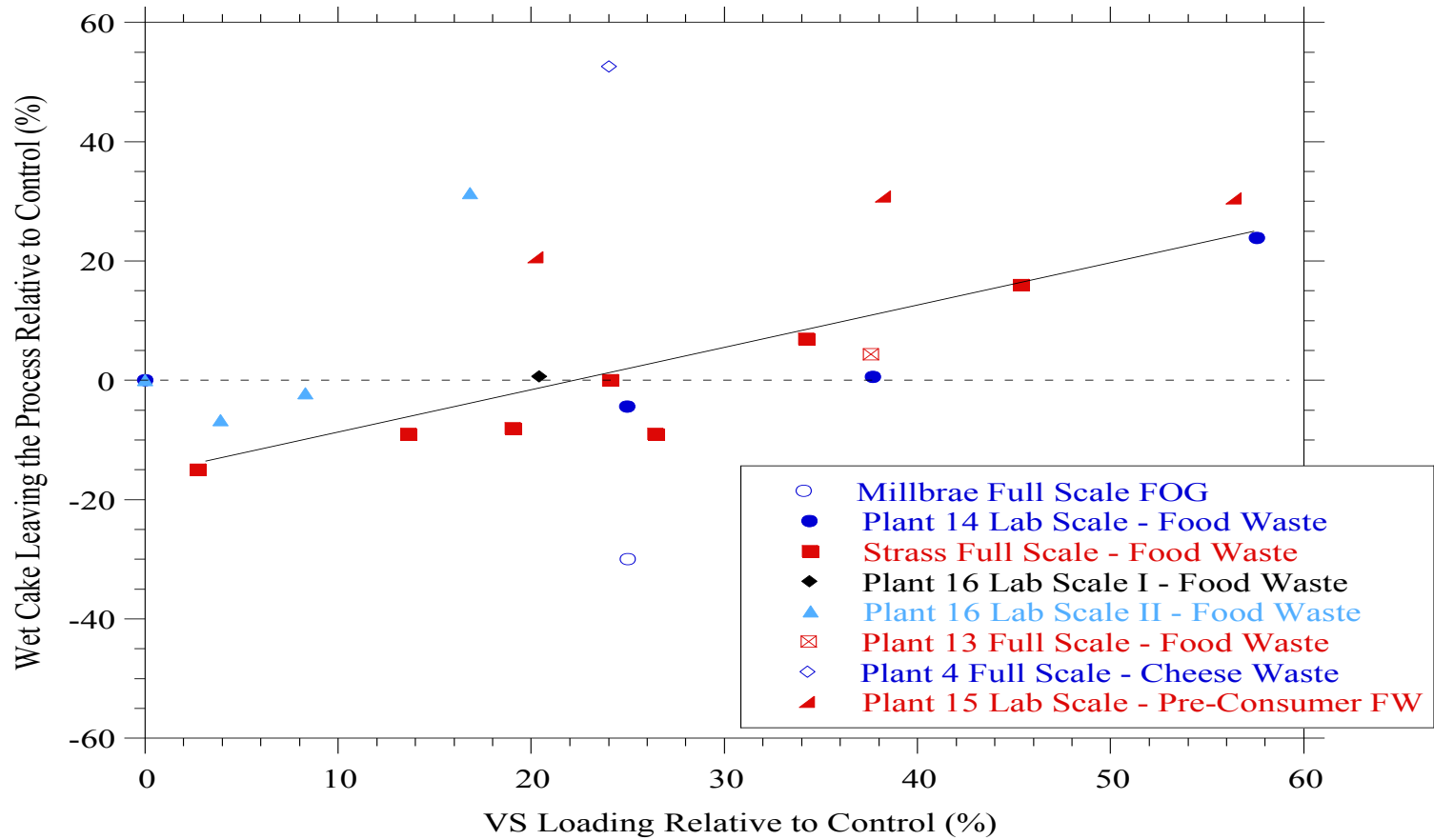


## Effect on Solids Production

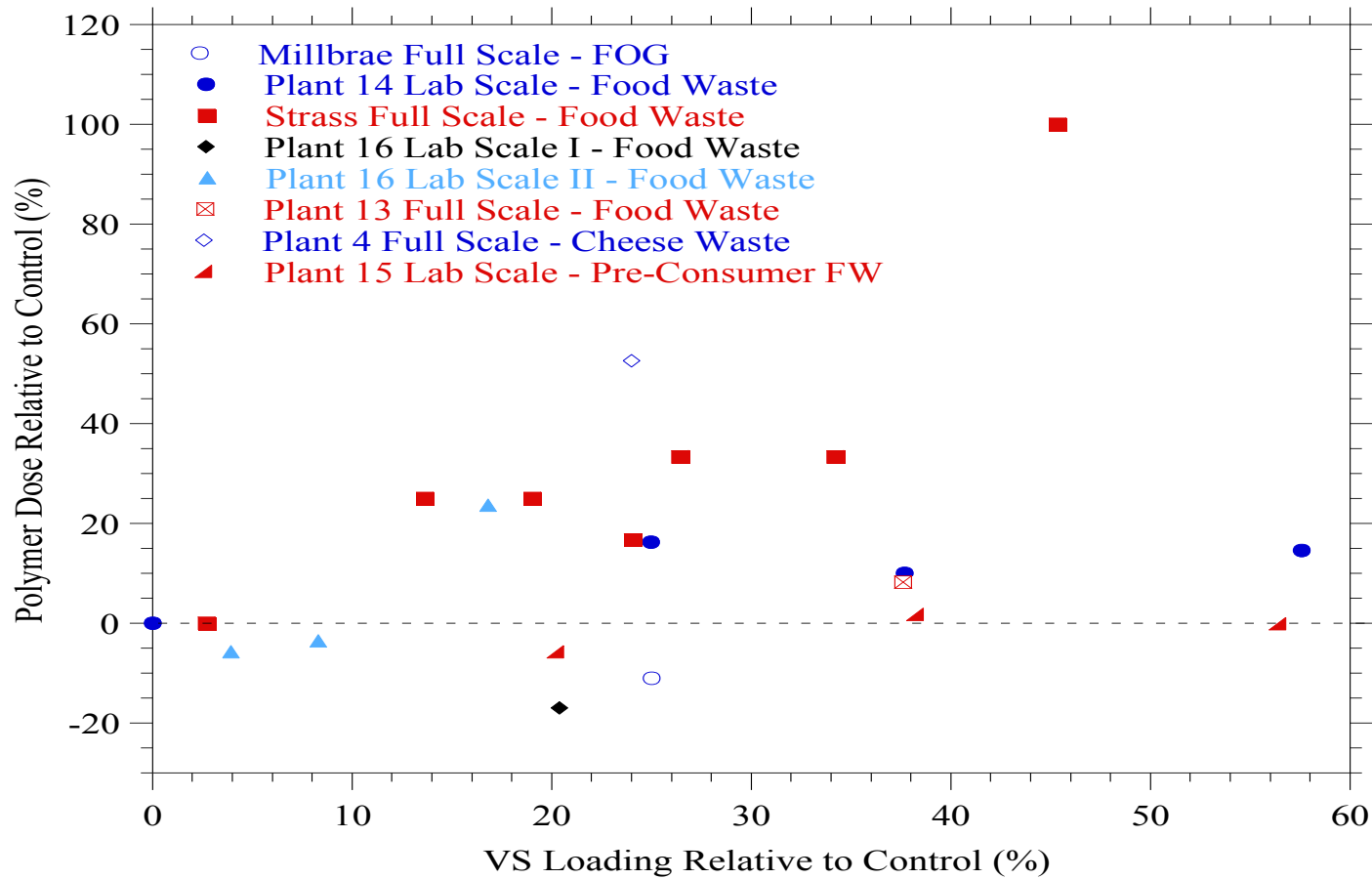
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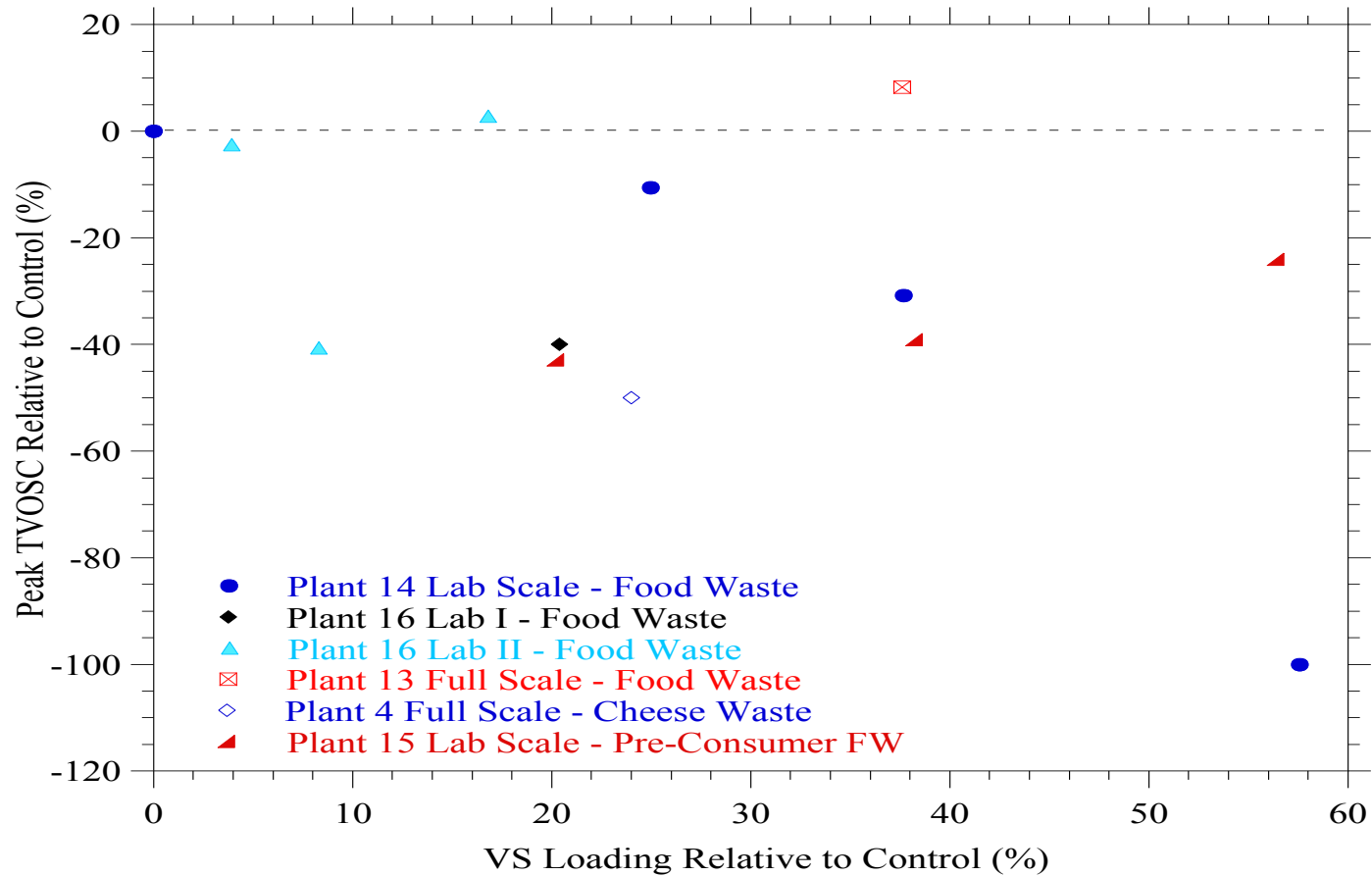
# Net Wet Cake Mass Leaving the Plant



# Net Change in Polymer Demand



## Net Change in Cake Odors During Cake Storage



# Acknowledgments

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- This project is being funded by WERF, DC Water and HRSD
- Students working on the project:

- Zwelani Ngwenya
- Nick Bartek
- Carmen Oo
- Steven Beightol
- Justin Vega
- Chanda Singoyi
- Dajah Massey



Questions?

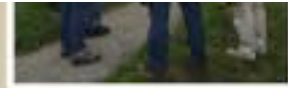
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Ken Grauer  
Regional Sales Manager  
Vaughan Company, Inc.  
Phone: 360.249.4042 ext. 401  
Ct. office 203-426-3264  
Mobile 203-820-8011  
Fax: 360.249.6155  
E-mail:  
KEN@chopperpumps.com  
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First Friday each Quarter:

12:00 - 1:00 pm. Have lunch. Digest.

January 5, 2018: Gentlemen and -  
Women, Start Your Engines!

April 6: Where the Feedstocks Go

July 13 (2nd Friday!): How Food  
Scraps & Other Organics Work in  
Municipal Digesters: An Update on  
Co-Digestion Research (Professor Matt  
Higgins, Bucknell Univ.)

October 5: ADvancements Around  
the Region - Roundtable

Northeast Digestion Roundtable 2018

Quarterly webinars to share technical operations experiences &  
advance best practices regarding anaerobic digestion in this region.