Sludge Dewatering

Performance Data

September 2016

Table 3.14 Operating Performance of Dewatering Solid Bowl Centrifuges

		Polyme	r Dosage		
Type of Sludge	Feed Solids Concentration (%)	g/kg dry solids	lb/ton dry solids	Cake Solids (%)	Solids Recovery (%)
Raw Primary (PRI)	3 to 7	1 to 3	2 to 6	26 to 36	90 to 97
Raw WAS	0.5 to 2.5	4 to 8	8 to 16	8 to 20	85 to 94
Raw (PRI + WAS)	3 to 5	2 to 5	4 to 10	18 to 25	90 to 96
Anaerobically Digested PRI	4 to 6	2.0 to 7.5	2 to 15	25 to 35	92 to 96
Anaerobically Digested (PRI + WAS)	2 to 6	3 to 10	6 to 20	15 to 27	85 to 98
Aerobically Digested WAS	1 to 3	1.5 to 5.0	3 to 10	8 to 12	88 to 91
Aerobically Digested (PRI + WAS)	1.7 to 4.5	3.0 to 5.5	6 to 11	11 to 18	92 to 98

Source: Turovskiy, Izrail S. and P.K. Mathai. "Wastewater Sludge Processing." Hoboken, New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 2006.

Table 3.16 Results of Dewatering on a Belt Filter Press in Russia

		Polymer Dosage				
Type of Sludge	Feed Solids (%)	g/kg dry solids	lb/ton dry solids	Belt Speed (m/min)	Cake Solids (%)	Solids Capture (%)
Primary (PRI)	4 to 7	2.0 to 7.0	4.4 to 14.0	1.7 to 2.2	25 to 30	99 to 99.6
WAS, thickened	2 to 3	8 to 12	16 to 24	2	18 to 24	92 to 96
PRI + WAS (50:50)	2.6 to 6.0	4 to 8	8 to 16	1.7 to 2.8	18 to 27	91 to 98
Aerobically Digested WAS	2.0 to 4.4	3 to 8	6 to 16	2.6 to 3.0	18 to 20	96 to 97.5
Aerobically Digested PRI + WAS	4 to 6	3.8 to 6.4	7.6 to 12.8	2.0 to 2.6	20 to 22	96 to 99.5

Source: Turovskiy, Izrail S. and P.K. Mathai. "Wastewater Sludge Processing." Hoboken, New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 2006.

Type of Sludge	Belt Filter Press Dry polymer, lb/ton dry solids	Solid-bowl Centrifuge Dry polymer, lb/ton dry solids	Vacuum Filter Dry polymer, lb/ton dry solids
Raw Sludges			
Primary	2 to 9	2 to 7	0.5 to 1
Primary + Trickling Filter	3 to 15		2.5 to 5
Primary + Waste Activated	2 to 20	4 to 15	4 to 10
Waste Activated	2 to 20		8 to 15
Aerobically Digested			
Primary		6 to 10	1.5 to 4
Primary + Waste Activated	4 to 15	7 to 15	5 to 12
Anaerobically Digested			
Primary	2 to 10		
Primary + Waste Activated	3 to 15	3 to 5	
Primary + Trickling Filter		7 to 15	

Source: Water Environment Federation. "Operation of Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants." 5th ed. Manual of Practice—MOP 11. Alexandria, VA: WEF, 1996.

Table 33.8 Centrifuge Performance Characteristics

Type of Sludge	Cake Total Solids, %	Solids Recovery, %	Polymer, lb/ton dry solids	
Raw Primary	28 to 34	95	4 to 6	
Anaerobically Digested Primary	35 to 40	95	4 to 6	
Raw WAS	14 to 18	95	12 to 20	
Anaerobically Digested WAS	14 to 18	95	12 to 20	
Ras (Primary + WAS)	28 to 32	95	8 to 12	
Anaerobically Digested (Primary + WAS)	26 to 30	95	10 to 18	
Extended Aeration or Aerobically Digested	18 to 22	95	12 to 20	

Source: Water Environment Federation. "Operation of Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants." 5th ed.

Table 33.10 Typical Performance Data for Pressure Filters

Type of Sludge	Conditioning	Cycle Time, hours	Solids, %
Primary	5% FeCl ₃ , 10% Lime	2.0	45
	100% Ash	1.5	50
	Polymer	4.0	45
Primary + WAS	5% FeCl ₃ , 10% Lime	2.5	45
	150% Ash	2.0	50
	Polymer		35
WAS	7.5% FeCl ₃ , 15% Lime	2.5	45
	250% Ash	2.0	50
Anaerobically Digested Primary	8% FeCl ₃ , 35% Lime	2.0	36
Anaerobically Digested (Primary + WAS)	8% FeCl ₃ , 35% Lime	2.0	45
	100% Ash	1.5	50
	Polymer		32

FeCl₃: Ferric Chloride

WAS: Waste Activated Sludge

Source: Water Environment Federation. "Operation of Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants." 5^{th} ed.