



From field to future



AGI Customer Spotlight

Blue Clay Colony Feed Facility

Manitoba, Canada

A Vision for Growth

When Blue Clay Colony, a Hutterite community in Arnaud, Manitoba, set out to expand their agricultural operations, they knew the right feed facility would be central to their future. “We started looking around and we talked to different people, and we really couldn’t find what we wanted. I guess and somehow, we got in contact with AGI and set up a meeting and came out and we liked what we heard...” said Mike Maendel, Blue Clay’s Manager.

Building with AGI FLEXmill™

Blue Clay’s upgraded feed facility centers on the AGI FLEXmill system, chosen for its flexibility and reliability. The FLEXmill’s modular design and robust components—like the 75HP hammer mill and micro ingredient system—were engineered to support the colony’s goals of upgrading their operations with minimal downtime and limited changes to existing infrastructure. For Blue Clay, it wasn’t just about technical specifications; it was about finding practical solutions to real operational challenges.

“We grew out of our old little feed mill. With the new FLEXmill, we could get to our ten tonne an hour capacity... running an 8 hour day, Saturday, Sunday shouldn’t have to be milling,” Mike explained, highlighting how the new system transformed their workflow and allowed for future expansion.

While the AGI FLEXmill forms the heart of the facility, the high-capacity loadout bins are a separate addition, installed to address Blue Clay’s need for efficient product segregation and streamlined feed handling.

AGI FLEXmill™ System

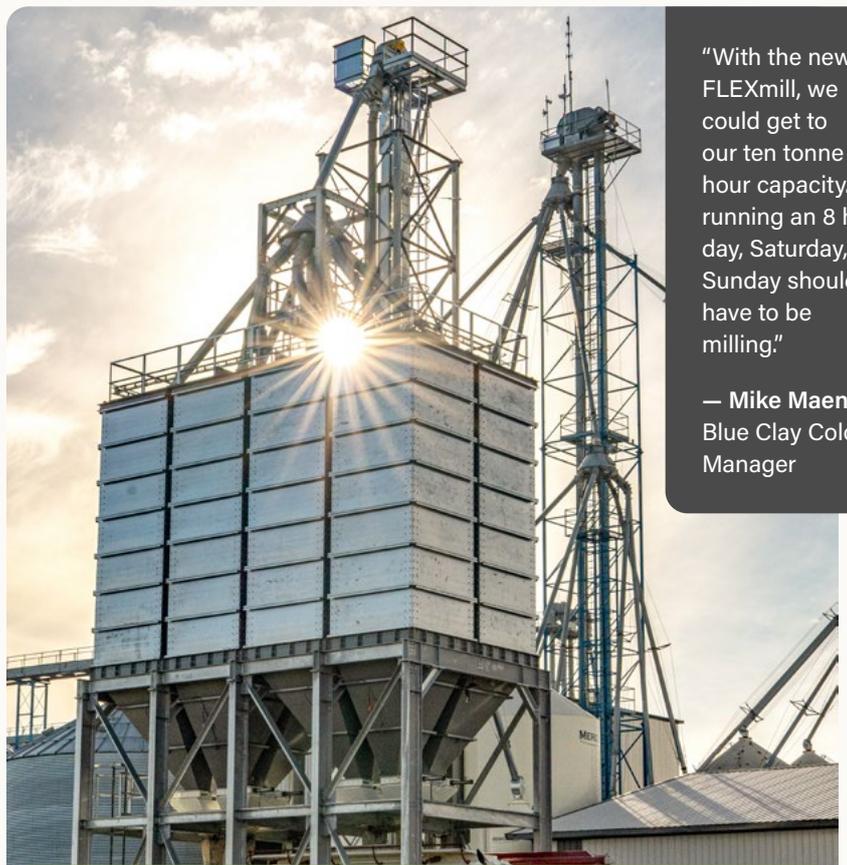
Central to Blue Clay’s upgraded facility is the AGI FLEXmill System. From the powerful hammer mill to smart ingredient handling, every component is designed to keep things running smoothly and adapt to changing needs.

Practical Installation and Thoughtful Design

Blue Clay’s decision to install the FLEXmill and loadout system themselves was driven by practicality and supported by the system’s user-friendly design. “We did it (the installation). We did it all ourselves. Everything. (The loadout bins)...were easy to install. I don’t think there was any issues with drilling holes or anything like that,” Mike shared, underscoring the straightforward installation and the satisfaction of AGI’s solution.

Rather than constructing a new building, they expanded their existing facility by 30 feet to accommodate the new FLEXmill, making efficient use of existing resources.

The FLEXmill’s hammer mill features an air assist system which significantly reduces airborne particles and pulls particles of the right size through the screen during grinding. This supports consistent feed quality and ensures efficient and safe operations.



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— Mike Maendel,
Blue Clay Colony
Manager

Loadout Bins: Eight 8' x 8' x 21' Square Corner Draw Hopper Bins, Full Round Loadout Distributor

Consistency and Quality

For Blue Clay, consistent feed quality is paramount. "We're happy with the quality that comes out of it. So far, it's been a nice little mill... the feed quality, especially in the hog barn, is a lot more consistent. The boys like what they see."

The automated ingredient handling and mixing ensure every batch is precise, supporting healthy livestock and efficient operations. "I would encourage anybody at this point to put in an AGI FLEXmill. If I could do this over again, I would do a FLEXmill again," Mike affirmed, reflecting his confidence in the system's reliability.

Loadout System: Capacity and Convenience

The new loadout system stands out as a favourite feature. "...because of the different species we have (and) doubling the production, the one bin or two bins we had as overhead bins was not enough. We needed more. Did we need eight? Probably not. But that's a nice option."

With turkeys, hogs, and broiler breeders on the farm, Blue Clay relies on multiple high-capacity bins and automated ingredient handling to efficiently store and dispense feed tailored to each species.

Built for the Future

Scalability was a key consideration for Blue Clay as they planned their feed facility. Rather than simply meeting today's needs, the team looked ahead, anticipating growth, new opportunities, and the possibility of expanding their livestock operations well beyond their current footprint. As Mike explained, "Yes, we build it for the future, for expansion... you never know what tomorrow brings, or 3-4-5 years from now, we might own a hog barn 10 miles from here. But guess what? We got the capacity now to make feed and then truck it to that facility!"

Partnership and Progress

Blue Clay's experience with AGI was more than a transaction—it was a partnership. "When (the AGI team) presented the FLEXmill to us... I guess we just liked what we'd seen, the expertise (they) had and could answer our questions, could show us how it's done and really told us give (them) a chance. We will get to your 10 tonnes an hour!"

AGI's team demonstrated expertise and responsiveness, guiding Blue Clay through the process with confidence. The collaborative approach helped ensure the facility met Blue Clay's ambitious goals, delivering on the promise of increased capacity and reliable performance.

Setting the Standard

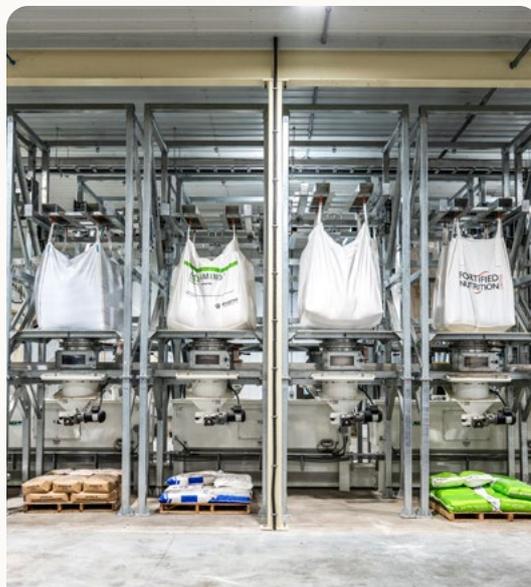
With their new feed facility, Blue Clay Colony is setting the standard for quality and consistency, feeding their livestock and fueling their future. The AGI FLEXmill system has enabled Blue Clay to reduce labor, expand capacity, and improve efficiency.



Hammer Mill Module: 75 HP Hammer Mill, Air Assist Filter (1000 CFM), Pocket Feeder with Magnet, Grain Scale Hopper, Grain Surge Hopper



Micro Ingredient System: Two 12-bin Micro Systems (6CF per bin), Micro Screws, Pneumatic Gates, Scales (1.3CF per ingredient, 4CF total)



Tote Station Modules: Twelve Tote stands, Tote System Feeder, Three Tote Scales



Softstock Module: Soft Stock Scale Hopper, Soft Stock Surge Hopper

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Mixer Module: Single Shaft Paddle Mixer, Mixer Pre-Surge Hopper

Loop Conveyor: 2000 CF/HR, 36 MT/HR @ 40 LB/CF (Not shown)

Hand add Hopper: 5 CF capacity (Not shown)