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### Weather summary:

#### May 2015

Temperatures and precipitation were above the long-term average in Illinois during May. Mean streamflow statewide was slightly above the median for the month. Shallow groundwater levels were below long-term average depths.

**Temperatures** for May averaged 64.8 degrees F, 2.4 degrees above the long-term average (Figure 1). The highest temperatures were in the southeast crop reporting district (CRD) with a monthly average of 67.4 degrees. The lowest were in the northeast CRD with an average of 61.7 degrees.

**Precipitation** averaged 5.56 inches, 0.97 inches above normal for the month. Crop reporting district totals ranged from 4.72 inches in the east-southeast district to 7.04 inches in the southwest CRD.

**Soil moisture** increased at the 2- and 4-inch depths, ending the month with moisture levels averaging 0.36 water fraction by volume (wfv) at both depths. No significant changes were observed at depths of 8 inches and greater though

### Personnel

**Michelle Stewart**  
Owner & President

**John Stewart**  
Owner & Project Specialist

**Greg Firrantello**  
Dept. of Agronomy CCA/  
Manager

**Jason Hill**  
Operations Manager

**Billie Marko**  
Monitoring and Reporting

### New Public Outreach

May was a normal month for our PR team. We visited a few homes for fields. The few folks were thankful for us letting them know that we were going to start hauling sometime in spring. Some were not as excited. Below are the counties and townships we visited. People still don't like to talk very long in the winter/spring time.

County	Township
Will	4 total
Kendall	1 total
LaSalle	2 total



## Odor Minimization

Biosolids application methods such as immediate incorporation and injection can effectively reduce odor emissions. Other best management practices such as temperatures, weather conditions, and communicating spreading times and locations with neighbors can significantly reduce odor complaints.

## Notes

Unpredictable temperatures in May make for interesting weather. We consider weather conditions and location of the application to the best of our ability. We also consider applying biosolids during situations that may create attention. Applying immediately with incorporation is better for minimizing odors. We contact neighboring farms and homes when we apply biosolids to fields. Having said that, it is a manure product and there will always be some amount of odor. Good communication always helps.

## Communication with Government Officials

Stewart Spreading will continue their policy of contacting all officials who we feel we should have close working relationships with. Those notified include law enforcement, health and highway departments, county, township and city officials and IEPA officials. Authorities appreciate good communication so they are not surprised when the calls do come in. Proactive is critical for success. We also encourage common sense rulings for all practical purposes.

## LASMA /CALMSA VOLUMES APPLIED May 2015

<u>Field</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Wet tons</u>
WL Donohue 5	40	16566.54
WL Donohue 8	50	1963.65
WL Nugent 24	80	1868.54
WL Nugent 25	56	1750.33

## Safety Meetings

In the month of May, we had a safety day for operating equipment over long hours worked. Heavy equipment and trucking logs which will be used very shortly. Three points of contact is always a good rule of thumb. Also spring severe weather is something everyone can be a ware of if you pay attention.

## Agronomy Corner

Spring brings unpredictable weather. May is usually dry enough to run for moving biosolids. Stewart Spreading *deals with a wet spring more often then not.*

This time of year allows for proper seed bed conditions before spring planting. Its important not to get into the field too early because too much damage can be done. Still racing the planters!!!

