



**This Issue**

**Weather Summary November**

Weather 1

Public Outreach 1

Biosolids Volumes 2

Land Applied

Personnel 1

Government 2

Officials

Safety Meetings 2

and Notes

Odor Minimization 2

Agronomy Corner 2

**Weather summary:**

December 2015

DECEMBER 2015 OVERVIEW Temperatures and precipitation were above the long-term average in Illinois during December. Mean stream-flow statewide was well above the median for the month. Shallow groundwater levels were above long-term average depths.

Air temperatures averaged 41.1 degrees in December, 11.2 degrees above the long-term average (Figure 1). The lowest temperatures were in the northwestern crop reporting district (CRD) with an average of 37.2 degrees for the month. The southeastern CRD had the highest average with 45.7 degrees.

Precipitation averaged 6.41 inches, 3.72 inches above the long-term average (Figure 1). The northwestern district averaged 4.71 inches for the month, the lowest of the month. The west southwestern district had the highest average with 8.39 inches.

**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**

December is a very quiet month for public outreach. At this time of the year we are finished with the fall fields and have not started yet with the spring fields. Holiday vacations and preparations are also underway.

We are gearing up for the busy spring season.

County	Township
Kendall 5	
LaSalle 3	



Field

Acres

Wet tons

There were no LASMA/CALSMA Applications in December.

## 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

It's touch and go for wrapping up field operations this time of year. Sometimes night operations works during cooler temperatures. We also have to consider how cooler temperatures can be harder on equipment with frozen chunks and working frozen ground. As the seasons change, so do the considerations

## 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.

## Safety Meetings

In December we began our annual ASMARK training for all employees in a variety of subjects such as Defensive Driving; Blood-borne Pathogens; Hazard Communication; Back Safety; Slips, Trips and Falls; Forklift Safety; and Personal Protective Equipment.

## Agronomy Corner

The dry weather conditions have somewhat diminished for wrapping up harvest and spreading.

It is very important to be able to incorporate the biosolids correctly. This will keep the odors down and will allow the spring field conditions to be in good shape for planting.

No two years are the same. The challenges are never ending.

