



This Issue

Weather Summary February

Weather 1

Public Outreach 1

Biosolids Volumes 2

Land Applied

Personnel 1

Government 2

Officials

Safety Meetings and Notes 2

Odor Minimization 2

Agronomy Corner 2

Weather summary:

February 2016

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

Air temperatures averaged 33.7 degrees F in February, 2.8 degrees above the long-term average (Figure 1). The lowest temperatures were in the northwestern crop reporting district (CRD) with an average of 29.6 degrees for the month. The southwest CRD had the highest average with 38.8 degrees.

Precipitation averaged 1.29 inches, 0.77 inches below the long-term average. The western CRD averaged 0.60 inches for February, the lowest of the month. The southeastern district had the highest average with 2.83 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

With the spring season fast approaching we have been aggressive with our public outreach in the Month of February. Our public outreach was concentrated in Kendall County, LaSalle County and Will County.

County		Township
Kendall	12	various
LaSalle	12	various
Will	23	various



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

The advantages of using biosolids as part of your fertilizer program are many. The greatest advantage is a reduction in fertilizer costs. Biosolids typically have about 4 percent nitrogen, and also contain phosphorus and many micronutrients that can be beneficial to crop growth. Another advantage is the addition of organic matter to the soil, organic matter reduces surface runoff, erosion and improves the nutrient holding capacity of the soil. Studies have shown increased organic matter content can improve yields.

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 / CALSMA VOLUMES APPLIED January 2016

Field

Acres

Wet tons

There were no LASMA/CALSMA Applications in February.

Safety Meetings

In February we continued Crew Leader cross training that began in January. Additionally we began updating our new employee On Boarding program with plans to have all Crew Leader training and cross training participants to attend an On Boarding session in March in order to refresh and reinforce all aspects of On Boarding but, in particular new employee safety training.

Agronomy Corner

The snow is still flying and the cold is still present. But that does not stop us from lining up fields for spring 2016 spreading.

Soil sampling, meeting with farmers, talking with farmers, creating maps, building field packets and PR are all taking place in the month of February.

Spring is just around the corner. The winter months are the time we have to prepare for spring. As soon as the fields can dry up, operations can begin.

