Weather Summary June

**Weather summary:**

June 2017

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

**Air temperatures** averaged 72.6 degrees for June, 0.7 degrees above the long-term average (Figure 1). The southwest crop reporting district (CRD) had the highest temperature with 74.2 degrees. The lowest regional temperature was 70.5 degrees, reported from the northeast CRD.

**Precipitation** averaged 3.09 inches, 1.12 inches below the long-term average. The northwest district had the highest average with 4.25 inches. The west CRD was the driest for June with an average of 2.12 inches for the month.

**Soil moisture** at depths of 2 to 20 inches declined 10 to 17 percent on average during June. On June 30, levels averaged 0.23 water fraction by volume (wfv) at 2 inches, 0.26 wfv at 8 inches, 0.25 wfv at 10 inches, and 0.33 wfv at 20 inches. Levels at 39 and 59 inches remained steady with end-of-month averages of 0.43 and 0.41 wfv, respectively.

**New Public Outreach**

June is here and the weather should cooperate with field operations. The PR is done for the spring season.

A few questions may pop up that we would address from time to time. Most neighbors are familiar with us.

We are always doing PR weeks ahead of when the fields actually get spread. Some neighbors are nice. And some are indifferent.

Some are tired of the notifications. We need and strongly invite and encourage all regulatory and industry leaders to help out with biosolids land application PR by educating and promoting biosoids recycling.

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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
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

June is also what we call “borrowed time”. We really have the sense of urgency that spring is finishing fast!

June fields to spread due to prevent plant is a huge gift for spreading. June is usually slow because crops are planted and wheat is not harvested.

Spring permitting is finished and wheat fields are being permitted for summer application. Some soil sampling and PR is still occurring.

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.

Training

Rain days bring training days. Any days we are rained out in the field, we have employees go through safety training.

Agronomy Corner

June is usually the end of the road. Farmers are usually planted and we need to hurry. Late spring allowed us to work into June.

Wheat field permitting is under way. The 90 day rule causes us to redo PR during the same hauling period.

We hope we can haul a lot of material in June since May was so wet. It is not normal for this to happen but we have had wet spells in the past.

Some farmers cannot resist the temptation to plant therefore giving up on the biosolids for spring. Timing is important.

Spring spreading is one of the challenging times of year to apply biosolids even if the weather cooperates. It becomes a race against the weather and the planters.