

December – February Edition



# Management Solutions

**Agronomic Solutions, LLC**

Winter 2017/2018 Issue



*Merry Christmas  
& Happy New year*



*From all of us at  
Agronomic Solutions*

Janice Tiffany Melissa Mandy TJ

This is a seasonal publication produced by Agronomic Solutions, LLC for the confined feeding operators. Issues and information addressed in the newsletter will be geared towards animal feeding operation owners and managers. Hopefully you will find its contents useful in your operations. (260) 593-2092

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## Value of Manure - Customer Averages ...

The charts below show the average manure value per acre.

### Current Fertilizer Prices—December 21, 2017

28% Semi- prepay	560# N / ton	\$230 / ton	\$0.411 / # N
18-46-0	1040# P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> / ton	\$493 / ton	\$0.474 / # P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>
0-0-60 Semi	1200# K <sub>2</sub> O / ton	\$341 / ton	\$0.284 / # K <sub>2</sub> O

Swine Grower Pit			Dairy Lagoon		
N	32.2	\$13.23	N	7.4	\$3.04
P	20.5	\$9.72	P	6.2	\$2.94
K	26.3	\$10.81	K	12.2	\$3.46
	Per 1000 gal	<b>\$33.76</b>		Per 1000 gal	<b>\$9.44</b>

4000 gal / A = \$135.04 / acre

12,000 gal / A = \$113.28 / acre

Calf – Manure Pack			Duck—Liquid		
N	7.3	\$3.00	N	26.9	\$11.06
P	10.4	\$4.93	P	25.0	\$11.85
K	13.3	\$3.78	K	24.5	\$6.96
	Per ton	<b>\$11.71</b>		Per 1000 gal	<b>\$29.87</b>

15 ton / A = \$175.65 / acre

5,000 gal / A = \$149.35 / acre

Broilers (Layers) - Litter		
N	34.1 (34.1)	\$14.02 (\$14.02)
P	60.8 (85.6)	\$28.82 (\$40.57)
K	60.3 (60.3)	\$17.13 (\$17.13)
	Per ton	<b>\$59.97 (\$71.72)</b>

3.0 ton / A = \$179.91 (\$215.16) / acre

...now worth an average of \$161.40 / acre

## Natures Deoderant ...

Scientists have found that planting three rows of trees reduces emissions of dust 53%, ammonia 56% and helps kill 18% of the odors. Trees also help reduce noise and improve water quality by filtering pollutants from soil and groundwater.

Most trees take years for to grow to become effective in filtering. However, some species can grow as much as 8-10 feet in one year.

Planting trees demonstrates that the animal grower is being proactive to address potential concerns of neighbors. He is giving the farm a landscaped appearance and increasing property values. The living filter system has other benefits. It conserves energy by increasing shade and cooling in the summer and acts as a buffer to reduce heating costs in the winter. Trees remove from view the cause of the odor. Often times, what people cannot see they don't smell. Keep in mind that in our area odors usually travel north to northeast. Trees need to be planted accordingly.

For more odor control strategies, contact me. I would be glad to help you find some sort of solution to this problem that annoys so many people around you.



## IDEM/OISC Enforcements & Violations ...

Graph A: breakdown by species of IDEM enforcements made to CFOs from 2011-2016.

Graph B: the breakdown by manure source of Ofc. Of the IN State Chemist Violations involving manure over a 2.5 year period (2013-2015)..

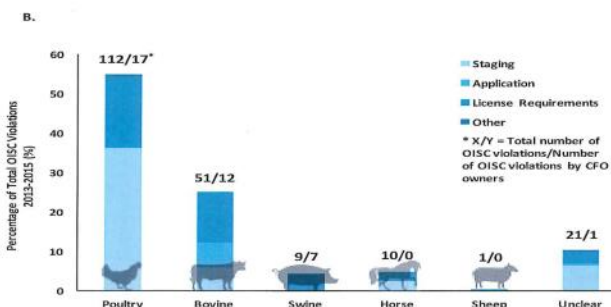
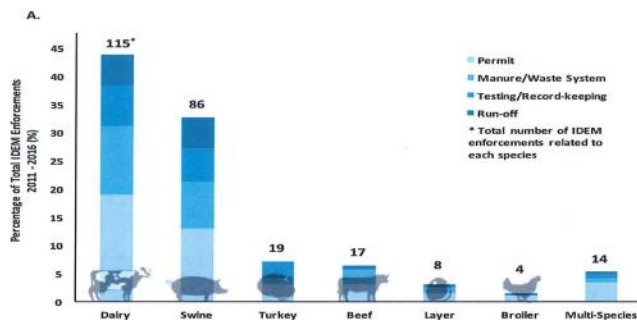


Table 1: the numerical data used to create Graph A

Table 1. CFO-related IDEM Enforcements by species (2011 – 2016).

Species	Type of Enforcement				Total Enforcements
	Permit	Manure/Waste System	Testing/Record-keeping	Run-off	
Dairy	50	30	19	13	112
Swine	34	22	15	15	86
Turkey	8	3	8	0	19
Beef	8	7	0	2	17
Layer	4	3	0	1	8
Broiler	3	0	0	1	4
Veal	0	2	0	1	3*
Multi-Species	9	2	2	0	13

\*Veal enforcements are included in dairy enforcements in Graph A.

Table 2: the numerical data used to create Graph B

Table 2. OISC Violations by Manure Source (2013 – 2015).

Manure Source	Type of Violation				Total Violations
	Staging	Application	License Requirements	Other	
Poultry	74	0	37	1	112
Bovine	12	13	26	0	51
Swine	0	0	9	0	9
Horse	5	0	5	0	10
Sheep	0	0	1	0	1
Unclear	13	1	6	1	21

## Tips for Improving Winter Manure Management ...

The onset of winter weather brings challenges when applying manure, as well as storing manure during extended periods of very cold weather. The following BMPs apply to both injected and surface-applied manure.

### **Best Management Practices**

- If manure is spread in the winter, select level land and apply only conservative rates to minimize environmental impacts. Avoid applying manure up and down a slope where tillage was completed and avoid application during snow-melt.
- Avoid applying manure prior to precipitation, especially if the ground is frozen. This will cause the manure nutrients to move off-site and possibly cause a water-quality violation.

### **Ammonia reduction**

Due to the minimized opportunity for application during the winter, most producers are forced to store manure for a longer time than in spring and summer. Typically, dairy and swine producers are equipped with the capacity to store manure until spring, yet with the increased length of time for storage, other factors may arise. Ammonia levels and gaseous odors can be more noticeable, especially in farrowing and nursery barns where airtight, heated buildings decrease the amount of free-flowing air.

The use of a pit additive (manure nutrient manager, i.e.: MTM) can reduce ammonia levels in livestock confinement operations when added to in-ground pits or lagoons. Choose a pit additive that will reduce solids and crusting in pits and lagoons. This decreases the buildup of the manure and requires much less agitation. The use of a manure nutrient manager in pits and lagoons during the winter will also allow stored manure to be more manageable when pumping and/or transporting manure for spring application.

## Price Increase in 2018 ...

The cost for our services has only increased once in the 12 years that Agronomic Solutions has been in existence. This has prevented us from keeping up with inflation for our employee wages. In order to keep the competent employees we now have and continue to provide the services you have come expect, we must increase the charges for our services. Mileage fees will also increase to account for our time in travel and not just vehicle expenses. Remember, if you come to our office it eliminates the mileage fee. Please call for before you come.

Rates will increase on January 1, 2018. If we have started a new project for you (i.e.: new IDEM Permit, new MI Siting or DEQ CAFO, new LaGrange Co. Site Plan) in 2017, we will complete the initial project at the 2017 prices.

The cost of our **IDEM Compliance Program** is also increasing. This program allows you 6 hours of our services to help you stay compliant with IDEM for a retainer fee paid in advance. The fee has been \$575, and is increasing to \$595. However, if you wish to become a new participant in the program, and contact us to join before January 18th, we will sign you up at the 2017 price of \$575.



## Winter To Do Checklist ...

Winter is a time to step back and catch your breath from the busy cropping seasons. To keep your competitive edge you must keep organized and educate yourself.

- Research & choose the best hybrids for your farm.
- Attend Farm Shows and meetings to see new ideas and equipment.
- Visit your NRCS DC to learn about cost-share programs and opportunities.
- Update manure spreading and distribution records.
- Update IDEM/DEQ operating records binder.
  - ⇒ Send us any updated manure samples
  - ⇒ Send us any new soil test information
  - ⇒ Make sure weekly inspections are completed
- (MI) Complete annual NDPES report. Call and make an appointment if you want help or to review.
- Analyze yield maps with a professional, if available.
- Complete your planned nutrient budget for the 2017 crop

You can either update these items yourself or call our office for help. It is much easier to do it once a year, than in a panic when your inspector calls to schedule a visit ☺

### Winter time spreading ...

**Any state permitted farm (IDEM or DEQ) should NOT be spreading manure on frozen or snow covered ground. If you find yourself in a situation needing to spread, please call our office to discuss your options.**



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## We are hiring!!

We are looking for a new fulltime office employee.

Requirements for the job are:

- Ability to get along with fellow workers and clients & work in a group environment
- A basic general knowledge of agriculture
- A basic knowledge of computers, especially Microsoft Excel ,Word, and the internet
- A willingness to learn new computer programs and farming practices

Office hours are 8 AM to 4 PM , 5 days per week

**To apply: Call Melissa for an interview:  
574-202-2608 or 260-593-2092**

### New Category 14 Testing Site for 2018

**Shipshewana, IN March 6** 3-6:00 pm  
Wolfe Building, 345 N Morton St, Shipshewana  
Contact: Steve Engleking [englekin@purdue.edu](mailto:englekin@purdue.edu) 260-499-6334

### Dates to Remember ...

#### **Notice Michigan CAFOs...**

April 1, 2018: Annual Reports are due  
(call Mandy to get started)

#### **We will exhibit at the following farm shows - Come see us!**

**Jan. 16-18: Fort Wayne Farm Show**  
@ Allen Co. War Memorial Coliseum,

**Feb. 2-3: Northern Indiana Grazing Conf.**  
@ MEC (Michiana Event Center), Shipshewana

#### **Other dates for your calendar in 2018...**

**Jan 10: PARP Training at Ron Martin Seed and Supply**  
61329 Co Rd 9, Elkhart, IN (10 AM-2 PM) lunch provided

**Jan 10: Fulton Co Winter School—(7:30-9:30 PM)**  
@ Rochester, IN HS Auditorium (PARP)

**Jan 23: Crop Management Workshop**  
PARP/CCH (8:30 AM—4:30 PM)  
@ Wells Co Comm. Center, Bluffton, IN

**Feb. 14-17: National Farm Machinery Show**  
@ Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville, KY

**Mar 19: Whitley Co PARP (8:30—11:45 AM)**  
@ Whitley Co 4-H Center, Columbia City, IN

**Mar 19: Noble Co PARP (1—4 PM)**  
@ Whitley Co 4-H Center, Columbia City, IN