



November 2019

Thanksgiving is Dinner by Maude M. Grant

Take a turkey, stuff it fat, some of this and some of that.

Get some turnips, peel them well. Cook a big squash in its shell.

Now potatoes, big and white, mash till they are soft and light.

Cranberries, so tart and sweet, with the turkey we must eat.

Pickles-yes and then, oh my! For a dessert a pumpkin pie.

Golden brown and spicy sweet, what a fine Thanksgiving treat.

It should come as no surprise; Midwest agriculture provides much of the food for your Thanksgiving feast. Here are a few quick facts to share this week:

- Iowa ranks 7th in the nation in turkey production. Annually, Iowa farmers produce 12 million turkeys. Additionally, turkey production is responsible for over \$10 billion dollars in economic activity in the state.

- Each year Iowa turkeys produce about 300,000 tons of turkey litter, containing almost \$10 million dollars of fertilizer value.
- Minnesota leads the nation in turkey production, raising about 46 million turkeys each year.
- Wisconsin is the nation's leader in green bean production, processing around 300,000 tons of green beans each year.
- Chances are that the pumpkin in your pie was grown in Illinois, with ninety to ninety-five percent of all processed pumpkin grown around Morton, Illinois.
- Iowa is the 12th leading dairy state with 209,000 cows, with each one making about 150 pounds of manure a day per cow, or about 5 million tons of manure per year.



Figure 1: Turkeys prepping for Thanksgiving.

Manure Scoop: The Science Behind Manure Management Plans

In this month's [Manure Scoop](#), we take a look at the yield goal method and how changes in agricultural systems and corn genetics may be impacting the way partial nitrogen budgets look.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

Winter Manure Application – Best Application Tips

When manure is surface applied to snow-covered or frozen ground, there is an increased risk for manure runoff and consequently nutrient runoff into Iowa's waters. Due to this increased risk, winter manure application is not recommended.

State law prevents confinement facilities with 500 or more animal units from applying liquid manure on ground with an inch of snow or one-half inch of ice from December 21st - April 1st or on frozen ground February 1st - April 1st except in an emergency. If emergency application is necessary, producers must call the local DNR field office to report emergency applications before they apply. Additionally, if you have a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, winter application may be limited. Those with a Comprehensive Nutrient Management from NRCS need to carefully review their plan, as that does not allow winter application except in designated emergencies.

While the snow and frozen ground rules do not apply to open feedlots or poultry operations, manure application during winter months presents tough management decisions. If winter application is unavoidable, be sure to follow our Top Ten List of winter manure application considerations to ensure minimal nutrient loss and water quality impacts.

Top Ten Winter Manure Application Considerations:

- Take into account soil and weather conditions, avoid applying immediately prior to a precipitation or snowmelt event.
- Follow all separation distances ([available here](#)); even if separation distances are followed a water quality violation may still occur, so if possible increase the setback.
- Apply on the flattest slopes as far away from water sources as possible.
- Avoid application on areas that drain to surface tile intakes.
- Do not apply manure in a grassed waterway.
- Apply to areas where soil erosion is controlled.

- Store or stockpile manure in a way that does not cause runoff.
- Apply to areas of less snow-cover.
- Update your Manure Management Plan to reflect surface application rates.
- Receive approval for surface application if subject to Master Matrix requirements for injection or incorporation.



Figure 2: Avoid applying manure prior to a precipitation or snowmelt event.

Learn about Designing Drainage Water Quality Practices

An all-day workshop, scheduled for December 18, 2019, will focus on the design and layout of new practices currently being considered for water quality improvements of farmland drainage. This workshop will be held from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, and is a collaborative effort amongst Iowa Soybean Association, United States Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Research Service, and Iowa State University Extension & Outreach.

The program will focus on designing and/or planning woodchip bioreactors, drainage water management with controls structures, saturated buffers, and wetlands. Registration is \$150 and includes morning refreshments, lunch, and workshop materials. Registration cost increases to \$175 if done after Dec. 13. Please register by completing and mailing the [online brochure](#) or by

contacting the ISU Extension and Outreach Webster County office at 515-576-2119 or lcline@iastate.edu. Questions regarding the workshop can be directed to Kapil Arora, Agricultural Engineering Field Specialist at 515-291-0174 or pbtiger@iastate.edu. [Read more about what options this Drainage Water Quality Practices Workshop will cover.](#)

Events

December 13, 2019

1:30 pm

[Phosphorus Management Lessons Learned from the Field Webinar](#)

January 2020

14 locations statewide

[Crop Advantage Series](#)

January 8, 2020

[Statewide Showing Commercial Manure Applicator Certification](#)

January 22 – 23, 2020

[Iowa Pork Congress](#)

January – February

[Statewide Confinement Site Manure Applicator Certification](#)