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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
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DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION AND EDUCATION  
FRANK G. THOMPSON, *Director*  
DIVISION OF THE  
STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
M. M. LEIGHTON, *Chief*  
URBANA

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CIRCULAR NO. 146

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AGSTONE USED IN ILLINOIS  
IN 1947

BY

WALTER H. VOSKUIL AND ETHEL M. KING



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URBANA, ILLINOIS

1948

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## AGSTONE USED IN ILLINOIS IN 1947

BY

WALTER H. VOSKUIL AND ETHEL M. KING

Reports of producers to the Illinois Geological Survey show that the amount of agstone (ground limestone and dolomite) used for soil improvement in Illinois during 1947 amounted to more than 5,180,000 tons (table 1). This was 7.4 per cent less than that used in 1946, but there was an increase of 11 cents per ton, or approximately 11 percent in value over 1946.

Even with this decrease in tonnage, Illinois continued to rank first among all the states in the amount of liming material used for soil treatment.

Table 1.--Agstone used in Illinois, 1946 and 1947<sup>a</sup>

	1946*		1947	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
Produced in Illinois				
Limestone.....	3,070,813	\$3,604,121	2,863,785	\$3,799,900
Dolomite.....	2,283,195	2,471,340	1,916,590	2,216,515
Marl.....	5,460	7,135	-	-
Total produced in Illinois.....	5,359,468	6,082,596	4,780,375	6,016,415
Less marketed in other states.....	154,648	167,531	91,663	112,348
Produced and used in Illinois....	5,204,820	5,915,065	4,688,712	5,904,067
Produced in other states and used in Illinois.....	390,879	347,182	494,357	488,620
Total agstone used in Illinois....	5,595,699	\$6,262,247	5,183,069	\$6,392,687

\* Revised figures.

<sup>a</sup> Summary of canvass made by Illinois Geological Survey in cooperation with Illinois Agricultural Association and Midwest Agricultural Limestone Institute.

Table 2.--Agstone used in Illinois Annually, 1927-1947<sup>a</sup>

Year	Tons	Value	Av. price per ton
1927	647,155	\$ 579,639	\$0.90
1928	565,001	511,005	.91
1929	947,798	843,693	.89
1930	868,426	740,785	.86
1931	268,874	241,376	.90
1932	164,933	140,969	.86
1933	227,466	165,667	.73
1934	491,644	319,604	.65
1935	379,555	268,139	.71
1936	1,114,466	871,862	.78
1937	1,310,513	1,279,981	.97
1938	1,251,263	1,247,150	1.00
1939	1,497,458	1,318,173	.88
1940	2,365,663	1,999,850	.84
1941	3,084,855	2,873,536	.93
1942	3,866,568	3,600,313	.93
1943	3,236,477	3,175,108	.98
1944	4,214,600	4,388,886	1.04
1945	4,287,568	4,627,705	1.08
1946	*5,595,699	*6,262,247	1.12
1947	5,183,069	6,392,687	1.23

\* Revised figures.

<sup>a</sup> U. S. Bureau of Mines, 1927-29; canvass by Illinois Agriculture Association, 1930; canvass by Illinois Geological Survey, 1931-1947.

These data are from producers who reported sales of agstone in specific counties. Production not accounted for in the county totals is given at the bottom of the table marked "counties not specified." Several counties, particularly Rock Island and Vermilion, show abnormally low tonnage. This is because some producers in these and other counties did not report their agstone production as distributed by counties, and therefore the proper allocation could not be made. The total production figures of these producers are included in "counties not specified." The total amount of agstone used in Illinois is the actual total of deliveries in Illinois reported by producers.

The value of agstone for improving soil fertility is now a well established fact. During 1947 the demand for this mineral material continued and far exceeded the supply. Many producers reported acute labor shortage, and this, together with increased wages and higher costs of supplies and equipment, curtailed production. In other instances unfavorable weather conditions and floods hindered both production and sales.

Of the 187 plants reporting on 1947 operations, 9 percent had discontinued operations, 2 percent changed ownership, and 19 percent were idle. Table 2 shows the use of agstone on Illinois farms during the years for which figures are available.

During 1947 agstone was produced in 47 of the 102 counties of the State. Of the total agstone used during the year, 90.5 percent was produced in Illinois.

Table 3 gives the use of agstone by districts and by counties comprising each district, showing the amount produced in Illinois and in other states.

Table 3.--Agstone Used in Illinois by Districts and by Counties, 1946 and 1947<sup>a</sup>  
(In tons)

Districts and Counties	Total used in 1946	1947			Produced in district, but county destination not reported by producer	Acres of arable land and plowable pasture (1940 census)
		Distribution to counties as reported by producers <sup>b</sup>				
		Total used	From Illinois	From other states		
<b>District 1</b>						
<u>County</u>						
Cook	25,000	24,844	19,407	5,437		199,206
Du Page	33,800	28,169	28,169	-		116,731
Ford	28,000	19,489	19,489	-		280,058
Grundy	34,670	32,119	32,119	-		218,241
Iroquois	82,177	101,085	49,625	51,460		611,482
Kane	86,814	60,007	60,007	-		255,882
Kankakee	76,000	55,437	55,382	55		348,647
Kendall	39,780	19,814	19,814	-		168,326
Lake	14,000	6,374	6,374	-		140,960
Livingston	134,466	138,019	138,019	-		595,765
McHenry	24,251	35,354	35,354	-		262,434
Will	100,000	61,086	61,086	-		396,213
<b>Total agstone</b> <b>District 1</b>	<b>678,958</b>	<b>581,797</b>	<b>524,845</b>	<b>56,952</b>	<b>520,788</b>	<b>3,593,945</b>
<b>District 2</b>						
<u>County</u>						
Boone	46,164	49,764	49,764	-		139,691
Bureau	120,000	85,989	85,624	365		440,808
Carroll <sup>c</sup>	49,000	8,000	8,000	-		200,264
DeKalb	70,000	55,698	55,698	-		349,131
Henry	66,000	12,570	10,700	1,870		423,236
Jo Daviess	35,000	16,970	16,470	500		225,208
La Salle	135,000	72,412	72,412	-		585,735
Lee	180,795	40,686	40,686	-		385,196
Mercer <sup>c</sup>	30,000	3,887	2,000	1,887		251,449
Ogle	100,000	68,619	68,619	-		383,404
Rock Island <sup>c</sup>	60,000	201	-	201		156,111
Stephenson	90,000	48,497	48,497	-		283,408
Whiteside	127,000	89,417	89,297	120		350,544
Winnebago	40,412	50,665	50,665	-		219,494
<b>Total agstone</b> <b>District 2</b>	<b>1,149,371</b>	<b>603,375</b>	<b>598,432</b>	<b>4,943</b>	<b>252,570</b>	<b>4,393,679</b>

Table 3.--Agstone Used in Illinois by Districts and by Counties, 1946 and 1947<sup>a</sup> (continued)  
(In tons)

Districts and Counties	Total used in 1946	1947			Acres of arable land and plowable pasture (1940 census)
		Distribution to counties as reported by producers <sup>b</sup>		Produced in district but county destination not reported by producer	
		Total used	From Illinois		
District 3 County					
Adams	65,000	77,059	76,151	908	328,009
Brown <sup>c</sup>	13,600	1,538	1,538	-	119,648
Cass	45,873	38,505	37,816	689	157,002
Champaign <sup>c</sup>	100,000	22,785	22,785	-	560,583
Christian	110,973	64,315	63,199	1,116	373,342
Clark	74,875	91,166	91,166	-	217,376
Coles <sup>c</sup>	45,000	1,729	1,263	466	254,255
Cumberland	34,000	16,174	16,174	-	157,832
DeWitt	21,500	17,798	17,798	-	211,909
Douglas <sup>c</sup>	25,633	2,081	1,421	660	231,817
Edgar <sup>c</sup>	40,000	6,172	6,172	-	307,538
Fulton	50,000	51,777	42,118	9,659	338,466
Hancock	74,000	87,097	84,940	2,157	340,637
Henderson	25,000	18,000	18,000	-	156,071
Knox	87,289	76,856	40,429	36,427	317,827
Logan	78,974	87,270	85,921	1,349	346,615
McDonough	67,345	53,791	39,275	14,516	270,917
McLean	112,000	39,945	39,765	180	656,782
Macon	45,369	37,671	36,243	1,428	305,531
Marshall	21,307	23,490	23,490	-	189,489
Mason	55,000	51,001	50,820	181	248,797
Menard	27,000	39,029	36,828	2,201	154,392
Morgan	55,000	31,203	22,029	9,174	261,346
Moultrie	30,000	11,772	11,772	-	178,794
Peoria	100,000	45,662	45,542	120	243,380
Piatt	50,000	47,737	47,737	-	246,223
Pike	40,000	17,109	17,109	-	341,756
Putnam	21,386	12,956	12,956	-	66,867
Sangamon	76,660	105,222	93,625	11,597	425,644
Schuyler	12,000	30,496	14,414	16,082	144,306
Scott	20,152	32,925	31,106	1,819	103,624
Shelby	63,856	48,415	48,415	-	374,712
Stark	24,000	26,428	26,428	-	148,213
Tazewell	45,000	19,962	19,962	-	304,959
Vermilion <sup>c</sup>	80,000	3,332	516	2,816	451,146
Warren	77,204	40,564	40,000	564	271,171
Woodford	32,666	23,472	23,472	-	258,560
Total agstone					
District 3	1,947,662	1,402,504	1,288,395	114,109	345,462
					10,065,536

Table 3.--Agstone Used in Illinois by Districts and by Counties, 1946 and 1947<sup>a</sup> (continued)  
(In tons)

Districts and Counties	Total used in 1946	1947			Acres of arable land and plowable pasture (1940 census)
		Distribution to counties as reported by producers <sup>b</sup>		Produced in district, but county destination not reported by producer	
		Total used	From Illinois		
District 4 County					
Alexander	12,250	12,030	11,830	200	58,779
Bond	35,000	16,462	8,519	7,943	168,876
Calhoun	16,500	6,260	6,260	-	70,886
Clay	32,426	25,407	15,519	9,888	201,735
Clinton	48,833	67,952	62,415	5,537	210,349
Crawford	25,375	20,663	17,155	3,508	193,868
Edwards	21,576	33,904	23,218	10,686	108,888
Effingham	49,827	56,377	39,695	16,682	213,369
Fayette	40,024	37,428	36,682	746	275,732
Franklin	36,906	39,388	32,815	6,573	146,843
Gallatin	25,000	43,411	42,841	570	127,951
Greene	32,000	31,746	31,694	52	226,052
Hamilton	25,200	30,129	10,672	19,457	179,698
Hardin	10,000	13,000	13,000	-	50,649
Jackson	38,000	37,471	37,471	-	188,088
Jasper	40,000	37,722	37,177	545	240,290
Jefferson	50,000	53,326	8,828	44,498	242,802
Jersey	25,273	22,000	22,000	-	134,766
Johnson <sup>c</sup>	22,000	9,918	9,918	-	112,452
Lawrence <sup>c</sup>	23,000	5,107	1,543	3,564	165,983
Macoupin	45,000	30,613	24,752	5,861	342,781
Madison	64,948	43,881	41,287	2,594	307,651
Marion	50,000	36,244	22,328	13,916	239,131
Massac	19,150	17,016	17,016	-	89,357
Monroe	60,000	110,184	110,184	-	155,971
Montgomery	112,000	97,717	76,543	21,174	322,306
Perry	35,000	26,086	18,074	8,012	156,265
Pope	10,000	18,372	18,372	-	92,321
Pulaski	12,277	23,903	23,903	-	68,920
Randolph	75,000	51,606	48,078	3,528	227,475
Richland	28,675	35,125	17,136	17,989	186,383
St. Clair	88,913	55,177	54,648	529	258,552
Saline	38,200	23,300	16,024	7,276	145,818
Union	35,854	37,122	37,122	-	123,799
Wabash	23,095	26,970	1,247	25,723	103,459

Table 3.--Agstone Used in Illinois by Districts and by Counties, 1946 and 1947<sup>a</sup> (concluded)  
(In tons)

Districts and Counties	Total used in 1946	1947			Produced in district, but county destination not reported by producer	Acres of arable land and plowable pasture (1940 census)
		Distribution to counties as reported by producers <sup>b</sup>				
		Total used	From Illinois	From other states		
District 4 County (cont.)						
Washington	33,000	27,681	13,765	13,916		242,105
Wayne	60,000	48,407	12,034	36,373		330,724
White	62,650	61,700	35,107	26,593		240,726
Williamson	26,732	20,077	17,868	2,209		128,514
Total agstone District 4	1,489,684	1,390,882	1,074,740	316,142	83,480	7,080,314
Total agstone distributed	5,265,675	3,978,558	3,486,412	492,146		
County not specified	*330,024	1,204,511	1,202,300	2,211	1,204,511	
Total	*5,595,699	5,183,069	4,688,712	494,357		25,133,474

\* Revised figures.

<sup>a</sup> Compiled from canvass made by Illinois Geological Survey, in cooperation with Illinois Agricultural Association and Midwest Agricultural Limestone Institute.<sup>b</sup> This represents only the tonnage of producers who gave county distribution. Production figures for which county distribution was not given are listed in column 6.<sup>c</sup> This county shows abnormally low tonnage because some producers did not report distribution by counties.



Table 4.--Agstone Produced in Other States and Used in Illinois, 1941-1947<sup>a</sup>

Year	Tons sold in Illinois	Percent of total Illinois consumption
1941	95,226	3.2
1942	171,035	4.5
1943	166,518	5.3
1944	314,800	7.5
1945	181,200	4.3
1946	390,879	*7.0
1947	494,357	9.5

\* Revised figures.

<sup>a</sup> From canvass made by Illinois Geological Survey

The total quantity of agstone produced in other states but marketed in Illinois is shown in table 4. This amounted to 9.5 percent of the total used in Illinois.

Table 5 gives the total quantity of agstone produced in Illinois which was marketed in other states. This amounted to 1.9 percent of the total amount produced in Illinois.

The map on page 10 shows the four limestone distribution districts into which the State is divided, and the counties comprising each district (table 3).

Table 5.--Agstone Produced in Illinois and Marketed in Other States, 1941-1947<sup>a</sup>  
(In tons)

Year	Indiana	Iowa	Kentucky	Missouri	Wisconsin	Other states <sup>b</sup>	Total
1941	1,800	100	940	867	-	1,125	4,832
1942	28,811	-	9,700	203	450	19,853	59,017
1943	34,579	11,000	1,000	1,192	-	28,200	75,971
1944	46,302	7,683	8,900	8	-	110,318	173,211
1945	46,000	-	23,600	2,700	-	117,900	190,200
1946	46,495	5	-	208	5,140	102,800	154,648
1947	61,129	10,000	4,504	1,133	783	14,114	91,663

<sup>a</sup> From canvass made by Illinois Geological Survey.

<sup>b</sup> Marketed outside Illinois, destination seldom specified.



LIMESTONE DISTRIBUTION DISTRICTS

Illinois State Geological Survey  
Urbana, Illinois  
Circular 146  
1948

