The art and science of natural resource management for sustainability

# **CONTENTS**

# **EDITOR'S DESK**

A Rising expectations for conservation in water-scarce times

Mark Anderson-Wilk, editor

#### YOUR LETTERS

**5A** Readers' Forum

# **HOME FRONT**

6A Resilience

Craig A. Cox, executive director of the Soil and Water Conservation Society

#### **VIEWPOINT**

7A Answers and analysis needed to guide the use of biofuels as a renewable energy source

Jean L. Steiner

# **CONSERVATIONIST PROFILE**

8A Jonathan May, Timberville, Virginia

#### IN THE NEWS

9A Protecting southern Quebec's last wild watershed

John McDonnell

# **CONSERVATION IN ACTION**

**10A** Wyoming ranch welcomes National Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative

Kindra Gordon

# **IDEAS & INNOVATIONS**

11A New technology to increase irrigation efficiency

Kirk T. Taylor

12A High-quality fiber and fertilizer as co-products from anaerobic digestion

Chad Kruger, Shulin Chen, Craig MacConnell, Joe Harrison, Richard Shumway, Tianxi Zhang, Kay Oakley, Clark Bishop, Craig Frear, Debra Davidson, and Keith Bowers

# **CONSERVATION IN PRACTICE**

Treatment wetlands: Cost-effective practice for intercepting nitrate before it reaches and adversely impacts surface waters

Richard Iovanna, Skip Hyberg, and William Crumpton

## **FEATURES**

Collecting and monitoring on-farm water data using satellite data collection technology in the Arkansas Delta

Dennis K. Carman

Soil health and productivity benefits of low-tillage organic systems: The common ground between organic and no-till farming practices

Cheryl Rainford

### **CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIPS**

22A US-China collaboration on conservation

On the Cover Snow and field. Photo by S. Coffman.





### **TECH TRANSFER BRIEFING**

24A

- Nutrient supplement placement best management practice for changing beef cow distribution Melvin R. George, Neil K. McDougald, Wayne A. Jensen, Royce E. Larsen, David C. Cao, and Norman R. Harris
- 25A A sinkhole filter for protection of karst groundwater Douglas G. Boyer
- Conservation within the Big Walnut Watershed of Ohio: Potential for rural/urban conflict
  Ted L. Napier, Kelly McCutcheon, and Jennifer Fish

#### IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

27A Managing pine straw harvests to minimize soil and water losses
Daniel H. Pote and Tommy C. Daniel

# **APPLIED RESEARCH**

- **Geographical information system erosion assessment at a military training site**R.L. Gaffer, D.C. Flanagan, M.L. Denight, and B.A. Engel
- Effectiveness of nutrient supplement placement for changing beef cow distribution M.R. George, N.K. McDougald, W.A. Jensen, R.E. Larsen, D.C. Cao, and N.R. Harris
- Factors affecting natural resource conservation investments of residents in the Lower Big Walnut Creek watershed, Ohio

T.L. Napier, K. McCutcheon, and J. Fish

- **Evaluating a crop residue cover index for determining tillage regime in a cotton-corn-peanut rotation** D.G. Sullivan, D. Lee, J. Beasley, S. Brown, and E.J. Williams
- Patterns of water and tillage erosion on topographically complex landscapes in the North American Great Plains S. Li, D.A. Lobb, M.J. Lindstrom, and A. Farenhorst
- 47 Assessment of a sinkhole filter for removing agricultural contaminants D.G. Boyer

Recent research demonstrates that strategic placement of nutrient supplements can be an effective tool for altering beef cow distribution during the dry season, thus minimizing the environmental impacts of grazing livestock.

For a summary, see page 24A. For the full paper, go to page 11.



