



Academic colleagues,

Below are a few new updates. Please send me feedback this season so I can make these updates as useful as possible. Thanks.

- **Dicamba and Honey Bees:** We've received some questions this season about the impact of dicamba to honey bees. When issuing the federal label for XtendiMax with VaporGrip Technology, EPA conducted an extensive assessment on potential impacts to honey bees and concluded that dicamba has no observed toxicity to bees. To offer additional background on this topic, we developed a handout with more information. Please feel free to utilize [this resource](#) in your discussions.
- **Dicamba Inquiries¹:** As we conclude our field visits this season, we've assessed the vast majority of inquiries received to our 1-844-RRXTEND call center. Below is an overview of some of our key findings. We welcome the opportunity to review these in more detail with you all or your State Departments of Agriculture and would like to learn more about what you observed in your states. If you're interested in such a discussion, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

As of September 25, our call center received a total of 463 off-target movement inquiries, a 35% decrease compared to the 2018 season. That included 160 applicator inquiries and 303 non-applicator inquiries.

- In the majority of states, we saw a year-over-year decrease in Bayer-received off-target movement inquiries. Nearly 60% of the off-target movement inquiries we've received came from two states – Illinois and Iowa. We continue to analyze our inquiries from those states to understand the symptomology being reported and are working with state regulators, industry associations, grower groups, retailers and others to gain insight into their observations as well.
- 97% of all off-target movement inquiries for which we've completed evaluations have shown soybeans as being the key crop exhibiting some type of purported symptomology.
- After completing nearly all field visits, the total number of non-applicator reported acres that indicated potential dicamba symptomology was 16,782. We found that in many of these cases, adjacent corn fields surrounded non-dicamba tolerant soybean fields. Given late planting this season, those corn fields may have received a dicamba or other auxin application at the same time as over-the-top dicamba soybean applications. Where possible, we're working to understand how often this occurred.
- In applicator-reported off-target movement inquiries, the most reported label deficiency was once again do not spray downwind toward a susceptible crop. This mirrors our 2018 inquiry data and provides us insight into where we can further improve our training and education. As we prepare for the 2020 growing season, we'll work to more thoroughly address this requirement.
- For other applicator reported label deficiencies, we saw decreased figures related to certain requirements compared to the 2018 season, such as approximately 9% of applicators reported use of unapproved tank mixes in 2019 compared to 32% in 2018. For other requirements, applicators reported no change or increases compared to last season, such as year-over-year 7% of applicators have reported using unapproved nozzles, and in 2019, 9% of applicators reported applying when wind speed was outside of the label required 3-10 mph, compared to 8% of applicators reporting this same deficiency in

2018. This information is key in helping us understand where we need to focus our training and education efforts next season.

Off-Target Movement Inquiries as of September 25, 2019

Inquiries from applicators and non-applicators about potential off-target movement	463
Number of off-target movement inquiries from applicators and non-applicators visited as of September 25	462
Number of states from which off-target movement inquiries received	17

¹*Inquiries are defined as the number of fields for which calls are received to 1-844-RRXTEND from applicators or non-applicators. The inquiry figures are not necessarily equal to the number of calls received since a single call could include one or multiple fields. It is also possible that a field could be counted twice if we receive a call from an applicator and a non-applicator about the same field. Please let me know if you have any questions.*

As of September 25, we've also received 934 inquiries about weed performance (compared to 693 weed performance inquiries received in 2018) and 5 inquiries about crop response. This season growers faced a number of unique challenges, including extreme weather conditions, that resulted in late planting and increased weed pressures as timely execution of effective weed and pest management plans across many geographies were delayed. Through our field visits, we've seen several themes emerging related to weed performance, such as:

- We recommend that weeds receive herbicide applications when they are 4" or less. This season, post-planting applications were delayed, resulting in many weeds being taller than 4" by the time growers were able to make over-the-top dicamba applications. This meant those weeds were less likely to have the same response to labeled rates as weeds at a more optimum height.
- With the delays growers faced, many weren't able to apply the necessary pre-emergence residuals that are key to controlling weeds early. As a result, growers saw thick weed canopies that were more difficult to control and threatened yield potential.
- We observed instances where the spray volume was less than the minimum 15 gallons of spray solution per acre required on the XtendiMax label, and in some cases, spray tanks contained multiple DRAs, which impacted spray coverage and effected strong weed control.

These are just some examples of what we're seeing within our inquiry visits. As we continue analyzing our observations, we'll share more details.

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to me with questions, concerns or comments.

Thanks,
Ty

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