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OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

COSHOCTON COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

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Hello, Coshocton County! I have really enjoyed seeing all the hay being made across the county this month! What an incredible stretch of hay making weather. Tonnage is down between 25-40% but the quality has been exceptional.

The storm of last Wednesday evening took quite a few trees down across the area but provided a beautiful rainbow.

Enrollment for the **Coronavirus Food Assistance Program** (CFAP) continues. I know many of our beef and sheep producers have not participated in the federal farm program before; but my advice is to check into the CFAP program as it really has benefits for most all producers. Details about enrollment can be obtained by calling the Coshocton County FSA office at 740-622-8087.

Stay safe.

Sincerely,

David Marrison
Coshocton County OSU Extension ANR Educator

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

ODA: Dicamba Use in Ohio ends June 30

Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-18/ohio-department-agriculture-dicamba-use-ohio-ends-june-30-2020

The dicamba roller coaster ride continues today, with a statement issued by the Ohio Department of Agriculture clarifying that the use of XtendiMax, Engenia, and FeXapan dicamba-based products in Ohio will end as of June 30, 2020. Even though the US EPA has issued an order allowing continued use of the products until July 31, 2020, use in Ohio must end on June 30 because the Ohio registrations for the three dicamba-based products expire on that day.

As we've explained in our previous blog posts https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/thu-06042020-901pm/dicamba-takes-another-blow-court-appeals-vacates-dicamba-registration and https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/tue-06092020-1022am/us-epa-allows-use-dicamba-products-july-31-2020, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals vacated the registration of the dicamba products on June 3, 2020. In doing so, the court stated that the EPA had failed to perform a proper analysis of the risks and resulting costs of the products. According to the court, EPA had substantially understated the amount of acreage damaged by dicamba and the extent of such damage, as well as complaints made to state agriculture departments. The court determined that EPA had also entirely failed to acknowledge other risks, such as the risk of noncompliance with complex label restrictions, economic risks from anti-competition impacts created by the products, and the social costs to farm communities caused by dicamba versus non-dicamba users. Rather than allowing the EPA to reconsider the registrations, the court vacated the product registrations altogether.

The EPA issued a Cancellation Order for the three products on June 8, stating that distribution or sale by the registrants is prohibited as of June 3, 2020. But the agency also decided to examine the issue on the minds of many farmers: what to do with the products. Applying its "existing stocks" policy, the EPA examined six factors to help it determine how to deal with stocks of the product that are in the hands of dealers, commercial applicators, and farmers. The EPA concluded that those factors weighed heavily in favor of allowing the end users to use the products in their possession, but that use must occur no later than July 31, 2020 and that any use inconsistent with the previous label restrictions is prohibited.

Despite the EPA's Cancellation Order, however, the Ohio Department of Agriculture is the final arbiter of the registration and use of pesticides and herbicides within Ohio. ODA patiently waited for the EPA to act on the Ninth Circuit's ruling before issuing its guidance for Ohio users of the dicamba products. In its guidance released today, ODA stated that:

- After careful evaluation of the court's ruling, US EPA's Final Cancellation Order, and the Ohio Revised Code and Administrative Code, as of July 1, 2020, these products will no longer be registered or available for use in Ohio unless otherwise ordered by the courts.
- While use of already purchased product is permitted in Ohio until June 30, further distribution or sale of the products is illegal, except for ensuring proper disposal or return to the registrant.
- Application of existing stocks inconsistent with the previously approved labeling accompanying the product is prohibited.

But the roller coaster ride doesn't necessarily end there. Several dangling issues for dicamba-based product use remain:

- We're still waiting to see whether the plaintiffs who challenged the registrations (the National Family Farm Coalition, Center for Food Safety, Center for Biological Diversity, and Pesticide Action Network North America) will also challenge the EPA's Cancellation Order and its decision to allow continued use of the products, and will request immediate discontinuance of such uses.
- Bayer Crop Science, as an intervenor in the Ninth Circuit case, could still appeal the Ninth Circuit's decision, as could the EPA.
- All of these orders add complexity to the issue of liability for dicamba damage. That issue has already become quite controversial, often pitting farmer against farmer and requiring the applicator or damaged

party to prove adherence to or violation of the complicated label restrictions. But the Ninth Circuit's attention to the risks of adverse impacts from the products raises additional questions about whether an applicator who chooses to use the products is knowingly assuming a higher risk, and whether a liability insurance provider will cover that risk. For this reason, growers may want to have a frank discussion with their liability insurance providers about coverage for dicamba drift.

The dicamba roller coaster ride will surely continue, and we'll keep you updated on the next development. Read the ODA's Official Statement Regarding the Use of Over-the-Top Dicamba Products at: https://agri.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/oda/divisions/plant-health/resources/Official-Statement-Regarding-the-Use-of-Over-the-Top-Dicamba%2B-Products

Additional update from Peggy Hall.
It appears that there will not be an immediate federal order to cease use of dicamba, despite the emergency motion filed by the National Family Farm Coalition last Thursday that asked the Ninth Circuit to void the EPA's order that allow use of existing stocks. Since then:

- The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has directed the EPA to respond to the emergency motion, giving the agency until the end of the work day on June 16 to do so.
- The court has also directed the Coalition to then file a reply to the EPA's response, and to do so by the end of the workday on June 18.

This suggests that the court will make a ruling after June 18. For the time being, then, the Court of Appeals has not taken any further action that would disallow ODA's allowance of the use of dicamba in Ohio until June 30.

However, as I mentioned in my last blog post on the Ohio Ag Law Blog, it would be wise for applicators to **check in with their insurers** to determine whether their insurers will cover a drift incident given the "vacated" registration status of XtendiMax, FeXapan and Engenia. Some insurers have already indicated that they will not ensure coverage.

Be aware, also, that Corteva Agriscience (maker of FeXapan) and BASF (maker of Engenia) have filed motions to intervene in the case. Although it's doubtful that the court will allow intervention at this point in the process, the motions suggest that the three companies (Bayer Crop Science is already an intervenor in the case) are planning an appeal of the Ninth Circuit's decision to vacate the registrations. That appeal would go to the U.S. Supreme Court.

True Armyworm Infestations

By: Andy Michel, Curtis Young & Kelley Tilmom
Source: https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-18/true-armyworm-infestations

We received many reports of true armyworm infestations in wheat, barley, and corn. These are black or green caterpillars with stripes along the side and orange heads. In the spring, true armyworm moths migrate from the south and lay eggs in grasses such as forage and weed grasses, winter wheat and barley, and rye cover crops. When the eggs hatch, the larvae can significantly damage wheat and barley before then moving to young corn. Usually, moth flights occur in April, but we may have had a second peak the first or second week of May—it's likely the caterpillars feeding now are from this later flight. Right now, wheat, barley, and corn should be inspected for true armyworm populations. Armyworms like to hide during the day and feed at night, so scouting should occur at dusk or dawn, and/or on cloudy days.

Corn: True armyworm in corn cause the most damage when planted in no-till grassy fields, such as a rye cover crop. In this case, after feeding on the cover crop, the caterpillars shift onto the emerging corn. The name armyworm comes from the caterpillars' behavior of migrating en masse from one location to another. Thus, one should pay particular attention to cornfields adjacent to wheat fields that may have supported a high armyworm population, especially the first several rows into the cornfield. As the wheat matures and dries down, it could stimulate the caterpillars to move.

One may only need to treat the edge of the field closest to the wheat field from which the caterpillars are marching. If armyworms are found in a cornfield, check for the percentage of plants damaged in 5 sets of 20 plants. If more than 10% of the stand has feeding damage, it may indicate a large infestation, and the field should be re-checked in a few days to see if defoliation is increasing. If defoliation has increased and plants have two or more caterpillars per corn seedling, an insecticide application may be necessary. However, if most larvae are longer than 1 inch, then much of the feeding is complete as the caterpillars will begin to pupate. Also, look for the presence of diseased (black and shriveled) or parasitized caterpillars (having a few or several small, white egg cases on their body)—if found, do not include them in your counting.
Armyworm caterpillars

If defoliation exceeds 50%, even a rescue treatment may not recover the field without a significant impact on yield. According to the Handy Bt Trait Table https://agrilife.org/lubbock/files/2020/02/BtTraitTable_FEB_2020.pdf), only the Vip3A (e.g., Viptera) Bt trait is effective against true armyworm. Insecticidal seed treatments may offer some control but can be overwhelmed with high populations. Plus, insecticidal seed treatments last only about 4-6 weeks after planting.

Wheat, Barley, and other Small Grains: Examine a 4 square foot area in 5 locations throughout the field. If the average of caterpillars less than 1 inch long is greater than 16, or if head-cutting is occurring, treatment may be necessary. Keep in mind that more mature wheat can tolerate a lot of armyworm feeding. Fields defoliated in Feekes 11.3 growth stage will suffer less yield loss from those defoliated at earlier growth stages. As with corn, watch for diseased or parasitized armyworms.

Soybeans: True armyworms CANNOT survive on soybean. They are grass feeders, and any broadleaf plants are a poor food source. Spraying soybean for true armyworms are not needed.

Insecticides: Many foliar insecticides are available for control of true armyworm. If applying in small grains, be careful of the pre-harvest interval (PHI). A long PHI may prevent a timely harvest.

Cover Crop Considerations After Wheat

By: Jason Hartschuh, OSU Extension AgNR Educator, Crawford County (originally published in The Ohio Farmer)
Source: https://u.osu.edu/beef/2020/06/17/cover-crop-considerations-after-wheat/

Wheat provides many additional opportunities for your operation. These options include drainage improvements, weed-control timing, double-crop soybeans, double-crop forages, compaction mitigation, and soil building through cover crops. From the time wheat is harvested, there is about nine months for weeds to grow and soil to erode. If double-crop soybeans are not planted, the use of cover crops will protect the soil and assist with weed control. High populations of cover crops provide competition and soil cover to control weeds.

While wheat residue does a decent job of controlling erosion, cover crops can provide increased erosion control. The canopy protects soil from the impact of raindrops, and the roots hold it in place, leading to decreased surface erosion and retention of valuable nutrients. The cover crop acts as a trap to hold nutrients from soil and applications of manure or commercial fertilizer. They do an excellent job of absorbing nitrogen and holding it in plant residue.

The type of crop you choose will determine what benefits you receive. If an operation uses tillage, annual cover crops can still have a benefit for the operation. The best time to till is the following spring, just before planting. The cover crop opens soil and allows it to dry out better in the spring for tillage or no-till planting.

One of the greatest economic benefits of cover crops can be found by using them as a forage. Growers receive the soil protection benefits along with a forage to feed cattle. The most common forages planted after wheat include forage sorghum, sorghum-sudan and oats. Forage sorghum and sorghum-sudan are the highest-yielding and should be planted in early July; they require 100 pounds of nitrogen to maximize yield. Oats should not be planted until Aug. 1, along with an application of 50 pounds of nitrogen. Oats is the only one of these crops with the potential to be made as dry hay. Often though, all of them will need to be harvested as silage or baleage.

Another option for harvest is to graze the cover crop, allowing for more species to be planted — including turnips, radish, clover, peas and many more. When using cover crops for erosion control, weed control and soil building, there are many species — each with their own benefits to consider. One tool to assist with species selection and seeding rate is the cover crop selection tool from the Midwest Cover Crop Council. If new to cover cropping, you may want to select species that will winter-kill to allow for easier management. Selecting a single species, usually a grass species, allows for herbicide control of weeds.

The two most common annual species are oats and radish. Both will winter-kill and are beneficial to help alleviate soil compaction, assist with nutrient retention and capture nitrogen. Oilseed radish should be seeded at 5 to 10 pounds per acre, and oats at 1 to 2 bushels per acre. Use the higher seeding rates for pure stands and the lower rates for mixed stands.

The other common annual species for beginners is buckwheat at 20 pounds per acre, which has been shown to take up large amounts of phosphorus and be beneficial to pollinators. Buckwheat should be mixed with one of the other cover crops due to its short life span. All three crops should be planted in late July. Other annual cover crops such as sorghum, millet, and sudangrass can be used just as a cover, but they produce higher residues to manage the following spring.

Most overwintering cover crops are not planted until fall except a few legume species. Legumes have the additional benefit of producing nitrogen. Red clover has long been used as a cover crop with wheat, but it needs to be planted in spring. Options for July seeding include cowpeas, crimson clover, and hairy vetch. Keeping your cover crop selection simple increases success rates and allows for better management in planting, timing and weed control. For successful cover cropping after wheat, start weed-free, and no-till the cover crops into soil moisture.

First Farm Friday Canceled for 2020

After much thought and consideration, Coshocton Soil & Water Conservation District is canceling the First FARM Friday event on Main Street in August. While this is not what all had hoped for, everyone's safety is the first priority and could not hold our normal event with this in mind. Please mark your calendar for August 6, 2021 for the 2021 First Farm Friday.

CFAP for Sheep & Wool Producers

The recently passed Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) provides financial assistance to producers of agricultural commodities who have suffered a five percent or greater price decline. The following commodities are eligible for funding:

Commodity	Criteria	Payment Rate
Lambs/Yearlings	Sold between Jan 15 & April 15	$33.00/head
Lambs/Yearlings	Owned between April 16 & May 14	$7.00/head
2019 Wool	Unsold as of January 15, 2020	Up to $0.30/lb

The CFAP program also compensates producers for cattle and hogs sold between January 15 and April 15, 2020, as well as cattle and hogs still held in inventory between the dates of April 16 and May 14, 2020

In addition, FSA also supports a wool price of $0.40/lb for your 2020 wool and eligible unshorn lambs. On the date of this letter, the average weekly posted average wool price is $0.30/lb under this support rate. Producers can apply for these benefits for any 2020 wool they still own and have on hand.

Attached are some fact sheets and information about these programs. While our office is still closed to walk in traffic due to COVID-19, please call us at 740-622-8087 for more information about these benefits and if you have questions about filing an application.

Farm Aid COVID-19 Great Lakes Farmer Emergency Relief Fund

Details have been made available for the **Farm Aid COVID-19 Farmer Resilience Initiative** where eligible applicants can receive a one-time $500 emergency relief payment to go toward household or other non-farm expenses. Farmers is being provided if production from a family farm located in Indiana, or Ohio and constitutes a substantial portion of family income and if a financial hardship has occurred due to the COVID-19 crisis. The one-time $500 award may not be used for commercial expenses. Only one grant is allowed per family/farm operation. The application for this fund can be found at:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FarmAidCOVIDGreatLakes

Farm Office Live Session Slated for Thursday, June 25 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

OSU Extension is pleased to be offering the a "Farm Office Live" session on Thursday morning, June 25 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Farmers, educators, and ag industry professionals are invited to log-on for the latest updates on the issues impact our farm economy.

The session will begin with the Farm Office Team answering questions asked over the past two weeks. Topics to be highlighted include: Updates on the CARES Act, Payroll Protection Program, Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL), Dicamba legislation, and Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) Update

Plenty of time has been allotted for questions and answers from attendees. If you miss the on-line office hours, the session recording can be accessed at farmoffice.osu.edu the following day. Participants can pre-register or join in on Thursday morning at https://go.osu.edu/farmofficelive