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Hello, Coshocton County! After the gloomy and rainy weather to end October, it is great to turn the page to November and to be rewarded with a stretch of warmer and drier weather. I know many of you will not get much sleep over the next few weeks as you push to finish harvest. Be safe out there!

While you are busy in the fields, OSU Extension is busy planning our Extension outreach efforts for late fall and winter. We are working on Plan A and Plan B as there is not much certainty as we try to work in accordance with university and local health guidelines.

In the short term, a lot of great virtual programs are being rolled out and I have provided details on each of these in today's newsletter. I am teaching today in Fremont, Ohio on Farm Taxes and will be part of the team which teaches the December 3<sup>rd</sup> Farmer and Farmland Owner Income Tax Webinar. Tax planning is going to be crucial this year especially with all the federal assistance which was provided to mitigate COVID-19. I urge you to read the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Tax planning article! Stay Safe!

Sincerely,

*David L. Marrison*

Coshocton County OSU Extension ANR Educator



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AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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## 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Tax Planning

By: Dianne Shoemaker

Originally Published for the November 5, 2020 Issue of the Farm and Dairy

How can it be November already? For a year packed with the unexpected, time continues to fly by. In the fourth quarter, crop harvest will be completed and those involved in the farm's bookkeeping and finances should be thinking those fun year-end thoughts: tax planning. While most of us do not get excited about the planning or paying of income taxes, we are fortunate that there is a small but important group of people who really enjoy – and are good at- helping the rest of us do farm income tax work.

Next week, colleague Barry Ward begins six weeks of intensive, two-day OSU Extension Income Tax Schools which will be attended by hundreds of tax preparers and accountants across the state. In these workshops, tax professionals learn about 2020's new rules, regulations, changes, and all things taxes. Early in my career, I was encouraged to attend one of the two-day workshops, and did. Never again! As a non-tax preparer, it was just too much information. But, there are two gems in this year's workshop schedule for us civilians:

### Farmer and Farmland Owner Income Tax Webinar

This two-hour program, scheduled for December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm, is for farmers and farmland owners who would like to increase their knowledge about income taxes specific to agriculture. Consider this program if you do taxes for yourself or would like to be better prepared for all of the interesting issues related to COVID-related legislation, PPP, EIDL, and more as you work with your tax professional.

### Ag Issues Tax Webinar

This is the program that always goes on my December calendar. Scheduled for December 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:45 am to 3:20 pm, Ag Issues digs deeper into tax issues related to farming. Professionals specializing in ag taxes participate as well as some farmers and extension educators.

Find registration and additional information about all of the income tax programs at <https://farmoffice.osu.edu>.

If you haven't already, make some time to look at your 2020 projected taxable income. Some farms that are selling unpriced grain at harvest may have higher incomes than expected. On the other end of the spectrum, farms may incur unanticipated income tax liabilities when they are having cash flow difficulties. When bills are not paid, they are not deductible expenses in cash-based bookkeeping systems – used most often by farms. Schedule F might look like there was some cash, while in reality there was not enough to pay all the farm expenses, family living and make principal payments. Better to know now and have time to deal with the situation.

### Profitable Farms Pay Taxes

Long term, profitable farms pay taxes. That is a good thing! That said, we do want to manage income tax liabilities. For that reason, project income tax liabilities for your farm early enough so there is time to do some tax management planning.

Prepaying production expenses for the next production year is a typical and important income tax management strategy. A second strategy often employed is to purchase machinery and equipment that can be depreciated using section 179 expensing. This strategy is something you will want to explore with your tax preparer before making a purchase.

It is critical that farm businesses do not purchase capital assets just to reduce income taxes. Especially if they have to borrow money to make the purchase. Ask these important questions:

- 1) Do I really need this item?
- 2) Is it a want or a need? (A really good question when the item being considered is a loaded pickup truck!)
- 3) Will it improve the profitability, efficiency and/or safety of my farm business?

- 4) Is it the best use of my financial resources?
- 5) Can I pay for it?

All of these are important questions, but 4 and 5 sometimes get lost in the shuffle. If money has to be borrowed to make the purchase, number 5 is absolutely critical! You aren't just using up cash on hand but are committing a portion of your future cash flow to loan payments. Is it really available?

Since it is November now, the end of the business year is just weeks away. As you assemble the information needed for your 2020 income taxes, consider that this information plus the crop reporting information you assemble is the same information needed to do a complete enterprise analysis of your farm business with the Ohio Farm Business Analysis and Benchmarking Program. Farms that participate also receive benchmark reports comparing their farm's performance with their peers across Ohio. A powerful tool to put in your farm management toolbox. Feel free to contact me to discuss how this can benefit your farm's business.

### ***Three Part Webinar Series to Help Ohio Dairy Producers Mitigate Price and Income Risk***

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/ohioagmanager/2020/10/29/three-part-webinar-series-to-help-ohio-dairy-producers-mitigate-price-and-income-risk/>

Dairy producers in Ohio and across the country have faced a turbulent year for milk prices, input costs, and income. Like other commodities, dairy product supply chains were stressed during the initial stages of the global Coronavirus pandemic. Milk prices have improved since the lows of April and May, but price and income risk remain major concerns of producers. Organizers from The Ohio State University's College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences in partnership with the Ohio Dairy Producer's Association are hosting a free three-part webinar series November 5, 17, and 24 from noon to 1:00 p.m. EST. to prepare producers to mitigate these risks.

Ohio's Federal Milk Marketing Order Class III milk price fell to a low of \$12.14 per hundredweight in May before climbing to \$24.54 per hundredweight in July. However, Class III prices do not always reflect the price received at the farm. Producer Price Differentials (PPDs) can increase or decrease the final price paid to producers based on factors such as how the milk is used – bottled for fluid consumption or manufactured into cheese and other dairy products- and how much milk is pooled in the Federal Order system. For Ohio dairy producers, the PPDs fell to a previously unseen level of negative \$8.02 per hundredweight in July.

"For Ohio's dairy farms, that meant that instead of seeing \$24.54 as the base price in their July milk checks, we saw \$16.52 per cwt. This followed a similar scenario in June, where a \$21.04 Class III price was reduced by a negative \$7.05 PPD which led to a pay price starting at \$13.99 per cwt. Prices at these levels are below the cost of production for the vast majority of Ohio's dairy farms", said Dianne Shoemaker, Associate Professor and OSU Extension Field Specialist of Dairy Production Economics said.

Furthermore, feed costs- the largest costs at 40-60 percent of an operation's total costs- can also be highly volatile and impact final returns substantially. Corn, soybean meal, and forage all had large price swings in 2020. As milk prices on the futures market have recovered so have the prices for feed. Soybean meal prices are currently the highest since May 2018.

Ben Brown, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Risk Management in the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics said "2020 is a year like one we have never seen for markets and policy", adding "it was difficult giving farm management advice to producers because conditions and policy were changing at a pace that seemed like hourly".

The good news is that there are risk management options available to dairy producers and the organizers say their main goals of the webinar series are to bring awareness of key issues facing the dairy sector, provide a current dairy market outlook, offer educational training on public and private risk management tools, and



encourage producer action either through follow-up conversations or practice implementation.

One of those risk management tools is the Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) Program offered through the Farm Service Agency (FSA). The program allows producers to buy protection against coverage levels of their milk margin- the difference between the milk price and feed costs. The program does cost producers a premium and enrollment is required during a set period- usually in November and December of the prior year. For 2021 coverage, that deadline is December 11, 2020 through the local FSA office.

In December 2019, some of the best forecasts were showing milk margins above the highest coverage levels given current futures prices for milk and feed. Futures prices are an estimation of prices later given what the market knows now. In December 2019, the market was not expecting a global pandemic. As a result, many producers did not participate in DMC during calendar year 2020 and exposed themselves to downside income risk. The DMC program for 2021 along with other price and income risk management tools will be covered during the webinar series.

The series will start on Thursday November 5, with a presentation by Mark Stephenson, Director of Dairy Markets and Policy at the University of Wisconsin, on how milk is priced in the United States and a discussion about factors that led to this years' unprecedented negative PPDs and volatile milk prices.

Session two, covering domestic and international dairy supply and demand outlooks on November 17, 2020, will be presented by William Loux, Director of Global Trade Analysis at the U.S. Dairy Export Council and Mike McCully, Owner and CEO of The McCully Group.

Concluding the series is the overview of risk management tools including DMC, futures and options, Livestock Gross Margin Coverage, and Dairy Revenue Protection. OSU Extension Educators Chris Zoller- Tuscarawas County and Jason Hartshuh- Crawford County will be joined by Dr. Kenny Burdine, Livestock Extension Economist at the University of Kentucky, for the final session on November 24<sup>th</sup>.

"This has been a difficult year for dairy farmers, and it's likely we will see price volatility in future years. Dairy farmers are encouraged to attend to learn about the tools available to minimize price risk as they plan for the future", said Zoller.

The webinar series is free and open to the public for all three session from Noon to 1:00 PM EST. The virtual nature of the webinars allows flexibility in attendance, but the sessions will also be recorded and posted at [farmoffice.osu.edu](http://farmoffice.osu.edu) under past events.

For the complete program and to register, visit [go.osu.edu/dairyriskmanagement](http://go.osu.edu/dairyriskmanagement). For questions, contact Dianne Shoemaker at [shoemaker.3@osu.edu](mailto:shoemaker.3@osu.edu), Ben Brown at [brown.6888@osu.edu](mailto:brown.6888@osu.edu) or Chris Zoller at [Zoller.1@osu.edu](mailto:Zoller.1@osu.edu).

## ***Agricultural Policy & Outlook Conference***

By Ben Brown, AEDE & OSU Extension

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-37/agricultural-policy-and-outlook-conference>

On November 9th-13th, OSU's College of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Sciences will host the [Agricultural Policy and Outlook Conference](#). The conference will be a series of two-hour online webinars Nov. 9, 10, 12 and 13.

Each day will focus on a different topic. Nov. 9 will be on agriculture finance, Nov. 10, agricultural and environmental policy; Nov. 12, agricultural trade and the health of the U.S. economy; and Nov. 13, grain, livestock and consumer demand projections.

Agricultural economists from CFAES will speak along with other experts from Washington D.C., other leading land grant institutions, and the Federal Reserve System. The webinars begin at noon and include a daily panel

discussion that starts at 1 p.m. and invites people in the audience to ask questions.

Speakers at the conference will offer their recap of 2020 and outlooks for 2021 at the national, regional and local levels, Brown said. “Our hope is that people who come gain knowledge to use to influence their businesses.” To register and for more information about the conference, visit <https://aede.osu.edu/programs/20202019-agricultural-policy-and-outlooks>.

### ***Farmer & Farmland Owner Income Tax Webinar***

By: Barry Ward, OSU Extension

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-37/farmer-and-farmland-owner-income-tax-webinar>

Do you know how the COVID legislation may affect your tax return? Do you know how equipment trade-ins may affect your federal and state tax returns? Farmers and farmland owners who wish to increase their tax knowledge should consider attending this webinar that will address tax issues specific to this industry. Content focuses on important tax issues and will offer insight into new COVID related legislation.

Mark your calendars for December 3rd, 2020 to participate in this live webinar from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. The event is a joint offering from OSU Income Tax Schools which are a part of OSU Extension and the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and Purdue University Income Tax Schools. If you are not able to attend the live webinar, all registered participants will receive a link to view the recorded webinar at a time of their convenience. This link will be available through the tax filing season.

The two-hour program is targeted towards owners who file their own farm taxes or simply wish to arm themselves with more tax information that will help them to better plan for tax filing. Topics to be discussed during the webinar include:

- Tax Issues related to COVID-related legislations including tax credits, PPP loans, EIDL loans etc.
- New 1099-Misc and 1099-NEC
- Tax planning in an unusual year: prevented planting and revenue crop insurance indemnity payments, CFAP payments, etc.
- Like Kind Exchanges (farm machinery and equipment no longer are eligible for this provision – this is a significant change), how this change may affect state income tax and how this change may affect your Social Security credits and eventual payments
- Qualified Business Income Deduction, sales to cooperatives, lease income

The cost for the webinar is \$35. To register, go to <https://farmoffice.osu.edu/tax/farmer-and-farmland-owner-income-tax-webinar>

### ***For Safety Sake: Don't Take Drying Shortcuts with Stored Grain***

By: Dee Jepsen & Lisa Pfeifer, OSU Ag Safety

Source: <https://agcrops.osu.edu/newsletter/corn-newsletter/2020-37/>

Wet weather conditions are causing concerns with the 2020 corn crop going into storage. Proper management of stored grain will be the key to eliminating risks to human health and safety later in the season.

Grain that goes into the bin with higher moisture content presents a host of possible issues.

- It can freeze or bind.
- Mold issues can arise.
- An environment susceptible to insect problems can be created.
- Higher volumes of bin fines can result.



All of these issues ultimately affect grain flow efficiencies, which can lead to a number of safety hazards. These conditions can cause grain to become bridged or line the sidewall of the bin, resulting in the need for bin entry into an unstable environment.

Producers will need to monitor bin conditions and test the moisture level of the product more frequently throughout the storage season. Do not take short cuts by reducing the adequate drying time needed when putting the crop in the bin.

Establishing best management practices for safety at the bins now and following those throughout the storage cycle will be a good layer of defense in eliminating hazards.

Start with a “no bin entry” policy. This is the absolute best form of protection from becoming a victim.

If entry must occur, proceed with caution by following these steps:

- Turn off all power to the bin that is being entered. Lockout any equipment that could be started while a person is inside.
- Monitor the air quality in the bin before entry.
- Wear a harness and lifeline for fall protection.
- Wear an N-95 mask to eliminate respiratory hazards.
- Have an observer outside the bin and maintain constant visual communication during entry. Ideally in the event of entry a team of 3 would be on hand. One person in the bin, one person at the opening and one person on the ground.
- While completing tasks inside the bin always be aware of your surroundings and changing conditions.
- Do not by-pass or dismantle guards.

In incidents of entrapment or engulfment, response time is crucial and having preplanned for events of this nature can help first responders save critical time. Follow these emergency plans at each of your stored grain facilities:

- Post emergency numbers at the bin, including gas, electric and other utility suppliers.
- Number and label bins so first responders can identify where they need to be when called.
- Keep your vendor(s) or installer(s) information in a known location for contact in the event of mechanical or structural questions during an emergency.
- Inquire with your local fire department about the type of rescue equipment and training they have to respond to grain entrapment situations.

As the wet harvest season continues, keep drying down that grain. By keeping your crop in good condition throughout its storage life you can prevent grain entrapment risks in the future. Have a happy and healthy harvest from the OSU Ag Safety and Health team!

## ***Winter is around the Corner: Are you Ready?***

By: Victor Shelton, NRCS State Agronomist/Grazing Specialist

Source:

The rains are finally replenishing reserves in most areas. Though a bit late for some things, it is still a boost for forages that have been stockpiled and they have leaped in compensatory growth! Ideally, this stockpile is best used after it goes dormant in order to not slow next spring's growth. Dormancy often requires several nights in a row at 25 degrees or lower. That type of weather isn't far away. Once dormant, the forage can be grazed with less harm to the plant's energy reserves. When it is grazed, it can be taken down a bit closer than normal but leaving good residual. That good stop grazing height will slow runoff over winter, reduce any erosion and help springboard growth next season. If you open up the sod too much in early winter, you also possibly open the site up for more weeds too.

It is always a good idea to evaluate and balance grazing livestock with available feed. It is better to know now than later. First, take different grazing animal classes (cows, heifers, stockers, ewes, etc.) and figure an

average weight per class and then multiply that number times the number in each class. Now you have a total live weight. Multiply the live weight by .03 to get an average daily intake. For example, 20 cows averaging a weight of 1,100 pounds is 22,000 pounds live weight. Multiply that by .03 (three percent dry matter intake) and it equals 660 pounds of dry matter needed per day.

Now what are you going to feed those animals? It could be hay, stockpiled forage, crop residue, supplements or most likely a combination of these. Stockpiled forage is usually going to be tall fescue with some other grasses and legumes mixed in. You can lay a clipboard on top of the standing sward and measure the height of the compressed forages to estimate it. If the stand is dense, there is usually about 300 pounds per acre inch of dry matter. So, if you happen to have 10 inches, that is 3,000 pounds of dry matter per acre. You do not want to remove it all, so let's say you remove six inches. That is 1,800 pounds available for grazing times the number of acres of this stockpiled forage. Fields do vary. Adjust as needed. The efficiency of grazing will depend on how you allocate it out. If you let stock have the whole field, then expect 60-75% utilization. At best you'll have 1,800 pounds available. If you allocate it out like you are feeding hay with temporary fence providing one- or two-days' worth at a time, you'll find the efficiency to be up near 90%. In areas with plenty of moisture, the stockpiled fescue is good quality and quantity and will provide a lot of good grazing. There is always some waste, it just can't be avoided. That waste will help feed the next year's growth.

Inventory any hay you have on hand. You should have an idea on how much bales weigh and how many you have of each. For example, if you have fifty 1,500-pound bales (about 1,300 pounds dry matter) on hand, you essentially have 65,000 pounds available. The efficiency of this hay is also dependent on how you feed it, in addition to how it is stored. The worst-case scenario is feeding hay free-choice without any feeder structure and storing hay outside on the ground, which sadly wastes about 45% of the offered hay. Feeding enough hay for only 2-3 days at a time creates some competition between cows. In ring or cone type feeders and storing bales inside is efficient with an average of about 15% waste assuming that the hay is good quality. Small bales are probably the most efficient, but are certainly a little more labor intensive and not used as often as in the past. If you have silage or balage on hand to feed, figure it into the plan and generally expect 90% efficiency adjusted to dry weight.

The nutritional value of corn stalks can certainly vary from year to year. Stalks will start out in the 8% crude protein range with approximately 70% total digestible nutrients (TDN) and over a period of about 60 days drop to 5% crude protein and 40% TDN. Spring calving cows will meet most of their energy needs during mid gestation. Growing animals such as calves and fall calving lactating cows may be lacking in energy and protein and most likely will need to be supplemented if run on stalks.

About one acre of typical corn residue will be needed per animal unit per grazing month. Weekly allocations seem to work very well so you need to figure how many acres of stalks will be needed for one week of grazing for your herd. Higher yielding corn certainly produces more residue and more potential grazing. You can usually bank on about 12-15 pounds of desired residue to graze per bushel of corn. Stalk grazing should be avoided under wet conditions.

Compare the amount of dry matter you will need for the livestock with how much you have. Now you know about how much dry matter you are going to need to get them through the winter and an idea of how much you have available to feed them. If you are a little short on forages, you can add some supplements such as corn gluten, soybean hulls, etc. into your feeding plan. In fact, you may want to anyway if hay quality is lacking, or if more energy is needed. We used 3% for the intake estimate which is actually a little high, but if we have a wet, cold winter, energy needed to keep warm will increase and any growing animals will also have higher needs. It's better to overestimate than to be short. Cold, wet and especially muddy conditions will increase energy requirements. If you are still short on feed, then you may want to purchase some hay or consider reducing numbers.

Summer annual warm-season grasses — such as sudangrass or sorghum-sudangrass hybrids and johnsongrass produce a cyanide compound when frosted and quickly start shutting down, causing the production of the prussic acid. To be safe, livestock should be removed from these forages for at least two

weeks to allow for the forages to “dry down” and the prussic acid to dissipate before grazing again. These forages can be harvested for balage right after being frosted and later fed as long as they are allowed their normal fermentation process time period of three or four weeks. Dry hay containing these is generally fine. Johnsongrass tends to be a bit more toxic than sorghums. Frosted areas could be only “pockets” in a field to start with. Any regrowth from the base of the plant after a frost can also be very high in prussic acid. If in doubt, wait.

Lastly today, if you haven’t checked your winter-feeding pads, it would be better to do that now and add more lime topping or aggregate as needed. Also, it’s not a bad idea to take the time to double check winter watering tanks while the weather is still good. I like the fall weather, but it never seems to last long enough. Remember, it’s not about maximizing a grazing event, but maximizing a grazing season! Keep on grazing!

### ***American Forage & Grassland Council to Hold Hybrid Conference in 2021***

By: [Chris Penrose](#), OSU Morgan County Extension Educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources, and President Elect, American Forage and Grassland Council

Source: <https://u.osu.edu/beef/2020/11/04/american-forage-and-grassland-council-holds-hybrid-conference-in-2021/>

In response to feedback, the AFGC Board of Directors has made the decision to host a hybrid conference in January 2021. This means there will be two events, one in-person and one virtual, on two separate dates. The Board felt this approach met the feedback received and allows members and attendees the option to choose the event structure that best fit their comfort level.

The AFGC Annual Conference will be held in-person January 3-6 at the Hyatt Regency in Savannah, GA and the AFGC Virtual Conference will be held January 11-12, 2021. The content offered in person will be recorded and available at the virtual event and the virtual will include sessions by presenters who made the decision to present remotely.



Both events will utilize the same conference app which will be released with directions closer to the events. Virtual session presentations will be done using the Zoom platform with links to sessions in the app.

Those attending in-person will also have access to the virtual event at no additional charge. The virtual sessions will be available for up to 60 days after the event.

AFGC staff are working with the Hyatt Regency to ensure all federal, state, and local guidelines are followed as well as CDC and WHO recommendations for holding an in-person meeting to ensure the safety of all attendees. The measures today include the requirement of all attendees to wear a mask, social distancing throughout the facility, assigned seating at sessions and meal functions, additional hand sanitizing stations, and more. However, attendees will be required to acknowledge that even with this procedures and policies in place, AFGC cannot guarantee that a person may contract COVID-19.

AFGC 2021 participation will be a personal decision based on individual comfort level and circumstances. The AFGC Board did not make this decision lightly and if circumstances change with Covid19 then the Board may have to reconvene and reconsider options.

Registration for both events is open and there will be a limit of 180 people to register onsite. Fifty spaces will initially be withheld for speakers to register. We will have a waiting list feature enable for in-person registration. There is currently no limit on the virtual event. Additional details are available at [www.afgc.org](http://www.afgc.org).



## ***EPA Announces 2020 Dicamba Registration Decision***

Source: EPA Press Office ([press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov))

Link: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-2020-dicamba-registration-decision>

On October 27, 2020, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Andrew Wheeler announced that EPA is approving new five-year registrations for two dicamba products and extending the registration of an additional dicamba product. All three registrations include new control measures to ensure these products can be used effectively while protecting the environment, including non-target plants, animals, and other crops not tolerant to dicamba.

“With today’s decision, farmers now have the certainty they need to make plans for their 2021 growing season,” said EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler. “After reviewing substantial amounts of new information, conducting scientific assessments based on the best available science, and carefully considering input from stakeholders we have reached a resolution that is good for our farmers and our environment.”

Through today’s action, EPA approved new registrations for two “over-the-top” (OTT) dicamba products—XtendiMax with VaporGrip Technology and Engenia Herbicide—and extended the registration for an additional OTT dicamba product, Tavium Plus VaporGrip Technology. These registrations are only for use on dicamba-tolerant (DT) cotton and soybeans and will expire in 2025, providing certainty to American agriculture for the upcoming growing season and beyond.

To manage off-site movement of dicamba, EPA’s 2020 registration features important control measures, including:

- Requiring an approved pH-buffering agent (also called a Volatility Reduction Agent or VRA) be tank mixed with OTT dicamba products prior to all applications to control volatility.
- Requiring a downwind buffer of 240 feet and 310 feet in areas where listed species are located.
- Prohibiting OTT application of dicamba on soybeans after June 30 and cotton after July 30.
- Simplifying the label and use directions so that growers can more easily determine when and how to properly apply dicamba.

The 2020 registration labels also provide new flexibilities for growers and states. For example, there are opportunities for growers to reduce the downwind spray buffer for soybeans through use of certain approved hooded sprayers as an alternative control method. EPA also recognizes and supports the important authority [FIFRA section 24](#) gives the states for issuing locally appropriate regulations for pesticide use. If a state wishes to expand the federal OTT uses of dicamba to better meet special local needs, the agency will work with them to support their goals.

This action was informed by input from state regulators, grower groups, academic researchers, pesticide manufacturers, and others. EPA reviewed substantial amounts of new information and conducted assessments based on the best available science, including making Effect Determinations under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). With this information and input, EPA has concluded that these registration actions meet Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) registration standards. EPA believes that these new analyses address the concerns expressed in regard to EPA’s 2018 dicamba registrations in the June 2020 U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Further, EPA concluded that with the control measures now required on labels, these actions either do not affect or are not likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species.

To view the final registration of the dicamba products, visit docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2020-0492 at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

### Background

The United States is the world’s leading soybean producer and second-leading soybean exporter and also serves as the world’s third-largest cotton producer and the leading cotton exporter. Today, there are limited cost-effective options to control herbicide-resistant weeds affecting these commodities. In 2018, approximately

41 percent of U.S. soybean acreage was planted with dicamba-tolerant (DT) seed and almost 70 percent of U.S. cotton acreage was planted with DT seed in 2019. Relative to alternative herbicide programs, postemergence dicamba may reduce weed control costs for some growers, possibly by as much as \$10 per acre, or over five percent of net operating revenue, not accounting for all measures growers will have to take to control off-field movement of dicamba.

Following reports of damage resulting from the off-site movement of dicamba, EPA amended the dicamba registration labels in 2017 and [in 2018](#). In June 2020, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit vacated the registrations for three dicamba products: XtendiMax with VaporGrip Technology, Engenia Herbicide, and DuPont FeXapan Herbicide. As a result of the Court's decision, EPA [issued cancellation orders](#) outlining limited circumstances under which existing stocks of the three affected products could be distributed and used until July 31, 2020.



Check out <http://go.osu.edu/coshocton-agnews> for back issues of the Coshocton County Agriculture & Natural Resources Newsletter