



ACPA Newsletter

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Growing Season for 2015 Has Difficult Start, Lots of Rain

**By: Dr. Tom Barber, President, ACPA
Extension Weed Scientist, University of Arkansas Division of
Agriculture**

The start of the 2015 growing season has been a shaky one to say the least. Much like last year, high amounts of rainfall were received in March, April and May. There are still acres that are not yet planted due to the wet weather and many acres that have been replanted due to poor stands and weed escapes. This year growers shifted a lot of their acres out of cotton and corn to plant grain sorghum. Recent estimates suggest that there is over 300,000 acres of grain sorghum in the state. I can personally testify to the acreage increase because the bulk of the call load and questions this spring have been around weed control and drift on sorghum. Grain sorghum is much like cotton in that it comes up looking for a place to die. Cool, wet weather and Roundup drift are not conducive for growth and development of sorghum. As many are finding out, weed control is not simple in grain sorghum either. A common recommendation was Verdict or Dual PRE. Growers that used a PRE have some of the best looking grain sorghum to date. Where PRE herbicides were not used we have tried to clean up messes with some combination of atrazine and Facet with dicamba or Huskie over the top, but as many have found out, small grain sorghum does not tolerate a hot mix with atrazine very well, especially on sandy soil. In many cases my recommendation has been to spray Roundup and Dual and start over. Once sorghum reaches 3-4 collars, it becomes much more tolerant to atrazine and less injury will occur. Rice has also taken it on the chin

with the cool/wet weather and herbicide combination. Some of the earliest planted rice has finally turned the corner and is beginning to look like a crop. With all the delays in planting due to the wet weather, I feel like the final corn, grain sorghum, cotton and rice acres will be below what was initially reported and soybean may edge up a bit.

Commodity prices are lower this year and margins are tight. Every recommendation I give over the phone is followed by a question I have not heard in the last several years; "How much will that cost"? I think everyone is crunching pennies this year with tight budgets and apprehension. Unfortunately, in every crop, if PRE herbicides are not used to buy time then the recommendation for killing large weeds once it gets dry enough to get back into the field with a ground rig is going to be PRICEY! Palmer pigweed continues to be the driver weed in cotton, grain sorghum and soybean. Frequent rainfall leads to frequent flushes of pigweed and overlapping residual herbicides is the only way to effectively manage pigweed in these crops. Timely applications of Flexstar in beans followed by an application of Ultra Blazer or Cobra in 7-10 days are the only options for postemergence control of resistant-pigweed in conventional or Roundup Ready beans. Liberty Link technology continues to increase each year and provides an effective alterna-



Dr. Tom Barber, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Weed Scientist, ACPA President for 2015

tive for pigweed management, but timing is still an issue and multiple applications are usually warranted to manage pigweed. As mentioned earlier, any postemergence application in beans should contain a residual such as Dual, Warrant or Zidua to buy time until crop canopy. This is not the cheapest way to produce a bean crop, but is the most effective way to manage weeds in a wet year and will probably be cheaper in the long run.

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Special points of interest:

- The Arkansas Crop Protection Association (ACPA) will host its annual Research Conference November 30-December 1.
- The Arkansas Grain Dealers Act, Act 601 of the 2015 regular session, was signed into law by Governor Hutchinson on March 23, 2015.
- 2015 ACPA Distinguished Service Award Winners included: Ford Baldwin, Lanny Ashlock, Max Hackworth, Dick Oliver and Marvin Wall.

ACPA Distinguished Service Award Given at 2015 ACMC Awards Banquet.

By: Dr. Tom Barber, ACPA Program Chairman, Extension Weed Scientist, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture.



Lanny Ashlock receives ACPA Distinguished Service Award

The 2015 Arkansas Crop Management Conference was another huge success. Attendance at this year's meeting topped a new record for 2 years in a row with over 505 registered participants. The new break-out session format with concurrent sessions has been a popular change and one of the reasons for the increase in attendance. With multiple topics each hour participants can choose the one that is of most interest to them. The meeting started with an informative and entertaining talk on Drones in Agriculture by Dr.

Kevin Price with RoboFlight. This was followed by Gus Lorenz who provided results from his extensive work with Neonicotinoid insecticides and their effects on honey bees. Greg Kruger from the University of Nebraska rounded out the general session with a discussion on the effects of nozzle size and herbicide mixture on spray droplets and application effectiveness. The highlight of the meeting came at the ACPA luncheon where 5 very deserving individuals were awarded the Distinguished Service Award

from ACPA. These individuals included: Ford Baldwin, Lanny Ashlock, Max Hackworth, Dick Oliver and Marvin Wall. These five men have devoted their lives to helping CCA's, consultants and growers improve the agriculture industry in Arkansas and are very deserving of this award. The distinguished service award comes with complimentary membership and registration at future ACMC meetings. The 2016 Crop Management Conference will be held once again at the Wyndham Riverfront Hotel on January 19-21, 2016.



Ford Baldwin receives ACPA Distinguished Service Award



Dick Oliver receives ACPA Distinguished Service Award



Marvin Wall receives ACPA Distinguished Service Award



Max Hackworth receives ACPA Distinguished Service Award

Dates Announced for ACPA Research Conference

By: Dr. Jarrod Hardke, ACPA Vice President, Rice Agronomist, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture



Student paper competition is composed of an array of topics on crop related research.

The Arkansas Crop Protection Association (ACPA) will host its annual Research Conference November 30-December 1, 2015 at the Hilton Garden Inn (1-479-856-6040) in Fayetteville, AR. The meeting will begin around 1:00 PM on Monday November 30 and continue at

8:00 AM on December 1. Conference highlights will include a student paper competition with cash prizes awarded to the top presentations in both Ph.D. and Master's divisions. Research, extension, and industry representatives are encouraged to attend and participate by making

presentations. Continuing education credits will also be available. A formal call for papers will be sent out in September.



ACPA Research Conference has Outstanding Student Presentations

by: Dr. Jarrod Hardke, ACPA Vice President, Rice Agronomist, University of Arkansas

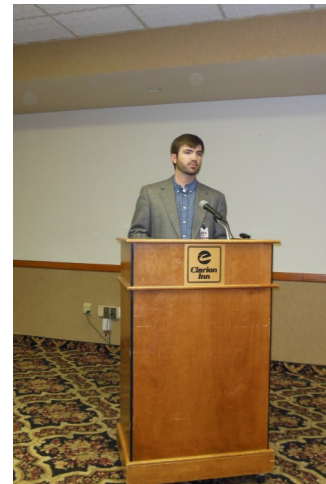
Twenty-three students presented research at the 2014 Research Conference in Fayetteville. Of the six Ph.D. presentations, awards were presented to the top three papers. Chester Greub placed first overall with his presentation "How Applicable is the Cornstalk Nitrate Test for Arkansas Corn Production?" Second overall was Chris Rouse, who presented on "Characterization of a Multiple Resistant Junglerice from Arkansas." The third place award was presented to Ryan Miller and his work on "Efficacy and Crop Tolerance of Herbicide Programs in Glytol/LibertyLink Cotton."

Of the 17 Master's presentations, awards were presented to six students in two categories. Matt Fryer and Chris Meyer

received first place awards, Zach Lancaster and Jarom Davidson received second place awards, and Jeremy Green and Alden Smartt received third place awards. Fryer presented on "Validation of Soil-Test Based Phosphorus and Potassium Fertilizer Recommendations for Rice" while Meyer presented on "Influence of Droplet Size on Efficacy of Engenia, Glyphosate, and Glufosinate Applications." Lancaster presented on "Residual Activity of Quizalofop on Grass Weeds and Crops Relative to Other Graminicides" while Davidson presented on "Validation of N-STaR for Rice on Clay Soils in Arkansas." Green presented on "How Much Heat is Needed to Destroy Weed Seed at Crop Harvest" and Smartt presented on

"Cultivar and Previous Crop Effects on Methane Emissions from Rice Grown on a Clay Soil."

The contest participants were evaluated by a panel of judges coordinated by Dr. Mohammad T. Bararpour. Judges rate each presentation based on set guidelines, listen and compare each student before making decisions. The contest is very competitive with all students doing a very good job. Plan to attend the ACPA Research Conference at the Hilton Garden Inn, Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 2015, in Fayetteville. Contact Dr. Jarrod Hardke for more information.



Dr. Jarrod Hardke coordinates student competition

Arkansas Grain Dealers Act Signed by Governor Hutchinson

By: Terry Walker, Assistant Director, Arkansas State Plant Board

The Arkansas Grain Dealers Act, Act 601 of the 2015 regular session, was signed into law by Governor Hutchinson on March 23, 2015. This act requires entities operating as grain dealers, who are not otherwise exempted from the law, to secure a license from the Plant Board within sixty days of the effective date (March 23, 2015). Those who hold a license under the Arkansas Public Grain Warehouse Law or the United States Warehouse Act and those who are End Users as defined in the law are exempt.

The Plant Board has initiated the process of promulgating rules to administer this law. A draft and the refinements to the draft resulted in a document that was presented to the Plant Board's

Grain Warehouse Committee for review. Comments from interested parties were solicited and attendance/participation by interested parties at the committee meeting was encouraged. The meeting involved presentation of the draft section by section to allow a detailed review and discussion by all parties (committee members and interested parties) present.

The end result of the discussions had some sections of the draft being deemed possibly overreaching the authority conveyed in the law and were removed from the draft. Other areas were subject to minor edits and other sections were untouched. Current plans call for finalizing the activity of the committee and seeking approval to proceed with the rule making process.

Given that regulations including the application forms and stipulations on bonding requirements have to be in place by the sixty day deadline established by the law, the Plant Board is moving as quickly as possible to finalize the proposed rules, conduct the necessary meeting(s) to adopt those rules and make the rules effective by the required date.

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We're on the web:
acpanews.com

Arkansas Crop Protection Association Awards Scholarships Each Year

The purpose of the Arkansas Crop Protection Association (ACPA) Scholarship Program is to assist people pursuing careers in the agricultural field with an interest in crop protection. These fields include weed science, entomology, plant pathology, horticulture, agriculture business and various related disciplines within the colleges of agriculture. Funding for the scholarship program is made possible by the membership of the association via meetings and fund raising events. Applicants must be a jun-

ior or senior in good standing at time of application and have maintained a cumulative 2.5 grade point average (4.0 scale). Selections are based upon merit, without discrimination for any reason such as race, sex, religion, age, color, and national origin. All applicants must complete an official application to include: Official Application (on website), Biographical summary (300 word maximum), 3ssay on your philosophy of agriculture and crop protection (300 word maximum), copy of unof-

ficial transcripts, provide a letter of recommendation from a faculty member familiar with applicant's merit and aspiration. Applicants will be screened by a 3 member ACPA Scholarship Committee plus the Scholarship Chair appointed by the board of the ACPA. Successful applicants will be required to attend the awards banquet at the Arkansas Crop Management Conference in North Little Rock for recognition. The banquet is traditionally held in January each year.



Students received awards at banquet held January 20, 2015

“Scholarship Program assists students pursuing careers in the agricultural field”.