



ACPA Newsletter

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Update on Grain Dealer Licensing in Arkansas

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

Inside this issue:

Act 601, commonly referred to as Arkansas Grain Dealers Act, was adopted by the legislature during the regular session of 2015. The Act was signed into law by Governor Hutchinson on March 23, 2015.

Act 601 resulted from the concerns and requests from the public for some legislation addressing situations where entities buying grain in the state failed to make payments for the grain purchased, as happened in late 2014. That failure brought to light the fact that 'grain buyers' were not required to be licensed in any way and were not subject to any regulatory oversight.

The Arkansas Grain Dealers Act now requires anyone buying grain in Arkansas to be licensed by the State Plant Board unless the entity is specifically exempted. Those exempted entities are: 1) anyone licensed under the Arkansas Public Grain Warehouse Law; 2) anyone licensed under the United States Warehouse Act; 3) the ultimate users of grain; or 4) retailers of the grain.

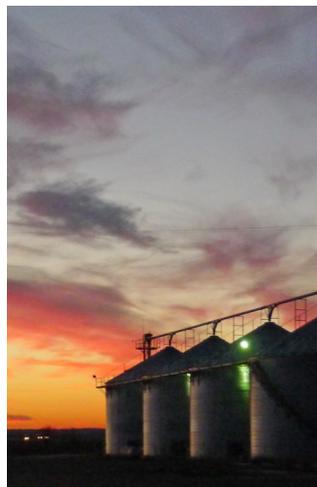
The Act also mandated the establishment of a "slow pay hotline" to allow a producer to lodge a complaint

against a grain dealer that has not made payment on a grain purchase as the parties agreed to. That has been accomplished and the number is: 501-219-6308.

The State Plant Board was charged with developing a set of rules to administer the Grain Dealers Law. An emergency rule was adopted by the Plant Board to establish the protocols for securing a license as mandated by the Law. The final rule is in the latter stages of development and will be submitted for final legislative review in the next few weeks.

Currently, there are sixteen (16) licenses issued for Grain Dealers. Eleven (11) are from Arkansas and the remaining five (5) are for one entity in each of the states: Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Missouri. This does not include those entities licensed under the state or federal warehouse licensing programs.

The complete lists of all entities licensed to purchase grain in Arkansas can be found on the Plant Board website: plant-board.arkansas.gov and looking to the left side of the page. Find menu selec-



"Arkansas Grain Dealers Act 601 is Important to Arkansas Agriculture".

tion: 'Grain Dealer and Warehouse Lists'. Clicking that takes you to the page for the Feed and Fertilize Division. Scroll to the bottom of the page and find the three lists, 'List of Arkansas Licensed Grain Dealers,' 'List of Arkansas Licensed Grain Warehouses' and a link to 'USDA Licensed Grain Warehouses.' The data on the federal warehouse list is maintained by USDA and is assumed to be complete but the Plant Board does not have any way to affirm the completeness of the list. Again the Slow Pay Hotline number is: 501-219-6308.

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Special points of interest:

- FBI talks AG TERRORISM at ACMC
- Dr. Tom Barber addresses PPO resistant pigweed issues.
- Grain Dealers Act Reviewed by Terry Walker.
- Register for Rooms and ACMC meeting held January 19-21, 2016 at Riverfront Wyndham, Phone: **501-371-9000** for room reservations, ask for ACMC rates.

LibertyLink Soybean is the Best Solution in a Challenging Season

By: Dr. Clay Starkey, Bayer CropScience



“LibertyLink system will provide effective control when Liberty is applied to small, actively-growing weeds”.

To say this summer has been a challenge would be more than an understatement. With that being said, isn't every year a challenge? Arkansas producers cannot catch a break from resistant Palmer amaranth. This year has exposed another herbicide site of action for Palmer amaranth resistance. PPO-inhibiting herbicides have been only one of two modes-of-action available for postemergence control of Palmer amaranth in soybean. With the announcement of PPO-(Flexstar, Prefix, Ultra Blazer, Resource, etc.) resistance in Arkansas and Tennessee as a post-emergence product, and without any new approvals from the EPA, Liberty

is the only effective postemergence herbicide mode-of-action in soybean for control of multiple-resistant Palmer amaranth. Liberty herbicide in LibertyLink crops is a proven, effective and high yielding system for growers who have been utilizing the program. The use of Liberty must be managed properly so this technology can continue to be utilized in the future. This means using effective residual herbicides as a foundation in a burndown and preemergence program, then each application of Liberty to be made thereafter should include a residual herbicide like a Zidua, Warrant or an S-metolachlor product. It is also critical to make timely applica-

tions of Liberty with residual herbicides to ensure best performance and minimize the risk of selecting for resistance. The LibertyLink system will provide effective control when Liberty is applied to small, actively-growing weeds. Needless to say, weed control in Arkansas soybean varies. With a wet start in Arkansas, residual herbicides were activated and in some cases excessive rain resulted in short residual. Wet conditions and the rapid growth rate of Palmer amaranth made it difficult to make a timely application of Liberty, but those who were able to overlay residuals with Liberty ultimately had the cleanest fields.

To Plant Cotton or not to Plant Cotton: That is the Question?

By: Dr. Bill Robertson, University of Arkansas Cotton Agronomist

“Cotton Acreage was extremely low in 80's and bounced back”.

With 2015 coming to an end, we are currently coming off what looks to be a record high lint yield per acre. This is occurring on a record low number of acres. We have experienced wide shifts in cotton acres in Arkansas in the past and this likely will not be the last time this happens. Cotton producers are working hard to keep themselves in position to take advantage of a rebound. Producers who get out of cotton will have a difficult time investing to get back in. Cotton planting intentions for

2016 are all over the board. Some are planning to cut back while others are planning to expand acres. Producers looking to expand are expecting to receive around \$0.75 per pound lint, when including gin rebate and other programs. Many feel that cotton is as viable as any other option, where they can produce good yields and manage their production costs. Taking care of basics and following the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture production recommendations is key to manag-

ing production costs. Economists are not anticipating much short-term change in price. We still have a tremendous carryover of cotton. However, for the first time in five years the USDA is projecting world consumption to outpace production. This is a good first step to help get stocks on hand and consumption more in balance. This will have a positive impact on price and make a cotton a more attractive commodity.



Student paper competition is composed of a diverse range of topics on crop related research.

Arkansas Crop Protection Association Research Conference Scheduled for Nov. 30-Dec 1, 2015

The Arkansas Crop Protection Association (ACPA) will host its annual research conference November 30-December 1, 2015 in Fayetteville, AR. The conference will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1325 N. Palak Dr., Fayetteville, AR 72704. Phone 479-856-6040 for reservations. Conference highlights will include a student paper competition with cash prizes

awarded to the top presentations in both Ph.D. and Master's divisions. Researchers from research, extension, and industry are encouraged to attend and participate by making presentations. Continuing education credits will also be available. A formal call for papers has been sent out. Contact Dr. Jarrod Harke for more information on

presenting papers. This year's conference will offer continuing education credits that will be for 2015. A great opportunity to get last minute credits. Registration fee is \$50.



Arkansas Crop Protection Association Holds Annual Meeting at ACMC, Election of Officers on Slate.

Election of officers for ACPA will be conducted at the annual meeting to be held in conjunction with the Arkansas Crop Management Conference January 19-21, 2016 at the Wyndham Riverfront Hotel in North Little Rock, AR. Officers nominated this year will include President Elect Chuck Ligon moving to position of President. Chuck works with Pioneer Seeds and has been active on ACPA board and the Silent Auction fund raiser. He currently serves as Pro-

gram Chairman of ACMC. The nominee for President Elect and ACMC program chair for 2015-16 is Kyle Colwell. He currently work for Dow AgroSciences, serves on the ACPA board and on our Sustaining Membership Committee. Brad Veazey with RiceCo will be nominated for the Industry Position as board member. Also, John Schultz will be nominated as board member serving in the Industry Board Position. Dr. Jarrod Hardke will be nominated to continue as

Vice President. The Vice President serves as Chairman of the Arkansas Crop Protection Association Research Conference in Fayetteville each year. Several ACPA committees and other business will be discussed at the annual meeting. Chris Grimes will be nominated to continue in the Academia Board Position and he serves as local arrangements in charge of moderators and projectors at the ACMC. Chris works with the University of Arkansas.

“Election of officers for ACPA will be conducted at the annual meeting to be held in conjunction with the Arkansas Crop Management Conference January 19-21, 2016 at the Wyndham Riverfront Hotel in North Little Rock, AR”.

Arkansas Crop Management Conference Scheduled January 19-21, 2016

The Arkansas Crop Management Conference is scheduled for January 19-21, 2016 at the Wyndham Riverfront, North Little Rock, AR. The planning meeting included members from the organizations that sponsor the ACMC meeting. The conference for 2016 will have the same number of educational credits available this year as last year, approximately 25-26 credits total depending on approval by CCA organization and Arkansas State Plant Board. The topics of interest this year that will be addressed at the conference

include yellow sugar cane aphid management in grain sorghum, resistant pigweed management, new technology for weed management from Dow and Monsanto, technology associated regulations review by the Plant Board, soil and water topics (5 credits), and several topics on nutrient management. The Wyndham offers a room rate of \$104.00 single or double occupancy and \$10.00 each additional person. These rates include breakfast. Rates quoted are exclusive of tax and are not commissionable. Hotel policy does not allow

more than 4 people to a room. Guests may call the hotel toll free number 1-866-657-4458 or the hotel directly at (501) 371-9000 to make reservations. Please mention Arkansas Crop Management when calling to make reservations in order to receive the special rate. Members calling after the cut-off date may not be able to receive the negotiated rate. Cancellation of an individual guest room reservation needs to be made 24 hours prior to arrival to avoid no-show charges.



Wyndham Riverfront Hotel is a great place for a meeting. Make room reservations as soon as possible



The Future of Farming: Win, Lose, or Draw

By: Scott Greenwalt, ACPA Past President

In light of the most recent crop, the Arkansas farmer is facing some challenging times. 2015 was the perfect storm. Typically, a grower is faced with low yields and good prices, or low prices and good yields, but this year he was dealt low prices as well as low yields due to the abnormal weather pattern we received. From a cold, wet spring to a hot, dry summer, farmers were faced with some difficult decisions to make. Grass crops

require an accumulation of heat units for maximum production, but the story was a “lack of” due to the unusually low temperatures and excessive cloudy days. This pattern left corn and rice a little short come harvest time. As farmers finish out the year, many will be making their way to the accountants office to see where they landed. The outlook for some is bleak, for others, well, they will lick their wounds and mount up to

ride again.

The real story of the future of farming may be shaping up in the Ag retail market. With the glory days of 2012-2014, an influx of Ag retail stores and personnel flooded the market where everyone wanted a piece of the pie. However, with farmers being forced to “lean up” their operations and find ways to trim inefficiencies, it has left the ag industries trying to maintain profitability in creative ways. Indus-

try is providing financing vehicles and bundling programs to capture and retain market share while trying to stay profitable and liquid. Farmers must choose wisely who they partner with in the ag industry to limit further exposure to their business operation. One cannot survive without the other, so doing your homework could be the difference in winning, losing, or finishing with a draw.

We're on the web:
acpanews.com

PPO-Resistant Pigweed...What Now?

By: Dr. Tom Barber, University of Arkansas Weed Scientist

The discovery of PPO-resistant Palmer pigweed this summer has led to many questions, calls and concerns about what to do next. Numerous samples have been taken and sent to Dr. Pat Tranel at the University of Illinois for a test he conducts that determines whether or not the pigweed carry a specific mutated gene which allows for resistance. Dr. Tranel has been working several years to identify this gene in waterhemp populations in the Midwest. Coincidentally the PPO-resistant waterhemp and many of the Palmer pigweed samples have tested positive for the same target site mutation. Therefore, it looks like at least one of the Palmer amaranth mechanisms of resistance to PPO herbicides is target site mutation and it also appears to be the same gene as was identified in waterhemp populations in the Midwest. Samples that we have collected across Arkansas and sent to Pat this fall have come back positive for the PPO resistant gene in 12 counties so far. The counties that have tested positive in Arkansas and Tennessee are represented in Figure 2 below

and include Clay, Conway, Crittenden, Greene, Independence, Jackson, Lawrence, Lee, Mississippi, Phillips, White and Woodruff counties. Several samples were sent in and have come back negative for the resistance gene. If samples were negative in a field of concern, that means the gene was not detectable in the plant tissue. However, it does not mean with 100% certainty that the pigweeds sampled are not resistant or at the very least have some increased tolerance. We will be conducting numerous screening procedures over the winter to determine how these populations respond to full rates of Valor, Reflex and Authority PRE and Flexstar POST to define the level of resistance and to also determine if possible resistance exists through other mechanisms not discovered in the DNA test. What to do with PPO-resistant pigweed in 2016? We are confident the Palmer pigweed populations that have tested positive for the PPO gene will not re-

spond to any POST applications of Flexstar, Ultra Blazer or Cobra. Right now we think there will still be some limited control from our PPO herbicides such as Valor when they are applied PRE, however, the best advice moving forward into 2016 is to rotate these problem fields into corn, rice, or to plant Liberty Link soybean. There are no over-the-top options for controlling PPO-resistant Palmer pigweed in Roundup Ready or conventional soybean. Herbicides or premixes containing metribuzin, metolachlor (Dual) and pyroxasulfone (Anthem Maxx or Zidua) should be included as a PRE in the Liberty Link system followed by Liberty early POST tankmixed with Flexstar or Dual/Zidua etc. Other cultural methods that should be considered are decreasing the row spacing or planting more aggressive growing soybean cultivars that will canopy quickly. If Roundup Xtend or Enlist technologies become available, they will offer other good alternatives, however; residual herbicides will still be necessary to maintain season long control and delay further resistance.



Figure 1: First identified PPO-resistant pigweed in Woodruff county

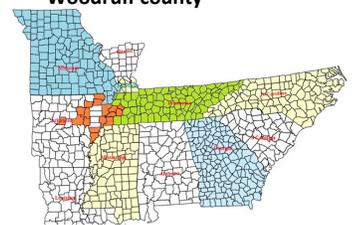


Figure 2: Counties in US where PPO resistance has been confirmed



Figure 3: PPO-resistant pigweed field in Crittenden County