



ACPA Newsletter

2015

Volume 39 Number 4

Transform Losses Registration Effective November 12

By: Dr. Jeff Ellis, Field Scientist, US Coastal Crops, Dow AgroSciences LLC

On November 12, 2015, EPA cancelled the registrations of sulfoxaflor-containing products as required in a September 10, 2015, decision by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The court determined that EPA did not have sufficient data to unconditionally register these products at the labeled rates. The cancellation affects Transform® WG insecticide, which contains sulfoxaflor. As a result of the extensive data currently available on sulfoxaflor, Dow AgroSciences expects the pollinator protection concerns expressed in the court decision to be readily and thoroughly addressed by EPA through further review of scientific data, supporting pressing grower needs for protection against destructive crop pests with renewed U.S. registrations of sulfoxaflor-containing products. Four full years of widespread U.S. product use – with additional use in Canada, Australia and other nations – have demon-

strated excellent sulfoxaflor performance worldwide with no noted adverse effects on pollinators. EPA's cancellation order addresses the distribution, sale and use of product in the channels of trade and product held by growers. EPA will allow (1) continued use of existing stocks of the products already in the hands of end users, provided that users comply with the terms of the preexisting label, and (2) limited distribution or sale of existing stocks only for the purposes of facilitating the return of material to the manufacturer, proper disposal, or lawful export. Dow AgroSciences is disappointed that EPA's existing stocks provision does not allow inventory in the channel to be sold and applied according to the terms of the preexisting label. This decision is removing a critical tool from the American grower. Dow AgroSciences will work



“Arkansas losses important insecticide, Transform, after registration canceled by EPA”

diligently with EPA and States to achieve new registrations as quickly as possible for this important product for the American grower. Dow AgroSciences notes that contrary to misrepresentations circulated by pesticide opponents, sulfoxaflor is a sulfoximine-class insecticide, not a neonicotinoid, a distinction clearly established by the Insecticide Resistance Action Committee

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.

Inside this issue:

<i>Grain Sorghum Acreage in 2015</i>	2
<i>Boll Weevil Eradication Debt Paid</i>	2
<i>Research Conference Student Discuss Issues</i>	3
<i>Military Farmers Home-grown Marketing</i>	3
<i>Abandoned Pesticide Program</i>	4

Special points of interest:

- ATTEND “Arkansas Crop Protection Association Annual Meeting Tuesday After the ACMC Meeting at 5PM” in Silver City I-2

Arkansas Grain Sorghum Acreage Largest Since 1986

By: Dr. Jason Kelley, University of Arkansas



Arkansas grain sorghum acres increased dramatically in 2015 with 430,000 acres harvested.

Arkansas grain sorghum acres increased dramatically in 2015 with 430,000 acres harvested compared to only 165,000 acres in 2014 and only 36,000 acres in 2010. The jump in acres was primarily driven by high grain sorghum prices of \$5.00/bu last winter which was approximately \$1/bu higher than corn. Increase in price was spurred by China purchasing much of the U.S. production from 2014 and China is continuing to purchase U.S. grain sorghum. With the increase in acres in 2015, Arkansas had the third largest grain sorghum acreage in the U.S. behind Kansas and Texas which grew a combined 5.5 million acres and accounted for over 70% of U.S. production. The average Arkansas yield was estimated to be 100 bu/acre, which is the second highest yielding

crop ever. However yields were variable with some reporting yields approaching 140 bu/acre, while others reported yields lower than expected. Reasons for lower yields vary, but very early planting this year was not ideal for maximum yields and many reported higher yields in later plantings. Wet and cool weather caused poor stands in some fields that reduced yield potential. Glyphosate drift was also a common problem. Sugarcane aphids were a statewide problem this year and most fields were treated at least once to control aphids. Acreage is likely to be down in 2016 as grain prices have declined and expenses of controlling sugarcane aphids will likely weigh on acreage.



“Bugs Cause Problems”

Boll Weevil Eradication Program Debt Free

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



“Cotton Boll Weevil Eradication Has Improved Cotton Yields by At Least 200 Pounds Per Acre” Says Dr. Gus Lorenz, UA Entomologist.

“In 2015, the Arkansas Boll Weevil eradication program operated on slightly more than 203,000 acres. The trap spacing and program protocol has been established by the Technical Advisory Committee and is consistent with recommendations from the National Cotton Council program recommendations to adequately detect weevil presence. The Arkansas program continues to accomplish program savings by reducing staffing levels to reflect the acres in production in the state. Trapping results again were all negative in that no weevils were detected in 2015. This is a continuation of the results experienced since 2008 when the last weevil was captured in the state. A vigilant stance has been established with respect to intercepting movement of equipment and

regulated articles, from other cotton producing areas, to insure the items have been properly inspected and treated to prevent movement of pests. The Arkansas Cotton Growers Association (Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation) board of directors has established a plan to maintain a financial buffer of two years of operating expense to facilitate emergency treatment if a weevil is captured, triggering establishment of a treatment response. While maintaining the financial buffer is an important facet of the overall program, the board opted to make a payment in the fall of 2015 that erased the final portion of the existing debt generated by the Arkansas Boll Weevil Eradication program. This was accomplished two years earlier than originally planned by careful consideration of the

program needs and making adjustments that freed up the funds.”

The program has enabled growers to reduce insecticides costs and improved yields. The continued success is dependent on a successful monitoring program of the boll weevil. The surrounding states are also free of boll weevil that further reduces chances of occurrence of boll weevil. The boll weevil pheromone trap is vital to monitoring boll weevil; however, all those involved should be familiar with boll weevil damage and be watchful for any boll weevil damage in fields. Any suspicious damage should be reported to boll weevil program personnel or the Arkansas State Plant Board.



Research Conference Winners In Student Speaking Contest

The Arkansas Crop Protection Association had the annual Research Meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn at Fayetteville November 30 through December 1. The meeting featured current research topics with graduate student speaking competition. In the PhD competition, Chris J. Meyer place first, Ryan Miller second and Chris Rouse third. In Masters competition, Zach Lancaster and Nick Steppig had first; Jeremy Green and John Godham second; Dillon Cox and Matheus Palhano third place. Chris Meyer, first PhD competition spoke on "Will antagonism be expected in Xtend and Enlist Systems" a rather popular topic at this time and timely research. In the experiment, glyphosate controlled barnyardgrass 92% whereas a premix of glyphosate and 2-4-D only gave 84% control. Similarly, in another test glyphosate controlled barnyardgrass 85% but glyphosate plus dicamba only controlled barnyardgrass at the 79% level. He noted the if Roundup Xtend or Enlist cropping systems become widely adopted, herbicide applicators need to be aware of antagonistic interactions and the implications of antagonism on herbicide resistance manage-

ment.

Nick Steppig was one of the first place winners in the Masters Student competition. He discussed new herbicides in grain sorghum. In a field study conducted at the Lon Mann Cotton Research Station in Marianna, he evaluated control programs for johnsongrass and other grass weeds in grain sorghum. Of particular interest in this study was an evaluation of weed control with preemergence application of Leadoff herbicide followed by a post emergence application of Zest plus atrazine, a DuPont recommendation for season long weed control. Preliminary results show that both broadleaf and grass weeds are controlled throughout the growing season, with the most success coming from any of the PRE applications coupled with a POST application of Zest plus atrazine. Crop injury after Zest applications was negligible, suggesting that current weed control programs that incorporate the Inzen trait and utilize Zest herbicide are both safe and effective for season long weed control. This is promising for Arkansas growers and suggests that adoption of Inzen grain sorghum may be a tool for helping pro-



Student winners in speaking at Research Conference are left to right; Nick Steppig, Matheus Palhano, Jeremy Green, John Godwin, Zach Lancaster, Dillon Cox, Chris Meyer, Ryan Miller and Chris Rouse.

ducers contend with post control of grasses.

Another first place winner in the Masters Student competition was Zach Lancaster. He discussed a product by BASF the is a new non-GMO rice trait that will be resistant to quizalofop, an acetyl coenzyme A carboxylase inhibiting herbicide. In the rice test, the 120 grams followed by 120 gram ai per hectare provided the greatest control of both barnyardgrass and broadleaf signalgrass with 99 and 98%.



Santa visited the ACPA Research Conference this year; Keith Perkins, county agent from Lonoke county.

Homegrown by Heroes Comes to Arkansas Acts as a Marketing Tool for Military Farmers.

By Diego Flammini, Farms.com

Military personnel in Arkansas who serve the country by defending it as well as feeding it, will be able to label their produce with a "Homegrown by Heroes" label that also features the words "Arkansas Grown." The Homegrown by Heroes program gives veterans in the agricultural industry another marketing tool and encourages other veterans to not only consider agriculture as a career, but also bring more veterans to Arkansas; a state that currently

houses around 250,000 veterans. The initiative is a joint effort by the Arkansas Agriculture Department and Department of Veterans Affairs. Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson calls the Homegrown by Heroes label a way for citizens to thank veterans for their service. Wes Ward, Arkansas Agriculture Secretary said veterans have all the necessary skills to pursue jobs in agriculture, the state's top earning industry which

brings in about \$20 billion to the Arkansas economy. Ward also noted that with the world's population expected to exceed 9 billion by the year 2050, there's a shortage of people considering a career in agriculture and current farmers are aging. Veterans, active duty, National Guard and Reserve members are all eligible for the Homegrown by Heroes program. Businesses can be certified for the program if a veteran maintains 50% ownership.



"The Homegrown by Heroes program gives veterans in the agricultural industry another marketing tool "

We're on the web:
acpanews.com

Abandoned Pesticide Collection Program Successful

By: Susie Nichols, Director Pesticide Division, ASPB

In 2001, Senate Bill 608 was passed to set the Abandoned Pesticide Program in motion. The purpose of this program was to give private pesticide applicators a way of disposing of unwanted and, unusable agriculture chemicals in complete amnesty. This program is headed up by the Abandoned Pesticide Advisory Board, Arkansas State Plant Board, and is influenced greatly by local University of Arkansas Extension offices and Farm Bureau offices. Funding for the program is by way of a fifty dollar fee collected from every agriculture chemical registered in the state of Arkansas, so as no tax payer dollars are used to fund this program what so ever. Pesticide collections are held within the realms of a county wide cleanup. A central location is picked within the participating

county, and a date and time are selected for the collection. Advertising materials such as flyers, radio spots, and newspaper articles will be used in the weeks leading up to the collection to make sure everyone knows of the upcoming event. On the day of the event a private pesticide disposal contractor will be set up on the site, and will receive the unwanted pesticides. Collections began taking place in Arkansas in 2005, and at that time only Private Applicators were able to participate in the program. It wasn't until 2013 that the program opened up to Commercial Applicators, which would include the state's vast amount of Aerial Applicators. During the past year, Over 181,000 pounds of outdated and unwanted pesticides were collected at events in Conway, Van

Buren, Pope, Yell, Franklin, Johnson, Crawford, Logan and Scott Counties as part of the Abandoned Pesticide Program. To date the Abandoned Pesticide Program has collected over 2.5 million pounds of outdated or unwanted pesticides for disposal. The collection events are conducted twice per year usually in March and October, and rotate around the state based on the advice of the Abandoned Pesticide Advisory Board. The Advisory Board is made up of members from the Arkansas State Plant Board, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, Arkansas Farm Bureau, and the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission.



“Abandoned pesticide program enables Arkansas to dispose of unwanted pesticides”.