



ACPA Newsletter

2019

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Rice College is Scheduled for August 1, Sign Up for a Great Training Session

The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture in partnership with the Arkansas Crop Protection Association will be hosting the 2019 Rice College on August 1, 2019, at the Rice Research and Extension Center near Stuttgart, AR. Crop consultants, industry personnel, and producers will see current research on many of the production challenges Arkansas rice producers are experiencing

today. Participants will hear presentations from University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture personnel and have the opportunity to take part in hands-on demonstrations. Registration for the 2019 Rice College will be \$50 per person. Only online registrations will be accepted, and no walk-up registrations will be accepted the day of the Rice College. Total participants will be capped at 120 par-

ticipants to keep breakout groups small. Registration fees will not be refunded due to inclement weather. Lunch will be provided, and CEUs will be available. Please refer all questions about Rice College to Jarrod Hardke at jhardke@uaex.edu or 501-772-1714.

Click link to go to registration site: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-arkansas-rice-college-registration-64992449165>

Arkansas Crop Management Conference Planning Meeting

The Arkansas Crop Management Conference is scheduled for January 21-23, 2020, at the Wyndham Riverfront, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

The conference for 2020 will have around 20 educational credits available this year and will end at noon on Thursday.

Topics of interest to be addressed will be developed by a program committee composed of representatives from Crop Consultants Association, Certified Crop Advisors, Plant Food Association and Crop Protection

Association.

The planning meeting for the 2020 Arkansas Crop Management Conference will be August 20 in Carlisle at Nicks BBQ. This is an important meeting, and we need good attendance to develop the program content. The meeting will start at 10:00 am and will wrap up with lunch in Nicks BBQ. Dr. Jarrod Hardke will be facilitating the meeting.

The ACMC planning meeting needs a broad range of attendance to bring ideas for a good program. Please pass this email on to any-

one who would be interested from our industry to give input. If you can't make the meeting, please pass on program ideas to Jarrod Hardke.,



A program of topics will be developed for the 2020 ACMC.

ACPA Function and Officers for 2019

The Arkansas Crop Protection Association has a long history with formation in 1964. ACPA has a vital function in Arkansas agriculture bringing together agriculture industries with our University faculty to function in a unique way. ACPA has a representative on the Arkansas State Plant Board serving agriculture. Otis Howe served in this position for 24 years and also was chairman of the Plant Board toward the end of his service. ACPA's new representative is Brad Koen elected at the last annual meeting January 2019. ACPA also has the program

chairman, this year Jarrod Hardke, of the Arkansas Crop Management Conference each year cooperating with Arkansas Plant Food Association, Crop Consultants Association, Certified Crop Advisors and the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture. At ACPA January meeting officers were elected. John Schultz, BASF, was elected President, Jarrod Hardke President elect and ACMC program chair, Nick Bateman Vice President, Jeremy Ross Secretary and Jason Kelley Treasurer. The Directors on the Board include Derek Clarkson, Ben Thrash, Mallory Everett,

Tommy Butts, Jared Fannon, and Craig Shelton. ACPA also presents scholarships each year with Chairman Jared Fannon leading the effort. ACPA is in the process of establishing an endowed scholarship at Arkansas State University with plans to have endowed scholarships at the University of Arkansas. The Arkansas State University endowed scholarship is named in honor of Ruel Nester former ACPA Director and University of Arkansas soybean agronomist. I worked with Ruel and he was a great person, very humble and accomplished scientist.

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Dates to Remember:

- Arkansas Crop Management Conference, January 21-23, 2020
- Arkansas Crop Management Conference Research Meeting, November 19-20, 2019, Hilton Garden Inn, Fayetteville
- Rice College, August 1 at Stuttgart Rice Research Station
- ACMC planning meeting August 20.

Arkansas State Plant Board Update

By: Brad Koen, ACPA Plant Board Representative



Brad reported that after a year of service, Butch Calhoun has decided to step down as the Director of the Arkansas State Plant Board. The new Plant Board Director is Scott Bray, he was previously the Assistant Director.

We had our quarterly Arkansas State Plant Board meeting on June 11. After a year of service, Butch Calhoun has decided to step down as the director. Butch stated that he is retiring and planning on spending more time with his family. He thanked the plant board for giving him the opportunity to serve our industry. The board decided to vote Scott Bray in as director. A group of growers petitioned the board for an extension to apply dicamba for in-crop use until May 25. After much discussion, the board voted the petition down. As of the board meeting date, there had been 17 dicamba complaints filed in the state. Corteva sent a request to the

board to consider allowing Blue-Tag Pioneer branded wheat varieties 26R41, 26R45, and 26R59 for the 2019 planting season. This request is due to the lack of certified seed due to wet weather during the 2018 planting season. The board voted to allow Corteva's request. Mary Smith and Caleb Allen gave presentations on the Arkansas Industrial Hemp Program. This is a very interesting program. The potential for growers in the state remains to be seen. The hemp growers in Arkansas are battling weather just like our traditional farmers. The weather stations that the state is currently using are outdated and need several repairs.

The estimated cost to get the stations back in order would be around \$700,000. Instead of repairing the old stations, the board decided to go with a subscription to DTN for access to their weather stations. This subscription would allow access to 50 stations and would also allow public access to those stations via the plant board website. The plant board will have private access to DTN's network which consists of over 3,000 stations throughout the country. This subscription will improve our data for much less investment. The 7 year outlook to subscribe with DTN would be approximately \$450,000.

EPA Registers Sulfoxaflor, Transform, For Expanded Use in Agriculture

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that it has issued approval for the insecticide sulfoxaflor (Transform) for use on a wide variety of crops, saying the chemical posed less of a risk to honeybees than previously thought. Sulfoxaflor is an important pest management product that is utilized on a wide range of commodities, and there are not many viable alternatives to this chemistry. The newly approved labels do have additional crop specific restrictions for pollinator protection. After conducting an extensive risk analysis, including the review of one of the agency's largest datasets on the effects of a pesticide on bees, EPA is approving

the use of sulfoxaflor on alfalfa, corn, cacao, grains (millet, oats), pineapple, sorghum, teff, teosinte, tree plantations, citrus, cotton, cucurbits (squash, cucumbers, watermelons, some gourds), soybeans, and strawberries. "EPA is providing long-term certainty for U.S. growers to use an important tool to protect crops and avoid potentially significant economic losses, while maintaining strong protection for pollinators," said Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. "This decision shows the agency's commitment to making decisions that are based on sound science." Sulfoxaflor is an important and highly effective

tool for growers that targets difficult pests such as sugarcane aphids and tarnished plant bugs, also known as lygus. These pests can damage crops and cause significant economic loss. Additionally, there are few viable alternatives for sulfoxaflor for these pests. In many cases, alternative insecticides may be effective only if applied repeatedly or in a tank mix, whereas sulfoxaflor often requires fewer applications, resulting in less risk to aquatic and terrestrial wildlife. EPA's registration also includes updated requirements for product labels, which will include crop-specific restrictions and pollinator protection language.



Sulfoxaflor posed less of a risk to honeybees than previously thought when used in crop.

EPA Will Not Ban Insecticide Chlorpyrifos for Now

The EPA will not ban the insecticide chlorpyrifos, the agency ruled, in response to a court order handed down in April. The EPA had until July 18 to address objections to its 2007 decision rejecting a petition asking for a

ban. The deadline was set as part of a court order issued on April 19, 2019, by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in San Francisco. Chlorpyrifos is the main ingredient in Corteva Agriscience's Lorsban insecticide,

which targets many pests in row crops of Arkansas. The EPA has consistently maintained available science supports the human safety of chlorpyrifos, while environmental groups continue to say it is unsafe for humans.

Chlorpyrifos has long been in used in Arkansas for various pest including plant bugs, cutworms and other pests on various crops.