



# ACPA Newsletter

2022

Volume 46 Number 2

## 2022 Soybean College

2022 Soybean College  
 Location: Jackson County Extension Center  
 649 Jackson Road 917, Newport, AR 72112  
 N35.571 W91.2604  
 Date: August 10, 2022  
 Time: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

**Highlights:**  
 Crop consultants, industry personnel, and producers will see current research on many of the production challenges Arkansas soybean producers are experiencing today. Faculty from the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture will lead the demonstrations, and partici-

pants will have the opportunity to take part in the hands-on demonstrations.

Paid participants will receive a complementary sweep net, hand lens, and other items.

CEU's will be available.

Lunch will be provided

Registration fee is \$100 and participants must be registered before the event. There will be no on-site registration the day of the event. We will cap the number of participants at 130.

The registration website is :

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2022-soybean-college-tickets-367669177407>

For more information contact Jeremy Ross at 501-944-0621 or [jross@uada.edu](mailto:jross@uada.edu).

The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution. If you require a reasonable accommodation to participate or need materials in another format, please contact your Jeremy Ross at [jross@uada.edu](mailto:jross@uada.edu) as soon as possible. Dial 711 for Arkansas Relay.

### Mark Your Calendar

**2022 Soybean College**  
 Wednesday, August 10 in Newport, AR  
 Presented by the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture

**ACPA Research Conference**  
 November 29-30,  
 Hilton Garden Inn  
 Fayetteville, AR

**Arkansas Crop Management Conference**  
 January 17-19, 2023  
 Wyndam Hotel  
 North Little Rock, AR

### Topics in this newsletter

Soybean College	1
EPA's Proposed Diuron Decision	1
EPA's Proposed Fluometuron Decision	1-2
EPA Finalizes Biological Evaluations of Three Neonicotinoid Pesticides	2
ACPA Scholarships	3
AG Industry Pushes Back Against Biden On Court Comments	3
Boozman Urges Biden to Withdraw Solicitor General Comments	3
Arkansas State Plant Board Report	3
Fields Named VP of Agriculture	4

## EPA's Proposed Diuron Decision

The National Cotton Council asked crop consultants to comment on EPA's potential decision to limit the use of diuron and fluometuron in cotton. ACPA commented with the help of Dr. Tom Barber, U of A Extension Weed Scientist.

EPA has released their proposed interim Registration Review decision for diuron. The proposed decision would ONLY allow diuron to be used at defoliation at a low rate. Diuron has been a critical component of

cotton weed management for many years. EPA believes there are suitable alternatives now. Arkansas cotton farmers use diuron Preplant burndown, Preemerge, and Post-direct/Layby at rates of 16-32 oz/ac depending on soil type. There are not good alternatives for diuron where we have multiple-resistant pigweed. Diuron has a unique mode of action where no resistance has been documented in Palmer amaranth. If Arkansas cotton farmers could only use a defoliation rate of 0.065 lbs, ai/ac, there

would be a significant increase in cost for residual horseweed control pre-plant burndown prior to planting cotton and significant increase in weed management costs in at least 5 of the largest cotton producing counties in Arkansas where 6-way herbicide resistant Palmer amaranth populations exist. Diuron is still one of the only herbicides where no resistance in Palmer amaranth has been documented.

## EPA's Proposed Fluometuron Decision

The National Cotton Council also asked crop consultants to comment on EPA's proposed new fluometuron label that would appear to limit its use on our true cotton sands. ACPA commented with the help of Dr. Tom Barber, U of A Extension Weed Scientist.

We will likely grow 600,000 acres of cotton this year in Arkansas. At least half of that (300,000 acres) will be grown on a sand or sandy loam soil.

Approximately 60-70% of these acres (180,000) currently get fluometuron applied PRE at 1-1.5 pt/Acre. Fluometuron is a critical herbicide in the management of multiple-resistant Palmer amaranth (pigweed) and we are very concerned about losing or limiting fluometuron applications Preplant, and PRE on any Arkansas cotton acres. Populations of Palmer amaranth in our major cotton producing areas are resistant to ALS

(WSSA 2), DNA (WSSA 3), glyphosate (WSSA 9), PPO (WSSA 14), VLFCA/metolachlor (WSSA 15), and HPPD (WSSA 27). In addition glufosinate (WSSA 10), dicamba (WSSA 4) and 2,4-D (Enlist One) resistance has been identified in Palmer amaranth populations in Crittenden and Mississippi county, two of our top cotton producing counties in Arkansas. Fluometuron is a critical herbicide to manage

## EPA's Proposed Fluometuron Decision (*continued*)

Palmer amaranth in Arkansas cotton production, especially Northeast Arkansas where most of our cotton is grown and these highly resistant popu-

lations of Palmer amaranth exist. Coincidentally this is also the area of the state where our sandier soils exist, therefore based on the proposed limitations the

proposed label would not allow fluometuron applications in the future. We would struggle to produce a cotton crop in its ab-

sence, especially if diuron applications are prohibited.

## EPA Finalizes Biological Evaluations Assessing Potential Effects of Three Neonicotinoid Pesticides on Endangered Species

EPA has released its final biological evaluations (BEs) for clothianidin, imidacloprid, and thiamethoxam, part of a group of insecticides known as neonicotinoids, and its responses to comments received on the draft BEs. These neonicotinoids are used on a variety of crops, turf, and ornamentals, and for other residential and commercial indoor and outdoor uses.

In these BEs, EPA evaluated clothianidin, imidacloprid, and thiamethoxam to determine whether they may affect one or more federally listed endangered or threatened (listed) species or their designated critical habitats. These evaluations, which encompass all registered uses and approved product labels for pesticide products containing these chemicals, are part of EPA's efforts to meet its obligations under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This work furthers the goals outlined in [EPA's April 2022 ESA Workplan](#) to provide practical protections from pesticides for listed species.

The BEs evaluate the effects of clothianidin, imidacloprid, and thiamethoxam on over 1,700 listed species and over 800 designated critical habitats in the United States, determining that:

- Clothianidin:

- Will have no effect on 14 percent of species and 17 percent of critical habitats;

- May affect but is not likely to adversely affect 19 percent of species and 27 percent of critical habitats; and

- Is likely to adversely affect 67 percent of species and 56 percent of critical habitats.

- Imidacloprid:

- Will have no effect on 11 percent of species and 10 percent of critical habitats;

- May affect but is not likely to adversely affect 9 percent of species and 7 percent of critical habitats; and

- Is likely to adversely affect 79 percent of species and 83 percent of critical habitats.

- Thiamethoxam:

- Will have no effect on 12 percent of species and 11 percent of critical habitats;

- May affect but is not likely to adversely affect 11 percent of species and 7 percent of critical habitats; and

- Is likely to adversely affect 77 percent of species and 81 percent of critical habitats.

The "[likely to adversely affect](#)" (LAA) determination means that EPA reasonably expects that at least one individual animal or plant, among a variety of listed species,

may be exposed to the pesticide at a sufficient level to have an adverse effect. The likely "take," which includes unintentional harm or death, of even one individual of a species, is enough to trigger an LAA determination. This is the case even if a species is almost recovered to a point where it may no longer need to be listed. As a result, there are often a high number of LAA determinations in a BE. An LAA determination, however, does not necessarily mean that a pesticide is putting a species in jeopardy.

Because of these findings, EPA has initiated formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service (the Services). EPA will be working with the Services throughout the consultation process to clarify how the effects determinations included in the final BEs and comments received on the draft BEs can best inform the Services' biological opinions (BiOps). EPA's support is intended to make consultation more efficient and allow the Services to focus their resources on developing additional mitigations to protect species that are the most vulnerable to potential exposures.

During consultation, the Services will develop BiOps, which will include their official determinations of whether a pesticide is likely to jeopardize each relevant listed species or adversely modify its critical habitat, and include any additional mitigation measures the Services develop in coordination with EPA and

stakeholders. EPA will then implement any necessary mitigation measures to protect listed species, in collaboration with pesticide registrants.

These final BEs follow the draft BEs for clothianidin, imidacloprid, and thiamethoxam, which EPA released for public comment in August 2021. The draft BEs were developed after the release of EPA's proposed interim decisions (PIDs) for the neonicotinoid pesticides in January 2020. The PIDs are part of EPA's registration review process for pesticides, required under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, to identify risks from pesticides and actions that can mitigate risks. In the PIDs, EPA proposed a suite of mitigation measures including annual application rate reductions, application timing restrictions, and measures to reduce spray drift. The Agency anticipates releasing amended PIDs in 2023, which will include updates to some of the previously proposed mitigations, and early mitigation measures to reduce neonicotinoid exposures for listed species. Mitigation measures will be finalized in the interim decisions, which EPA expects to release in 2024. EPA and the Services will consider these final mitigations during consultation.

# ACPA Scholarships

The ACPA Scholarship Committee under the leadership of Craig Shelton has been meeting with the University of Arkansas, Arkansas State University and The University of Arkansas at Monticello to establish guidelines for awarding scholarships and to make sure they are awarded each year to deserving students. Craig has assigned committee members to work closely with the three universities.

ACPA funds one \$1500 scholarship at The University

of Arkansas at Monticello, but no payment has been processed in the past several years. Efforts are being made to get UAM back on board with awarding the scholarship.

ACPA funds two \$1500 scholarship at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. During Covid, no payments were made. Eight payments were made this year to correct this. The Scholarship Committee found out an endowed scholarship requires a minimum of \$25,000 and the payment can be over a 5 year

period. The two ACPA scholarships at the University of Arkansas are named in honor of Henry DeSalvo and Clay Hanson. Henry was a longtime employee of the Arkansas State Plant Board who died suddenly in 1976. Clay was a longtime employee with Olin Mathison and served as executive director of ACPA.

ACPA funds one \$1500 scholarship as well as one endowed scholarship at Arkansas State University. The endowed scholarship is currently less than the \$1500 scholarship (typically

around \$1100). The endowment would need to be increased to \$35,000 to increase the payout. The ACPA Scholarship at Arkansas State University is named in honor of Ruel Nester. Ruel was longtime University of Arkansas Extension Soybean Specialist, and served as executive director of ACPA.

The Scholarship Committee's first goal will be to get an endowed scholarship at UAF and then work on increasing the ASU endowment.

## AG Industry Pushes Back Against Biden On Court Comments Regarding Glyphosate

May 27, 2022

On Monday, May 23rd, several agricultural organizations and groups joined in a letter to President Biden expressing deep concern for a recent brief provided by the U.S. Solicitor General to the Supreme Court of the United States regarding a pending case

related to glyphosate and labeling of pesticides. In the letter, the groups urged the Administration to withdraw the brief from the court and the case.

More below:

<https://www.agri-pulse.com/articles/17733-ag-groups-urge-withdrawal-of-administrations-scotus-brief-in-roundup-case>

<https://www.farmprogress.com/farm-policy/court-brief-glyphosate->

[causing-ag-groups-concern](#)

[Letter to Biden](#)

<https://www.agri-pulse.com/articles/17761-vilsack-usda-wasnt-consulted-by-doj-in-roundup-case>

## Boozman Urges Biden to Withdraw Solicitor General Comments to Court On Glyphosate

June 10, 2022

Senator John Boozman (R-AR) and Congressman GT Thompson (R-PA), both ranking members of the Agriculture Committees in the Senate and House respectively, issued a joint letter to President Biden urging him to withdraw the U.S. Solicitor General's brief to the

Supreme Court of the United States regarding a case involving glyphosate. The letter expressed concern for the opinion of the Solicitor General, which was counter to the opinion of the Solicitor General of the previous administration. The opinion was also issued with limited consultations with USDA and the EPA.

The Supreme Court is expected to announce its decision on whether to accept a petition filed by Bayer in regards to this case on Monday. The petition stems from a California case against Monsanto, now Bayer, relating to an individual who alleges that exposure to Roundup caused cancer and that Monsanto failed to properly warn consumers

in accordance to California law, despite being in full compliance with the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), which regulates labels for registered crop protection products, and despite EPA scientific findings that glyphosate is likely not carcinogenic.

## Judge Issues Order on Arkansas State Plant Board

June 10, 2022

On June 9th, Arkansas Circuit Court Judge Chip Welch issued a written order in regards to a lawsuit filed against the State Plant Board challenging the constitution-

ality of the section of the law establishing the composition of the board. The order concluded that certain board positions where appointments made by the Governor from a limited pool of nominees is deemed unconstitutional as an un-

constitutional delegation of public power to private interests, in which the order cited articles 2, 4, and 5, of the State Constitution. The order noted that the decision was governed by a 2021 decision by the State Supreme Court related to the

previous statute governing the State Plant Board. The order also declared those seats to be vacant.

# UA System Board of Trustees confirms Fields as VP of Agriculture

May 25, 2022

By Mary Hightower  
U of A System Division of  
Agriculture

BATESVILLE, Ark. — The University of Arkansas System Board of Trustees confirmed Deacue Fields as vice president for agriculture on Wednesday based on a recommendation by System President Donald R. Bobbitt.

The Trustees took action during an executive session. Bobbitt recommended Fields to lead the system's Division of Agriculture in April following a national search.

"I want to congratulate Dean Fields on being confirmed as the new vice president of agriculture for the U of A System," said Chuck Culver, who has been serving as interim vice president since Mark Cochran retired in September 2021. "The Division of Agriculture will be in very good hands."

Fields, currently dean of the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences, will begin his new job July 1.

"I am grateful for the vote of confidence from both the Board of Trustees and Dr. Bobbitt, and I am excited about this opportunity and look forward to the challenge ahead," Fields said.

Fields was appointed Bumpers College dean in 2017. He came to Arkansas after serving as professor and chair of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology at Auburn University since August 2013. He joined the faculty at Auburn in 2002 and was promoted to associate professor in 2007, an appointment that also included extension duties. He has also worked as an assis-

tant professor and director of small farm outreach at Florida A&M University and as a graduate research fellow in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness at Louisiana State University.

He earned his bachelor's degree from Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in 1993, his master's degree from the University of Missouri in 1995 and his doctorate from LSU in 2002, all in agricultural economics.

To learn more about Division of Agriculture research, visit the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station website: <https://aaes.uada.edu>. Follow on Twitter at @ArkAgResearch. To learn more about the Division of Agriculture, visit <https://uada.edu/>. Follow us on Twitter at @AgInArk. To learn about extension programs in Arkansas, contact your local Cooperative Extension Service agent or visit [www.uaex.uada.edu](http://www.uaex.uada.edu).

## About the Division of Agriculture

The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture's mission is to strengthen agriculture, communities, and families by connecting trusted research to the adoption of best practices. Through the Agricultural Experiment Station and the Cooperative Extension Service, the Division of Agriculture conducts research and extension work within the nation's historic land grant education system.

The Division of Agriculture is one of 20 entities within the University of Arkansas System. It has offices in all 75 counties in Arkansas and faculty on five system campuses.

The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture offers all its Extension and Research programs to all eligible

persons without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status, and is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

