

Dicamba Training Required in 2018

In October 2017, the Environmental Protection Agency required that soybean and cotton Dicamba products (currently XtendiMax™, FeXapan™, and Engenia™) be classified as Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs). This change requires anyone purchasing and using these products to be a licensed certified applicator whether for private, commercial, or non-commercial application. There was also a requirement by EPA for additional training on Dicamba use for these three products. This is a special training which is different from the normal local, agronomy and restricted use pesticide certification meetings.

You will find information for training opportunities and information applicators need to know at the Nebraska Department of Agriculture website: <http://www.nda.nebraska.gov/pesticide/dicamba.html> It includes a suggested new record keeping form to comply with the labels.

Nebraska applicators will be legally licensed for the three products listed above when their name and RUP (Restricted Use Permit) applicator number is listed on the NDA website after the completion of an approved Dicamba training. Dealers must use this list in order to sell these products.

Check with your seed dealer: Certain companies are offering free spray nozzles to comply with the new labels if you purchased DT soybeans. Ask for a promo code.

Recordkeeping: There are 20 items that are logged in the pesticide records for these three products. Go to: <http://www.nda.nebraska.gov/pesticide/labels/RUPDicambaRecord.pdf> to see an example record that would meet the label requirement. The label is the law. Applicators must log wind speed, temperature and wind direction at the start and stop of each spray application with these three products. You can do this with a kestrel wind meter, compass and thermometer OR go to: <http://weatherflow.com/weather-meter-for-ag/> This device for a smartphone will log that data automatically for you. The cost is \$84.95 plus shipping.

TRAINING OPTIONS FOR AREA APPLICATORS

1. Go to the UNL Crop Clinic in Lincoln, NE on January 18th and receive the Dicamba training. Pre-register at: <https://agronomy.unl.edu/cpc>. Cost is \$80
2. Complete the free, brand new, Nebraska Extension online Dicamba course at <https://campus.extension.org/login/index.php>. You will need to register with a new username and passcode as you cannot use this website course as a guest. Follow the instructions to get certified. You must have a RUP license number to take the training. Estimated time is 1.5 hrs. Let me know if you have trouble or any questions at all with this free course. I have personally taken it.
3. Ask your Monsanto, BASF or Dupont representative about any NDA approved trainings they are sponsoring. The NDA will post these meetings if given the information on their website at: <http://www.nda.nebraska.gov/pesticide/dicamba.html>. Talk to your seed/chemical dealer.
4. Southeast Corn Growers Association/NE Extension Sprayer Clinic II – 4-H Building, Fairgrounds, Crete, Wednesday March 8. Separate morning and afternoon sessions. Check for further details at the Saline County Extension website or cropwatch.unl.edu the end of January. Greg Kruger will be the instructor and will apply for a Dicamba Certified meeting.

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