Dicamba Update
Tim Creger, Program Manager

On October 31, 2018, EPA announced the reregistration of the three RUP dicamba herbicides for use on dicamba tolerant soybeans and cotton (Engenia, FeXapan and XtendiMax) for two more years (2019 and 2020). There have been a few changes in the labels, which are outlined below. NDA will post all approved labels and applicator training programs on the NDA website at http://bit.ly/NDAPPdicamba as they become available.

Label Changes:
- Labels prohibit the sale to and use by uncertified applicators under the supervision of a certified applicator.
- Applicators must record the planting date for target crop.
- No applications are allowed more than 45 days after planting, or when the crop reaches the R1 growth stage, whichever is earlier.
- Time-of-day for applications is now no earlier than one hour after sunrise to two hours before sunset.
- Applicators must survey and record all “neighboring sensitive areas” or “adjacent crops” using a sensitive crops location service such as DriftWatch™, and by personal survey.
- Additional label language protecting endangered species habitats.
- Additional label language addressing weed resistance management.
- Annual applicator training must be taken before the first application is made (prior training will not count toward the 2019 growing season).
- All three products now require a minimum application spray volume of 15 GPA.
- New label language addressing runoff of rainfall or irrigation water from saturated soils.
- Revisions to record keeping.

NDA will post a revised document defining certain terms in the labels that we believe merit interpretation for Nebraska applicators. Terms such as “neighboring sensitive areas” are not defined in the labels, and NDA will be setting specific distances and circumstances we believe will help applicators reduce the amount of effort it takes to comply with the new labels. The revised labels again require all applicators to take mandatory auxin/dicamba training before making their first application. Applicator training programs will be offered by at least three chemical registrants and UNL, similar to last year. Applicators should have access to in-person and online dicamba applicator training by early January, 2019.
Check the NDA website for links to those training sessions. Only NDA-approved training is acceptable for Nebraska applicators, and the labels require applicators to record when and where they took the training.

Changes to record keeping:

- While the 2018 labels had 20 specific items of information to be recorded, the new labels have 22. Most of the information required by the 2018 labels are retained in the 2019 labels, with the following important change:
  - Records must document the applicator checked an appropriate sensitive crop/specialty crop registry, and document that the applicator surveyed all “neighboring fields” for any sensitive areas, sensitive crops, or residential areas surrounding the field prior to the application. Records must include the date the applicator consulted the sensitive crop registry and the date the applicator surveyed the neighboring fields. The applicator must record the name of the sensitive crop registry consulted (at the time of this writing the only known registry in Nebraska is DriftWatch).

- There were numerous record keeping violations found in 2018. NDA would like applicators to take note of the following record keeping concerns that were most frequently encountered:
  - Nearby sensitive crops and sites were either not documented, or improperly documented. The date the nearby sensitive sites or crops were surveyed was not generally recorded.
  - Few records showed whether the application was pre-emergence or post-emergence, and even fewer showed the number of days after planting.
  - While most applicators documented wind speed, direction and air temperature at the start time of the application, only half of those records documented that information for the finish time of the application.
  - Few records documented the specific method used for spray system cleanout.
  - A number of applicators failed to record the EPA Registration Number of ALL pesticides in the tank mix, or the names of all tank mix partners.
  - The type of nozzle used was often incorrectly documented. Simply calling a nozzle by a color or “dicamba nozzle” does not satisfy this part of the record keeping. NDA expects applicators to identify the nozzle code or number, such as “TTI 110-04” or “UR110-06”.
  - Private applicators must keep a record of the receipt of purchase for the RUP dicamba product they apply. NDA assumes commercial applicators purchase the products through a wholesale distributor and would have that information recorded by the corporation.
  - Few applicators actually documented the buffer area calculation. NDA expects the records to show the buffer area used upwind of any sensitive site and how that area was calculated.

Computer-Based Testing for Commercial/Noncommercial Exams

NDA has contracted with Pearson VUE to offer our most popular exams at 12 computer-based testing sites across Nebraska. They charge $55 per exam. More information about Pearson VUE testing can be found at bit.ly/NDAvuetest.

Advantages of Pearson VUE:

- Most testing sites are available 5-7 days a week.
- Scores are received prior to leaving the testing session.
- Failing scores generate a score report that provides percentage scores in different subject areas for each exam.

Testing Sites:

- Columbus
- Grand Island
- Lincoln (two sites)
- McCook
- Norfolk
- North Platte (two sites)
- Omaha (three sites)
- Scottsbluff
To register for all UNL Recertification meetings, go to the UNL Pesticide Safety Education Program website (pested.unl.edu).

To register for all other training opportunities, click the corresponding link in the table above.

Recertification in the following categories will not be offered via training. Exams will need to be taken to recertify in:
- 01a (Soil Fumigation)
- 03 (Forest)
- 06 (Seed Treatment)
- 02 (Ag Animal)
- 05S (Sewer Root)

See next page for testing options, or see bit.ly/NDAPPdates for walk-in testing sites.

Please Post for Future Reference
### 2019 Initial Certification Meetings

**Commercial and Non-Commercial**

(UNL or Association Training plus NDA Exam)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Categories</th>
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<th>Location</th>
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### Applicator Categories

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1a</td>
<td>Soil Fumigation</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ag Animal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ornamental and Turf*</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Aquatic</td>
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<tr>
<td>5S</td>
<td>Sewer Root (metam sodium)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Seed Treatment</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Right-of-Way*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Structural Health*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8W</td>
<td>Wood Destroying Organism*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Public Health*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Wood Preservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Fumigation (grain)*</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Aerial*</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Wildlife Damage Control</td>
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<td>Regulatory Subcategory</td>
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<tr>
<td>D/R</td>
<td>Demonstration/Research Subcategory</td>
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### NDA Certification Testing Policies

- The use of study materials is not allowed while taking the exam.
- Calculators may be used. However; all iPads, cell phones, or similar electronic devices which can store, send, or receive data or images must be turned off, kept in pockets or holsters, and will not be allowed on the tabletop.
- The exams are the property of the State of Nebraska. Removal of exams from examination rooms is prohibited. Copying or reproducing the contents of exams (in part or in whole) is unlawful.
- Persons with special needs or disabilities should notify NDA of accommodations they may require at least 10 days prior to date of the exam.

These policies and more certification information can be found on our certification page at [bit.ly/NDAPPcert](http://bit.ly/NDAPPcert).

**Please Post for Future Reference**
Exams Offered through Pearson VUE:

- General Standards (00)
- Ag-Plant Pest Control (01)
- Ornamental & Turf Pest Control (04)
- Right-of-Way Pest Control (07)
- Structural/Health Related Pest Control (08)
- Wood Destroying Organisms (08W)
- Public Health Pest Control (09)
- Structural Fumigation (11)
- Aerial Pest Control (12)

Weeds, Weeds, Weeds

Noxious and invasive weeds seem to be a never-ending battle for producers and applicators. These problematic weeds are tough and can spread quickly under normal management practices. They can and will grow virtually anywhere from landscapes, lawns, gardens, farms, ranches, roadsides and everywhere in-between.

In most cases, troublesome weeds are introduced (non-native), meaning they have been brought here on purpose or by accident, usually from another country. Most plants or weeds have natural enemies which help to keep them in check or under control. The problem is these introduced plants don’t always have their natural enemies when they are introduced to new areas. This allows the plant to thrive and possibly over populate.

Controlling noxious and invasive weeds can be a daunting task. However, applying control measures at the “correct time” verses “when you have time” will gain you excellent results. Landowners and applicators need to identify the correct control measures and apply those measures in a timely fashion. Sometimes it’s necessary to apply rescue treatments to infestations that have gone unnoticed or uncontained, for whatever reason. These treatments can reduce the infestation level and may prevent some seed production. However, a follow-up treatment will be needed, especially during the correct application period.

Scouting areas known to be infested with troublesome weeds can pay great rewards. These scouting trips allow one to locate and identify possible problem areas. This also provides an opportunity to spot treat small and isolated infestations, which greatly reduces pesticide costs and exposure to the environment. Depending on the weed species, one may be able to control a few unwanted plants by digging or cutting depending on the plants growth stage and life cycle.

Communication, anyone?

FieldWatch displays commercial specialty crops and beehives on a user-friendly web map. Most specialty crop growers and beekeepers make their contact information available so that communication is easy to start! Farmers and commercial applicators can register for free, too, to receive email alerts when new sites are added in their area, and to download the free FieldCheck app!

As indicated in the the seed treatment guide on the next page, and a recommendation of NDA for all outdoor applicators, is “be aware of honey bees and hives near the field, and communicate with beekeepers when possible.” FieldWatch tools can help you start that conversation with many local specialty crop growers.
Retail Outlets: When Familiar Pesticides Change

We all have our favorite products, whether it’s laundry detergent, shampoo, or a pesticide you know works against the pests in your home or garden. But what happens when a company changes the ingredients in a product? Does it work, smell, or lather differently?

Your customers may come into your store looking for a product by name, not realizing that several popular pesticide brands have changed their active ingredients (the materials in pesticide products that actually kill or repel pests). They may not know the product has changed, and will likely not read the new labels. Because of these new active ingredients, customers may need to use the products differently or take additional precautions. There might also be changes in the way pests are controlled.

Remind customers to always read and follow the label instructions. This is the best way to ensure they purchase the correct product for their pest problem and use pesticides safely and effectively in their home, garden, and landscape. Below are three familiar pesticide products that have recently changed.

Sevin (Figure 1) is a familiar insecticide brand name for home gardeners used to control insects in lawns, on ornamental plants, and on vegetables. Sevin and the active ingredient carbaryl, are practically synonymous. Recently, the active ingredient in some Sevin products was changed from carbaryl (a carbamate) to zeta-cypermethrin (a pyrethroid).

For instance, Sevin Insect Killer and Sevin Lawn Granules now contain the active ingredient zeta-cypermethrin. This pyrethroid is less toxic to mammals but both carbaryl and zetacypermethrin are highly toxic to bees and aquatic species. The new label on Sevin Insect Killer states that it controls more pests than the old product containing carbaryl, which may seem great, but the product may also kill some of the good bugs like lady beetles (ladybugs).

Another very important difference is the time the products can safely be applied on fruits and vegetables before harvest (called preharvest interval or PHI). Following the PHI reduces your pesticide exposure when you eat the food. For fruits such as apples and peaches, the PHI for the zeta-cypermethrin Sevin is 14 days, but for the Sevin with carbaryl it’s 3 days. For other fruits and vegetables, the PHI for the new Sevin label may be shorter than the carbaryl label. Again, check the label.

The Sevin Ready-to-use 5% Dust remains a carbaryl product for now. Some stores may still have containers of Sevin products containing carbaryl but as stock runs out, they are likely to be replaced with the new product.

Roundup - Another familiar pesticide name is Roundup, a product known historically for containing the herbicide active ingredient glyphosate. Monsanto, the manufacturer of Roundup, now produces an extensive line of Roundup products containing multiple active ingredients, rather than just glyphosate alone. Many of these products contain triclopyr or diquat in addition to glyphosate. Some don’t contain any glyphosate at all (Figure 2).

Corry’s Slug and Snail Killer - In 2012, the active ingredient of the well-known Corry’s Slug and Snail Killer was changed from metaldehyde to sodium ferric EDTA, but the general look of the product box didn’t change. This relatively new active ingredient is less toxic and less attractive to dogs and still effective against snails and slugs. However, the amount users apply and how quickly it works both differ from the previous (continued next page)
active ingredient. Customers familiar with the old product may have noticed a
change, but unless they read the label, they may not know why.

**Reading the Label** - Since pesticide labels and contents change, encourage
customers to read the product label before each purchase and use. A key item to
check when shopping for a pesticide is the active ingredient, like carbaryl or
glyphosate, which will be found at the bottom of the front label. Directions for use
and other precautions are essential label elements to read, especially if measuring
equipment or protective gear such as gloves or goggles are needed. Customers
should also be instructed that the amount needed for a given area or volume of
water may have changed, so label rates should be checked before application.

> Reprinted with permission from the University of California Statewide Integrated Pest
Management Program newsletter.

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**Private Applicator Restricted-Use Pesticide (RUP)
Record Keeping Requirements**

The following information on the use of all RUPs must be kept for a minimum of
three years:

1. The brand or product name and the EPA registration number of the pesticide
   applied.
2. The total amount of pesticide applied.
3. Location of the application, size of the area treated, crop, commodity, stored
   product, or site to which the pesticide was applied. The location may be
   recorded using any of the following designations:
   - County, range, township, and section.
   - Maps and/or written description which accurately identify the location.
   - The legal property description. If the applications of the RUP made on the
     same day cover a total of less than 1/10 of an acre, note it as a "spot
     application," followed by a concise description of the location. (Example -
     spot application, musk thistle in north pasture.)
4. The date of the application.
5. The name and certification number of the applicator.
6. In accordance with the federal regulation, (adopted as the State regulation) the
   information required shall be recorded within 14 days following the RUP
   application.

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**Commercial and Non-Commercial
Record Keeping Requirements**

Record keeping for general use pesticides are required for applicators in the
structural category. They are identical to the RUP requirements. All such information
must be recorded within 48 hours of the pesticide application, and is to be kept for a
minimum of three years following the application. These records should be kept and
maintained at the principal place of business and contain true and accurate
information. This information shall include the following:

1. Name and address of the person for whom the pesticide was applied.
2. Name, address, and certified applicator number of the person making the
   application.
3. Location of the pesticide application.
4. Target pests.
5. The site of the application (specific crop or commodity, type of field, type of
   surface (soil, turf, wood, etc.).
6. Date of the application. (continued next page)
Ag Chemical Containment and Load-out Regulations

Commercial and private applicators should be aware of the requirements of Title 198, Agricultural Chemical Containment regulations. These apply to both private and commercial agrichemical storage, as well as to commercial applicators of fertilizers and pesticides. The secondary containment and load-out facility requirements for pesticide storage and use have been in effect for everyone since January 1, 1995. The secondary containment and load-out facility requirements for fertilizer storage and use have been in effect for everyone since January 1, 1999.

Please review this brochure to determine if you are required to comply with these regulations.

(Used with permission of the Lower Platte South NRD)

10 Ways Groundwater Guardian Green Sites Protect Groundwater
Jennifer Wemhoff, The Groundwater Foundation

Groundwater Guardian Green Sites is a program of the Groundwater Foundation that recognizes the groundwater stewardship of green spaces. Green Sites like golf courses, parks, educational and office campuses, nature centers, and more implement groundwater-friendly practices as part of their regular site maintenance. To participate, site managers fill out an application that documents their site’s practices related to water use, chemical use, potential contaminant management, and more, earning points for each practice.

1. **Green Sites manage their site with groundwater in mind.** The Green Site program prompts site managers to look internally at their practices and examine them through the lens of groundwater protection. The application makes them think and ask questions about how they operate, and look at ways they can improve their practices to protect groundwater and related natural resources.

2. **Green Sites document the environmental impacts of groundwater-friendly practices.** As part of the application process, site managers provide data about the impact of their site’s maintenance practices. Each site’s data, combined with that of their peers, shows the significant positive impact green spaces can have on the environment.

3. **Green Sites look for ways to reduce their chemical use.** Site managers earn points for finding ways to reduce their site’s chemical use – from implementing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices to soil testing to determine nutrient needs. Green Sites have reduced fertilizer use by nearly 1 million pounds by analyzing the soil’s nutrient needs and using lower input plants, and reduced pesticide use by about 35% by using label recommended application rates and IPM.
4. **Green Sites save water whenever they can.** By utilizing precision watering and irrigation techniques, along with common sense practices, Green Sites use less water and still maintain healthy turf. In fact, participating Green Sites have saved nearly 500 million gallons of water by tracking their site’s water usage, modifying irrigation practices when necessary, and choosing plants and turf species that are adapted to the region’s climate. Some sites even use recycled wastewater for watering landscapes.

5. **Green Sites want to learn more about groundwater and how they can protect it.** Site managers that participate in Green Sites understand how precious groundwater is. Through webinars, courses, newsletters, and conferences, site managers educate themselves and keep up on the latest best management practices (BMPs) to implement at their site.

6. **Green Sites manage and dispose of potential sources of contamination properly.** The Green Site program makes site managers aware of the potential contaminant sources their site may generate and develop ways to deal with them while protecting water resources. For example, many Green Sites have spill containment plans that detail what needs to be done in case of a spill. In addition, Green Sites have documented the proper disposal of over 2,000 used batteries, over 45,000 gallons of used oil and other fluids, 1,400 tires, 5,000 lightbulbs, and over 120,000 pounds of hazardous waste and other materials.

7. **Green Sites are environmental stewards.** Site managers that participate in the Green Site program actively look for ways to protect the environment beyond water resources. They implement recycling programs, install energy-efficient lighting, expand wildlife habitat, use native plants in landscaping, and more.

8. **Green Sites look for new ways to protect groundwater.** Site managers have told us that one of the best parts of the program is the educational aspect of the application. They can see how their current practices stack up and find new ways to improve their score and, in turn, their groundwater stewardship.

9. **Green Sites educate site staff and the community.** As an organization that focuses on education, it was imperative to the Groundwater Foundation to build continuing education into the Green Site program. Site managers document their internal education efforts for site staff, as well as public outreach efforts such as tours, work with students, and community events.

10. **Green Sites are part of their community.** Groundwater is the water we drink, the water that grows our food, and the water that helps businesses and communities thrive and grow. Green Sites play important roles in their communities, demonstrating how groundwater connects us all.

To find out more about the Green Site program and how you can get involved, visit [www.groundwater.org/greensites](http://www.groundwater.org/greensites), email guardian@groundwater.org, or call (402) 434-2740.

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**Videos of Interest**

- **Sensitive Sites: Trees and Nursery Stock** – UNL Pesticide Safety Education Program
- **All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series** – National Extension; 2018 and before in archive
- **Homeowner Tips for Proper Pesticide Application** - The Pesticide Stewardship Alliance
- **Water Well Contamination Demo** – UNL Extension and Nebraska Dep’t of Health and Human Services

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**Let’s See it from Both Sides: Perspectives of Farmers and Commercial Beekeepers on Protection of Honey Bees**

Three points of debate between farmers and beekeepers are discussed from both points of view:

- sharing information on honey bee colony locations
- exposure of bees to agricultural pesticides
- availability of flowers in the ag landscape
Emerald Ash Borer Update

In August, NDA, in partnership with USDA, confirmed the presence of emerald ash borer (EAB) in a Lincoln trap. An ash tree with signs and symptoms indicating an EAB infestation was also discovered in Fremont by a local arborist. As a result, NDA recently added Otoe, Lancaster, and Saunders Counties to the existing quarantine on ash products. More on the quarantine is found in the press release.

The Nebraska Forest Service has great EAB information for property owners, community planners, and tree care/green industry professionals, including how to prevent the spread of EAB, deciding if trees should be treated, and if so, treatment options available.

Readers are free to reprint, in whole or in part, information in this newsletter. However, NDA respectfully requests the following citation be used:

Reprinted from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture’s Pesticide, Fertilizer & Noxious Weed Newsletter (www.nda.nebraska.gov)

Articles from other sources are often used in this newsletter, and should be cited accordingly.

This newsletter is available in other formats for persons with disabilities upon request. For an alternate format or for additional information on topics in this publication, please call the Nebraska Department of Agriculture at (402) 471-2351.

TDD users can contact the Department by first calling the Nebraska Relay System. Telephone (800) 833-7352 and asking the operator to call (402) 471-2351.

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Tim Stortz - (southwest region)
Vacant – (west region)

This newsletter is posted on NDA’s website at bit.ly/NDAPPnews2

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Vacant - (north central region)
Eric Fuentes-Ruiz - (southeast region)
Eric Trumbull - (Panhandle region)
Aaron Ide - (southwest region)