

# Post Rock Extension District Column

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K-State Research and Extension-Post Rock District  
Crop Production Agent

## New Dicamba label updates

Weed management has definitely been a challenge in the last several years, not only because of resistance, but of label changes and restrictions.

The much awaited announcement from EPA for the approval of three Dicamba formulations for XtendiMax, Engenia, and Tavium was done on October 27, 2020. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved these three dicamba formulations for over-the-top use effective starting in 2021 for five years or until 2025.

The herbicide is labeled for use in soybeans and cotton with the trait that confers tolerance to dicamba. According to an EPA administrator, a five-year registration, which was done, is typical for pesticides, instead of a two-year like dicamba has experienced in the past, because EPA had more data to base this decision upon.

EPA provided the following changes to the herbicide labels. These changes, and all label instructions, must be followed for legal use:

- Downwind buffer of 240' is required and a buffer of 310' required where listed species are located.
- Over-the-top application of dicamba of soybeans prohibited nationwide after June 30, and after July 30 in cotton.
- An approved pH buffering agent will be required to be mixed for application to lower volatility. Buffering agents are registered with the EPA and must be documented each use.
- Opportunities for growers to use hooded sprayers to reduce buffers.
- States can expand over-the-top use to meet local needs by working with EPA. States can further restrict, but will have to work with and file the appropriate requests with EPA.

According to EPA, all of these efforts will help ensure there are not negative impacts on other farmers' lands. The need for these herbicide formulations is greater than ever before due to increased weed resistance. Controlling resistant weeds is not only a physical challenge for farmers, it also can have a significant financial impact.

Dicamba use has certainly been a hot topic this year. An appeals court vacated the product's use in early June, which was followed by an exemption for use of stocks on-hand for farmers by EPA. This initial decision was certainly confusing for producers and retailers.

According to Dr. Sarah Lancaster, K-State Research and Extension, Weed specialist, some details are still being confirmed, but information in the table below has been confirmed by labels and/or company representatives. The registration notice and labels can be accessed by simply searching the following links for each of the dicamba formulations:

Xtendimax: <https://beta.regulations.gov/document/EPA-HQ-OPP-2020-0492-0010>

Engenia: <https://beta.regulations.gov/document/EPA-HQ-OPP-2020-0492-0008>

Tavium: <https://beta.regulations.gov/document/EPA-HQ-OPP-2020-0492-0009>

	<b>Xtendimax</b>	<b>Engenia</b>	<b>Tavium</b>
<b>Application cutoff</b>	Through June 30 or R1 soybean Through July 30 in cotton	Through June 30	Through June 30 or V4 soybean Through July 30 or 6-leaf cotton
<b>Drift reduction adjuvant</b>	Required	Not required	Required
<b>Volatility reduction agent</b>	Required	Required	Required
<b>Downwind buffer</b>	240 ft (110 ft with approved hooded sprayer)	240 ft (110 ft with approved hooded sprayer)	240 ft (110 ft with approved hooded sprayer)
<b>Forecast</b>	48 hours no runoff producing event	48 hours no runoff producing event	48 hours no runoff producing event
<b>Training</b>	Updated every other year	Updated every year	Updated every other year

At this time, it is unclear if the Kansas Department of Agriculture will seek any modifications to the federal label.

According to Lancaster, in a recent survey, 56% of producers indicated they will plant dicamba-resistant soybeans in 2021, down from 78% who reported planting dicamba-resistant soybeans in 2020. A potential increase in non-dicamba-tolerant soybeans for 2021 highlights the need for extra care when making in-crop dicamba applications.

If you have further questions on dicamba formulations, contact Sandra at any Post Rock Extension District Office in Beloit, Lincoln, Mankato, Osborne or Smith Center.

*Post Rock Extension District of K-State Research and Extension serves Jewell, Lincoln, Osborne, Mitchell and Smith counties. Sandra may be contacted at [swick@ksu.edu](mailto:swick@ksu.edu) or by calling Smith Center, 282-6823, Beloit 738-3597, Lincoln 524-4432, Mankato 378-3174, or Osborne 346-2521. Join us on Facebook now at “Post Rock Extension” along with our blog site at [postrockextension.blogspot.com](http://postrockextension.blogspot.com). Also remember our website is [www.postrock.ksu.edu](http://www.postrock.ksu.edu) and my twitter account is @PRDcrops.*