

DICAMBA REGISTRATION DECISION ANNOUNCED

Friday, October 30, 2020

By Whitney Curry

On Tuesday, October 27, 2020, **Andrew Wheeler** Administrator with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that EPA is approving new five-year registration for two dicamba products and extending the registration of an additional dicamba product.

These registrations will be effective for the 2021 growing season and are only for use on dicamba-tolerant (DT) cotton and soybeans and will expire in 2025.

The new label and important control measures include:

- Requiring an approved pH-buffering agent (also called a Volatility Reduction Agent or VRA) be tank mixed with over-the-top (OTT) dicamba products prior to all applications to control volatility.
- Requiring a downwind buffer of 240 feet and 310 feet in areas where listed species are located.
- Prohibiting OTT application of dicamba on *soybeans after June 30* and *cotton after July 30*.
- Simplifying the label and use directions so that growers can more easily determine when and how to properly apply dicamba.

For more information on registration of Dicamba for use on Dicamba Tolerant Crops, along with more detailed information visit: <https://www.epa.gov/ingredients-used-pesticide-products/registration-dicamba-use-dicamba-tolerant-crops>.

MEADOW FFA WINS PHYTOGEN® COTTONSEED-SPONSORED DENIM DRIVE

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

From Corteva

As thousands of FFA members are virtually attending the 93rd National FFA Convention & Expo, a group of West Texas students are reaping rewards from the Blue Jeans Go Green™ denim drive sponsored by PhytoGen®, the U.S. cottonseed brand of Corteva Agriscience. Together, they kept more than 2,500 pairs of denim from area landfills, fulfilling the FFA mantra “For the Future. For All.”

Meadow FFA of Meadow, Texas took home the grand prize of \$2,000 for its efforts, while last year’s winner, Olton FFA, came in second receiving \$1,000. Hutchinson County 4-H was awarded third place, earning \$500 for the club.

“Early on, the whole town of Meadow promoted and contributed to our drive, but after everything shut down because of the ongoing coronavirus epidemic, our FFA team was still determined to win. They took advantage of school closing to clean out their families’ closets!” said Monica Caswell, Meadow FFA advisor.

Many FFA chapters are struggling to raise funds this year because most fundraising activities, such as concession stands, have been closed. But the teaching moment was not lost, Caswell explained.

“We are very appreciative to PhytoGen for sponsoring the drive. We’ve been able to illustrate the sustainability of agriculture with this program. We can create more with cotton,” she said.

Since its inception in 2006, the Blue Jeans Go Green™ program has collected more than 3.5 million pieces of denim and over 6 million square feet of insulation had been upcycled from worn denim. Over 40

Habitat for Humanity affiliates have received denim insulation, and more than 1,750 tons of textile waste have been diverted from landfills.

“Thanks to the participation of local FFA and 4-H chapters, old denim will be recycled and put to good use as home insulation, with a portion being distributed to charitable organizations. It’s rewarding for PhytoGen cottonseed to be involved with an initiative that supports cotton-growing communities and promotes cotton’s sustainability,” said Derek Racca, PhytoGen Brand Manager.

Racca said most of the denim was collected prior to school closures, but the denim drive was necessarily delayed due to COVID-19 precautions.

UPCOMING DEADLINES:

WHIP+ - October 30, 2020 (TODAY)

<https://www.farmers.gov/recover/whip-plus>

CFAP2 – December 11, 2020

<https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>

ARC/PLC - March 15, 2021

https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/arcplc_program/index

USDA ANNOUNCES COTTON BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Monday, October 26, 2020

From The Cotton Board

The United States Department of Agriculture recently announced the appointment of 13 members, 13 alternate members, and one advisor to serve on The Cotton Board. These appointees will serve three-year terms, ending December 31, 2023.

Newly appointed members are: Ben B. Guthrie, Producer – LA; and Thomas Hayes III, Producer – MS. **Newly appointed alternate members** are: Matthew Cauzza, Producer – CA; Justin Cave, Producer – TX; and Susanne St. Onge-Simpson, Importer – CA.

Re-appointed members are: Pace Hindsley, Producer – AR; Dustin Mancebo, Producer – CA; David Dunlow, Producer – NC; Bryan Patterson, Producer – TX; Debra Barrett, Producer – TX; Sigi Valverde, Producer – TX; Chuck Ward, Importer – NC; Scott Johnson, Importer – CA; Akiko Inui, Importer – NY; Laurie Sutandar, Importer – TX; and Debi Gregg, Importer – CA. **Re-appointed alternate members** are: Rafe Banks, Producer – AR; Rebecca Thom, Producer – LA; Patrick Johnson, Producer – MS; Kent Smith, Producer – NC; Michael Popp, Producer – TX; Jon Jones, Producer – TX; James McKinnon, Importer – NY; Dean Draughn, Importer – MD; Barbara Buhr, Importer – CT; and Stefanie Rotta, Importer – MI.

In addition, USDA appointed Jennifer Pisula, Importer - DE, to serve in an importer alternate position that expires December 31, 2022. Willie A. Scott, Producer - GA, was appointed to an advisor position term that will expire December 31, 2023.

“On behalf of The Cotton Board, I would like to thank these appointees for their willingness to share their time and expertise with the cotton industry,” said Jimmy Webb, Georgia cotton producer and current Chairman of The Cotton Board. “These leaders in the industry collectively represent the interests of both cotton importers and cotton producers to provide oversight and direction to the Cotton Research & Promotion Program, with the common goal of improving the profitability of the entire cotton industry,” he said.

Contact: Stacey Gorman, Director of Communications, 901-233-9356, sgorman@cottonboard.org for more information on The Cotton Board.