

Professional Development

Thanks to those of you who have sent in your professional development plans for 2016. I will need all of them by the first of the year. Just as a reminder, you select a training tract from the list of 5 (Cotton Weed Pests, Fertility, Cotton Disease and Nematodes, Small Grains Disease and Viruses, and Feed Grains Forage/Hay/Silage). You will also indicate from the other trainings which optional choices you would be interested in attending.

Change in Pesticide Regulations per Randy Rivera at TDA

The changes to section 7.30, further defines the list of 2,4-D and dicamba formulations; and exempts from the classification as a “regulated herbicide” 2,4-D and dicamba ONLY when used on transgenic auxin herbicide tolerant crops. In summary, this change allows the use of 2,4-D and dicamba (for the control of broadleaf weed species in cotton) without the need to obtain a permit or follow the use restrictions associated with the application of regulated herbicides ONLY when applied to crops tolerant for those herbicides. However, 2,4-D and dicamba, when used in any other use setting will continue to be classified as regulated herbicides and subject to all of the requirements as specified in the Texas Pesticide Regulations, Chapter 7, section 7.50, *General Requirements for Regulated Herbicide Applicators*. Further, any use of 2,4-D and dicamba, which are considered State-limited-use pesticides, continue to be subject to the requirements of Chapter 76, section 76.105, which stipulate license and record keeping requirements.

This means that the new formulations of 2,4-D Choline and low volatile Dicamba can be applied over the approved transgenic crops (Enlist and XtendFlex) and are not in violations of the regulated county restrictions. These new products can only be applied over the Enlist Duo and Xtend Flex varieties.

Result Demonstration Summaries

As with each year, result demonstration summaries are due at the end of the year. The templates for your summaries can be found on the following link <http://extensionanr.tamu.edu/>. If you have the results compiled for these tests, send them in by January 1. If you are waiting on results, send them in as soon as the results are compiled. I look forward to seeing and sharing your successes.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and I hope each of you spends some quality time away from work and with your loved ones. This is a time to appreciate how blessed we are and to look forward to the opportunities we have in front of us. I am extremely proud to work with each and every one of you and realize the tremendous difference each of you makes in your counties. God Bless you and your families during this holiday season.