



July 25, 2017

## ***Complaints Mount, Farmers File Suit***

## **Dicamba Issues Drift to More States**

[Tennessee](#) joins Missouri as the latest state to issue restrictions on dicamba, following [snowballing complaints](#) about the herbicide [drifting onto neighboring farms](#) not planted with dicamba-tolerant varieties.

Arkansas suspended sales and use earlier this month. Farmers there [filed a class-action lawsuit July 21 against dicamba manufacturers](#). Media reports indicate additional complaints in [Minnesota](#) and Illinois.

Missouri moved quickly to implement new rules following a temporary sales and application ban last week. Tennessee's new requirements, like Missouri's are similar to those in [Georgia](#), [North Carolina](#), and [Alabama](#), where private applicators are required to attend in-person training and follow Section 24(C) Special Local Needs labels when applying the product. Previously, Missouri and Tennessee did not require the same level of training requirements or Section 24(C) labels.

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Applicators who receive proper training and follow label restrictions are critical to preventing and mitigating potential drift-related issues. It is also important to have a full understanding of the crops being grown on neighboring farms and any possible impact when applying these products.

The Agricultural Retailers Association sent an informational Member Alert July 13 with several resources, including a links to a [webinar recording](#), [technical bulletin from BASF](#) and [brochure and poster created in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency](#).

The Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association [issued guidance and an update](#) to its constituents July 19, which included [information from Dr. Aaron Hager](#) with the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana.

ARA will continue to closely monitor the situations occurring in the impacted states and work with other stakeholders to ensure the proper stewardship and use of these crop protection products. If you have any questions or concerns about dicamba, please contact [Richard Gupton](#), Senior Vice President of Public Policy and Counsel.



## ACRC Seeking Input on Pesticide Container Recycling

The Agricultural Retailers Association has partnered with the Ag Container Recycling Council to assess the current state of ag retailer participation in pesticide container recycling, which is an easy and free way for ag retailers to demonstrate your commitment to environmental protection and sustainability of modern agriculture.

ACRC, founded in 1992, is funded by pesticide manufacturers and distributors and provides free collection of pesticide containers from commercial users of pesticides nationwide. Although many ARA members currently take advantage of this service, ACRC would like to increase participation throughout the ag retail sector.

Please complete this short, five-minute survey: <http://www.questionpro.com/t/ANY1gZaD14>.

The survey will help ARA and ACRC identify ways to facilitate ag retailer participation.

## House Passes Landmark Department of Homeland Security Authorization

Fifteen years following the establishment of the Department of Homeland Security in the wake of September 11, 2001, attacks, the agency has still not been reauthorized by Congress.

Last week, under the bipartisan leadership of House Homeland Security Chairman Michael McCaul (R-Texas), Ranking Member Bennie Thompson (D-Miss.), and seven other Committee Chairmen with jurisdiction over DHS, the House passed [H.R. 2825, the Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act of 2017](#), which is on track to be the first-ever reauthorization of the Department. The bill passed with overwhelming bipartisan support of 386-41.

"Today's reauthorization of the Department is a major bipartisan accomplishment and an example of what Congress can achieve when we put the safety and security of our country ahead of partisan politics," said McCaul. "Our adversaries are determined to attack us and disrupt our way of life. To stay ahead of America's threats, we need a national security apparatus that can best adapt to new challenges as they arise."

## Liske Attends Chemical Security Summit

Agricultural Retailers Association Public Policy Counsel Kyle Liske, attended the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Chemical Security Summit in Houston last week.

The Summit hosts Department of Homeland Security officials and regulated stakeholders. Several ARA members that are subject to DHS's Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standard attended. The program offered a broad range of topics from what to expect from a CFATS inspection to a cybersecurity threat analysis from Deputy Undersecretary, NPPD, Bob Kolasky.



*Right: Department of Homeland Security officials discuss what a facility should expect during a CFATS inspection July 20 during the Chemical Sector Security Summit in Houston.*

## **SBA Office of Advocacy Regional Regulatory Roundtables in Ohio**

The SBA Office of Advocacy will be hosting Regional Regulatory Reform Roundtables in Cincinnati and Cleveland, Ohio next month. The purpose of these roundtables is to help identify specific regulatory barriers to small business growth through first-hand testimony. Advocacy needs Ohio small business input we can use to pursue reforms that will benefit their businesses. We also expect representatives of federal agencies and congressional offices to attend the roundtables.

On Tuesday, August 1 in Cincinnati, Advocacy will host a roundtable discussion from 9:00am - 1:00pm at the Hyatt Regency Downtown. More information on this event can be found here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sba-office-of-advocacy-regional-regulatory-roundtable-cincinnati-oh-tickets-35798120141>

Advocacy will be in Cleveland on Thursday, August 3 from 9:00am - 1:00pm at the Hilton Downtown. More information on this event can be found here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sba-office-of-advocacy-regional-regulatory-roundtable-cleveland-oh-tickets-36076513824>

For small businesses that may not be able to attend SBA has set up an online forum: <https://www.sba.gov/advocacy/regulatory-reform-input>.

More information is available here: <https://www.sba.gov/advocacy/regulatory-reform>.



A promotional banner for Ag7Source. The background is a gradient of green and blue. On the left, the text "PERSONNEL MEASUREMENT Services" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font. On the right, the Ag7Source logo is displayed, featuring a stylized green leaf with the number "7" inside it, followed by the word "Source" in a serif font. Below the logo is a green button with a white checkmark icon and the text "More Info click here!" in white.

## **Tell the EPA why 2,4-D is important to you**

The Environmental Protection Agency has released drafts of its human health and ecological risk assessments of 2,4-D as part of its ongoing registration review process.

[A summary of the draft human assessment can be found on the 2,4-D Website.](#)

The 2,4-D Task Force will be preparing comments to EPA's. Please join in and tell the EPA why 2,4-D is important to you and the benefits you derive from using it. The deadline is today. Click [here](#) to get to the right docket on the Regulations.gov website. On the website, click [Comment Now!](#), type, or cut and paste, your supporting comments and click Continue. It only takes a few minutes to complete.

The Task Force notes the EPA's overall finding of no human health concerns and supports continued product stewardship to reduce any calculated levels of concern for non-target organisms, in order to preserve 2,4-D's many beneficial uses. [Learn more at www.24D.org](http://www.24D.org)

## Provide Your Comments on Regulatory Reform

Pursuant to [Executive Order 13777](#)-Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda, the U.S. Department of Agriculture is requesting ideas from the public on how we can provide better customer service and remove unintended barriers to participation in our programs. To do this, USDA is specifically asking for public ideas on regulations, guidance documents, or any other policy documents in need of reform, for example ideas to modify, streamline, expand, or repeal those items.

Comments and information are requested on or before **July 17, 2018**. USDA will keep the public apprised of the status of its review and plans to repeal, replace, or modify existing regulations. The Department will issue a detailed update as part of the 2017 fall regulatory agenda and statement of regulatory priorities.

You may submit comments electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/07/17/2017-14920/identifying-regulatory-reform-initiatives> USDA strongly encourages commenters to submit comments electronically.

Paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions should be submitted to [regulations@obpa.usda.gov](mailto:regulations@obpa.usda.gov), Office of Budget and Program Analysis, USDA, Jamie L. Whitten Building, Room 101-A, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250.

## State Economist to Keynote Retail Forum

Kellen Liebsch, economist for the Kansas Department of Agriculture, will keynote the Midwest Ag Retail Forum Thursday, July 27 in Wichita. She will address some of the department's priorities pertinent to ag retailers.

Liebsch has spent her professional career dedicated to government service in the agriculture industry. She works to ensure that economic analysis and the impact of the agriculture, food, and food processing sectors are disseminated to stakeholders and the general public, as well as administers multiple federal grant programs. As a life-long Kansan, her family also owns and operates a cattle ranching operation in south-central



Kansas.

Executives from the Kansas and Oklahoma Agribusiness Retailers and the Agricultural Retailers Association will also present on state and federal regulatory and legislative issues impacting agribusiness.

[Register online](#) or you may register on-site. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. The forum starts at 9 a.m. and concludes following a tour of the Cargill Innovation Center, which is scheduled to begin at 1:15 p.m. Transportation from the hotel to Cargill will be provided.

Registration is \$30 and includes lunch. For more information, including a detailed schedule, go to [www.aradc.org/agretailforum](http://www.aradc.org/agretailforum).



## Register Now for MAGIE

MAGIE, hosted by the Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association, will be held August 23-24 at the McLean County Fairgrounds in Bloomington, Ill. Register online now to attend. The cost to pre-register is only \$10 and you can avoid the lengthy lines at registration. Click [here](#) to register.

## Safety School Registration Now Open

The National Agronomic Environmental Health & Safety School is slated for Aug. 22-23, just before the MAGIE show, at the Asmark Institute Agricenter in Bloomington, Ill. To see the agenda and to register for this event, go to [www.naehss.org](http://www.naehss.org).

## FWAA Offering Ammonia Safety Trainings

The Far West Agribusiness Association has scheduled two training courses Wednesday, August 2, at the Red Lion Hotel in Pasco, Wash.

*Safe Handling of Ammonia* will be offered from 8 a.m. to noon. *Confined Space/Lockout-Tagout* training will be offered from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Each course will have a separate registration which is requirement for attendance.

The number of participants is limited and available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Registration closes Friday, July 28. For more information on registration and fees, please go to [www.fwaa.org](http://www.fwaa.org).



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