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Governor

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Wes Ward
Secretary of Agriculture

May 3, 2021

SUMMARY OF THE ARKANSAS STATE PLANT BOARD PROPOSED RULE AMENDING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR USING DICAMABA PRODUCTS

Purpose

This memorandum analyzes the proposed Arkansas State Plant Board (Plant Board) rule amending the requirements for using dicamba products (Proposed Rule).

Background

Current Plant Board rules require all dicamba products to be used in compliance with their EPA-issued federal labels and other Arkansas-specific requirements that are more stringent than the federal labels. In December of 2019, the Board voted to adopt a May 25 cutoff date for the use of dicamba and established a one-mile buffer zone around agricultural research stations and dicamba-intolerant crops for the 2020 growing season. In December of 2020, the Plant Board met and considered different proposals for extending the use of dicamba for the 2021 growing season beyond the current May 25 cutoff date but was unable to reach an agreement. Since that time, the Board received a Petition for rulemaking which requested the Board to allow the use of dicamba in accordance with the federal label, without any additional restrictions. The Board considered the petition at its March 3, 2021 meeting.

The petition pointed out that since the Board's previous discussions on the dicamba rule, it has been discovered that some palmer amaranth (pigweed) has become resistant to the active ingredient in the pesticide Liberty, which had been used as an alternative to dicamba-containing products. Additionally, the Board considered the fact that no other Southern states or states contiguous to Arkansas are restricting the use of dicamba beyond the federal label, and in fact, some states are requesting the EPA to allow an *expanded* use of dicamba. The Board also considered that Engenia, Xtendimax, and Tavium, which are the dicamba products approved by the Environmental Protection Agency for in-crop use, are less volatile than the dicamba products banned by the Board in 2017. Accordingly, the Board voted to initiate rulemaking as requested by the Petition.

Discussion

The Proposed Rule provides for use of dicamba products labeled for in crop use until June 30. The proposed rule maintains a one-mile buffer from University and USDA research stations. The proposed rule reduces the buffer zone around non-dicamba tolerant crops from one half mile to one quarter mile, and reduces the buffer zone around specialty and organic crops from one mile to one-half mile. The proposed rule also repeals a late season permit option for lands lying east of the Mississippi river levee.

Record keeping and training requirements were retained.

Key Points. The proposed rule:

- is in response to the Plant Board approving a request to initiate rulemaking
- requires allows the use of dicamba in crop until June 30
- maintains a one-mile buffer from University and USDA research stations.

- reduces the buffer zone around non-dicamba tolerant crops from one half mile to one quarter mile, and reduces the buffer zone around specialty and organic crops from one mile to one-half mile.

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR FILING PROPOSED RULES WITH THE
ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY Arkansas Department of Agriculture
DIVISION State Plant Board/ Plant Industries
DIVISION DIRECTOR Scott Bray, State Plant Board Director
CONTACT PERSON Scott Bray
ADDRESS #1 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205
PHONE NO. 501-225-1598 FAX NO. _____
E-MAIL scott.bray@agriculture.arkansas.gov
NAME OF PRESENTER AT COMMITTEE MEETING Scott Bray
PRESENTER E-MAIL
scott.bray@agriculture.arkansas.gov

INSTRUCTIONS

- A. Please make copies of this form for future use.
- B. Please answer each question completely using layman terms. You may use additional sheets, if necessary.
- C. If you have a method of indexing your rules, please give the proposed citation after "Short Title of this Rule" below.
- D. Submit two (2) copies of this questionnaire and financial impact statement attached to the front of two (2) copies of the proposed rule and required documents. Mail or deliver to:

Jessica C. Sutton
Administrative Rules Review Section
Arkansas Legislative Council
Bureau of Legislative Research
One Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Little Rock, AR 72201

- 1. What is the short title of this rule? Pesticide Classification rules

- 2. What is the subject of the proposed rule? Amendments to usage and application requirements for Class "H" pesticides, specifically dicamba.

- 3. Is this rule required to comply with a federal statute, rule, or regulation? Yes _____ No x _____
If yes, please provide the federal rule, regulation, and/or statute citation. _____

- 4. Was this rule filed under the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act?
Yes X _____ No _____
If yes, what is the effective date of the emergency rule? May 3,
2021
When does the emergency rule expire? August 31,
2021

Will this emergency rule be promulgated under the permanent provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act? Yes No

5. Is this a new rule? Yes No If yes, please provide a brief summary explaining the rule.

Does this repeal an existing rule? Yes No If yes, a copy of the repealed rule is to be included with your completed questionnaire. If it is being replaced with a new rule, please provide a summary of the rule giving an explanation of what the rule does.

Is this an amendment to an existing rule? Yes No If yes, please attach a mark-up showing the changes in the existing rule and a summary of the substantive changes. **Note: The summary should explain what the amendment does, and the mark-up copy should be clearly labeled "mark-up."** (See attachment)

6. Cite the state law that grants the authority for this proposed rule? If codified, please give the Arkansas Code citation. A.C.A. § 20-20-206
7. What is the purpose of this proposed rule? Why is it necessary? To allow the use of dicamba for pre-plant burndown and in-crop according until the federally authorized cutoff date for soybeans while still protecting the public health and safety.
8. Please provide the address where this rule is publicly accessible in electronic form via the Internet as required by Arkansas Code § 25-19-108(b). www.agriculture.arkansas.gov
9. Will a public hearing be held on this proposed rule? Yes No
If yes, please complete the following:
Date: May 3, 2021 _____
Time: 9:30 a.m. _____
Place: 1 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock _____
10. When does the public comment period expire for permanent promulgation? (Must provide a date.)
 April 22, 2021
11. What is the proposed effective date of this proposed rule? (Must provide a date.)
 May 3, 2021 _____
12. Please provide a copy of the notice required under Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(a), and proof of the publication of said notice. Attached

13. Please provide proof of filing the rule with the Secretary of State as required pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e).
14. Please give the names of persons, groups, or organizations that you expect to comment on these rules? Please provide their position (for or against) if known. Unknown.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY

DEPARTMENT Arkansas Department of Agriculture
DIVISION State Plant Board
PERSON COMPLETING THIS STATEMENT Wade Hodge
TELEPHONE NO. 501-225-1598 **FAX NO.** _____
EMAIL: wade.hodge@agriculture.arkansas.gov

To comply with Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e), please complete the following Financial Impact Statement and file two copies with the questionnaire and proposed rules.

SHORT TITLE OF THIS RULE Arkansas Pest Control Law Rules and Regulations

1. Does this proposed, amended, or repealed rule have a financial impact?
 Yes _____ No X

2. Is the rule based on the best reasonably obtainable scientific, technical, economic, or other evidence and information available concerning the need for, consequences of, and alternatives to the rule?
 Yes x No _____

3. In consideration of the alternatives to this rule, was this rule determined by the agency to be the least costly rule considered? Yes x No _____
 If an agency is proposing a more costly rule, please state the following:
 - (a) How the additional benefits of the more costly rule justify its additional cost;
 - (b) The reason for adoption of the more costly rule;
 - (c) Whether the more costly rule is based on the interests of public health, safety, or welfare, and if so, please explain; and
 - (d) Whether the reason is within the scope of the agency's statutory authority, and if so, please explain.

4. If the purpose of this rule is to implement a federal rule or regulation, please state the following: N/A
 - (a) What is the cost to implement the federal rule or regulation?

Current Fiscal Year

General Revenue _____
Federal Funds _____
Cash Funds _____
Special Revenue _____
Other (Identify) _____

Total 0 _____

Next Fiscal Year

General Revenue _____
Federal Funds _____
Cash Funds _____
Special Revenue _____
Other (Identify) _____

Total 0 _____

(b) What is the additional cost of the state rule?

Current Fiscal Year

General Revenue _____
Federal Funds _____
Cash Funds _____
Special Revenue _____
Other (Identify) _____

Total 0 _____

Next Fiscal Year

General Revenue _____
Federal Funds _____
Cash Funds _____
Special Revenue _____
Other (Identify) _____

Total 0 _____

5. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to any private individual, entity and business subject to the proposed, amended, or repealed rule? Identify the entity(ies) subject to the proposed rule and explain how they are affected.

Current Fiscal Year

\$ 0 _____

Next Fiscal Year

\$ 0 _____

6. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to state, county, and municipal government to implement this rule? Is this the cost of the program or grant? Please explain how the government is affected.

Current Fiscal Year

\$ none _____

Next Fiscal Year

\$ none _____

7. With respect to the agency's answers to Questions #5 and #6 above, is there a new or increased cost or obligation of at least one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year to a private individual, private entity, private business, state government, county government, municipal government, or to two (2) or more of those entities combined?

Yes _____ No x _____

If YES, the agency is required by Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e)(4) to file written findings at the time of filing the financial impact statement. The written findings shall be filed simultaneously

with the financial impact statement and shall include, without limitation, the following:

- (1) a statement of the rule's basis and purpose;
- (2) the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule, including a statement of whether a rule is required by statute;
- (3) a description of the factual evidence that:
 - (a) justifies the agency's need for the proposed rule; and
 - (b) describes how the benefits of the rule meet the relevant statutory objectives and justify the rule's costs;
- (4) a list of less costly alternatives to the proposed rule and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
- (5) a list of alternatives to the proposed rule that were suggested as a result of public comment and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
- (6) a statement of whether existing rules have created or contributed to the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule and, if existing rules have created or contributed to the problem, an explanation of why amendment or repeal of the rule creating or contributing to the problem is not a sufficient response; and
- (7) an agency plan for review of the rule no less than every ten (10) years to determine whether, based upon the evidence, there remains a need for the rule including, without limitation, whether:
 - (a) the rule is achieving the statutory objectives;
 - (b) the benefits of the rule continue to justify its costs; and
 - (c) the rule can be amended or repealed to reduce costs while continuing to achieve the statutory objectives.

ARKANSAS RULES ON PESTICIDE USE

SECTION I. Title

The following rules of the Arkansas State Plant Board, written pursuant to the Arkansas Pesticide Use and Application Act, Act 389 of 1975, as amended, and the Arkansas Pesticide Control Act, Act 410 of 1975, as amended, shall be known as “The Arkansas Rules On Pesticide Use”. Promulgation of these rules repeals all provisions of the Plant Board’s current rules entitled “Arkansas Rules On 2,4-D, 2,4-DB, MCPA, And Other State Restricted Use Herbicides” effective December 31, 2002.

SECTION II. Purpose

Pesticides are valuable to the State’s agricultural production and to the protection of man and the environment from insects, rodents, weeds and other forms of life which may be pests; but it is essential to the public health and welfare that they be regulated to prevent adverse effects on human life and the environment. However, at times certain pesticides present problems that were unanticipated by the manufacturer, the grower or the applicator. The purpose of these rules is to provide additional mechanisms, other than denying registration of a product in Arkansas, to minimize the adverse effects of certain pesticides to:

1. Plants, including forage plants, or adjacent or nearby lands;
2. Wildlife in the adjoining or nearby areas;
3. Fish and other aquatic life in waters in reasonable proximity to the area to be treated; and
4. Humans, animals, or beneficial insects

SECTION III. Definitions

- A. “Buffer Zone” means the distance an applicator must maintain between the field or area of application and a protected subject inside of which the subject pesticide may not be applied.
- B. “Desirable Vegetation” means any type of vegetation the pesticide label specifically identifies for protection, vegetation for which the product is not labeled, or vegetation for which the owner/manager desires protection from the deposition of pesticides.
- C. “Drift” means off target movement of a pesticide onto desirable vegetation, waterways, or where human health or the environment may be adversely impacted that occurs as a result of pesticide application.
- D. “Custom Applicator” means a commercial applicator that applies pesticides assigned the Class E or F designation.

SECTION IV. General

The effective date of these rules shall be January 1, 2003 and shall apply to all products registered for 2003. From that time forward, all pesticides registered for sale in the state of Arkansas shall be classified as Class A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, or I. Such designation shall remain the same unless changed by the Arkansas State Plant Board by promulgation of a regulation so changing the designation. Whatever designation is assigned to a product by the Board, product dealers, users and applicators must comply with the restrictions for the assigned class. Such restrictions will apply to product uses allowed as a result of Section (18) or Section 24(c) actions under FIFRA except where the requirements on the label are clearly more restrictive than the Plant Board's requirements, in which case the more restrictive requirement must be followed.

The following designations apply to all pesticide products registered in the State of Arkansas. The use-restrictions itemized below are intended to be in addition to the product label. However, where the label is more restrictive than the applicable restrictions listed below, then the label shall be followed. Each successive Class designation below includes the restrictions defined in the designations that precede it.

SECTION V. PRODUCT CLASSIFICATION

The following represents the product classifications assigned to pesticides currently registered under Arkansas law.

- Class A All registered pesticides not otherwise assigned below
- Class B
- Class C
- Class D
- Class E
- Class F All 2,4-D and 2,4-D containing pesticides, MCPA
- Class G Glyphosate containing products packaged in containers one (1) gallon or larger, labeled for agricultural use, and used in row crop and rice production and commercial right-of-way treatment.
- Class H All pesticides containing dicamba
- Class I Quinclorac: See Attachment 1

SECTION VI. Class A

All pesticides when registered in the state of Arkansas shall be classified as Class A unless research or experience has shown that certain potential problems may be inherent with the use of the

product. Such knowledge may be as a result of but not limited to research findings, findings of other state and federal agencies or experience of the Arkansas State Plant Board. In such cases the Plant Board may, by regulation, place the product in another Class.

Products with this classification must be used in accordance with the label restrictions and other restrictions, if any, imposed by Plant Board rules other than this document. Documentation of equipment set-up must be maintained by the commercial applicator on forms provided by the Plant Board and made available to the ASPB upon request. Insecticides that are intended to be applied in low volume, LV or Ultra Low Volume, ULV, and product label guidelines require droplet sizes designated as “fine” or smaller in accordance with the August 1999 issue of the ASAE S572 report entitled Spray Nozzle Classification by Droplet Spectra, shall not be required to comply with the Plant Board’s rules regarding spray droplet size. Said products must comply with the product label.

SECTION VII. Class B

Products with this designation shall be used in accordance with all other applicable federal or state laws and the rules written pursuant thereto, the label registered with the State of Arkansas, rules promulgated by the Board, the applicable restrictions identified for Class A and the following additional restrictions.

- A. If enforcement action is taken against a Commercial, Non-Commercial or Private Applicator regarding drift of a product with this designation or a buffer zone violation, a part of the enforcement action will require the applicator to attend a drift control training class administered by the Plant Board or other training that is acceptable to the Plant Board.

SECTION VIII. Class C

Products with this designation shall be used in accordance with all other applicable federal or state laws and the rules written pursuant thereto, the label registered with the State of Arkansas, the applicable restrictions identified for Class A and B above and the following additional restrictions.

- A. All commercial equipment used to apply pesticides with this designation must be in compliance with the application equipment set up requirements specified for herbicide applications contained in the rules written pursuant to the Pesticide Use and Application Act of 1975, as amended, (PUAA) prior to the initial application. Board to verify compliance with the set up that was originally authorized. If the application equipment is modified it must again be authorized to be in compliance with the requirements for herbicide application contained in the before referenced rules. The Plant Board will inspect all application equipment each year that is used to apply products with the Class C designation. A fee of \$25 shall be charged for each Plant Board inspection.

Applications of products with this designation with equipment that is not acceptable to or has not been inspected by the Plant Board will be a violation of these rules.

SECTION IX. Class D

Products with this designation shall be used in accordance with all other applicable federal or state laws and the rules written pursuant thereto, the label registered with the State of Arkansas, the applicable restrictions identified for Class A, B, and C above and the following additional restrictions.

- A. Applications may be made only when the wind is not blowing in the direction of desirable vegetation, waterways, or where human health or the environment may be adversely impacted. Where desirable vegetation, waterways, or human health and the environment cannot be protected by ensuring they are not downwind from the application site then, unless a greater distance is required by the label or other applicable State or Federal rules, a 300 foot minimum buffer zone must be maintained between the protected entity (desirable vegetation, waterway, etc.) and the sprayed area.

SECTION X. Class E

Products with this designation shall be used in accordance with all other applicable federal or state laws and the rules written pursuant thereto, the label registered with the State of Arkansas, the applicable restrictions identified for Class A, B, C, and D above and the following additional restrictions.

A. Dealers Requirements

1. Before selling, offering for sale, or distributing pesticides with this designation in packages of more than one quart, a dealer must be a licensed Restricted Use Pesticides dealer. A dealer may sell, offer for sale, or distribute only those pesticides that are registered in the State.
2. Each branch of a license holding dealer which also sells or distributes these products must have a dealer's license. Firms or distributors who take orders for these products must secure a dealer's license, even though the order is placed with a dealer or manufacturer who holds a license, and even though no profit is made.
3. Dealers must keep a record of each sale or distribution of products with this designation to custom or private applicators or dealers in containers of more than one (1) quart on forms available from or approved by the Plant Board. Entries in the record shall be made at the time of sale or distribution and shall include the date of the purchase, the name, address and license or permit number of the purchaser and the name and address of the delivery location. The complete brand name and quantity of the product shall also be recorded. These records shall be kept by the dealer for two years from the date of sale and be made available for inspection by the Plant Board or its representative upon request.
4. The sale or distribution of products with this classification in containers of more than one (1) quart to any firm or person other than a dealer, custom or private applicator holding a current and valid license or permit is prohibited. Dealer must

have a copy of the custom applicator's license on file.

5. Non-residents of Arkansas shall designate and maintain a resident agent in this state for service of process.

B. Requirements For Custom Application

The application of products with the Class E or F designation shall be known as Custom Application. To be eligible to apply products with the Class E or Class F designation, a Commercial Application Firm must obtain a Firm's Custom Applicator Permit from the Plant Board prior to making any applications. Said permit must designate an Operator-in-Charge whose responsibility is to supervise all custom applications made by the firm. Issuance of the permit shall be conditioned on the following:

1. Commercial Aerial Application Firms must have a Firm's Commercial Applicator License issued by the Plant Board to apply pesticides in Arkansas.
 - a. All pilots that apply pesticides for the Firm must have an Individual Commercial Applicator Pilot License (w/category) issued by the Plant Board.
 - i. The Firm must have a copy of all Individual Commercial Applicator Pilot Licenses held by pilots employed by the Firm.
 - b. Commercial Aerial Application Firms that wish to apply products with the Class E or F designation must obtain a Firm's Custom Applicator Permit from the Plant Board.
 - i. The Firm's Permit must designate at least one of its Licensed Individual Commercial Applicators that has passed the Custom Applicator test as an Operator-in-Charge.
 - ii. All Pilots making Custom Applications must have an Individual Commercial Applicator Pilot License with Authorization to apply Class E or F products. Said Authorization is obtained by passing a Custom Applicator written test administered by the Plant Board.
2. Commercial Ground Application Firms must have a Firm's Commercial Applicator License issued by the Plant Board.
 - a. At least one person working for the Firm must have an Individual Commercial Applicator License (w/category) issued by the Plant Board.
 - b. Commercial Ground Application Firms that wish to apply products with the Class E or F designation must obtain a Firm's Custom Application Permit.
 - i. The Firm's Permit must designate at least one of its Licensed

Individual Commercial Applicators that has passed the Custom Applicator test as an Operator-in-Charge.

3. The application vehicle must be covered by a current certificate of inspection as required in Section VIII of these rules.
4. Licensed Commercial Application Firms that do tree injection work only, do not need a Firm's Custom Applicator Permit to apply products with the Class E or F designation. For such firms, a Tree Injector's Permit is required. However, the Firm's Tree Injector Permit must designate at least one of the Firm's Licensed Individual Commercial Applicators that has passed the Tree Injector test administered by the Plant Board as an Operator-in-Charge.
5. A deposit of \$250.00 shall be made with the Plant Board by the Custom Application Firm, except that those persons doing tree injector work exclusively will deposit \$10.00 per tree injector, up to a maximum of \$250.00. Said deposit shall be returned at the expiration of the permit upon request unless the Custom Applicator is found in violation of the Plant Board's rules or suffers cancellation of his/her Custom Applicator's permit. In which case the deposit will be retained by the Plant Board to supplement cost recovery of inspection and administration incidental to such finding.
6. A deposit of funds as described in Section (X)(B)(5) and proof of financial responsibility, as described below is required. Non-residents of Arkansas shall designate and maintain a resident agent in this state for service of process. Custom Application Permits, Custom Application Authorizations, and Tree Injector Permits shall expire December 31st of each year.

Financial responsibility in the minimum of \$100,000 shall be maintained by the Custom Application Firm or Tree Injection Firm during the term of his/her permit, with proof of such financial responsibility submitted to the Plant Board.

Proof of financial responsibility shall consist of one of the following:

- a. The deposit of a certificate of insurance or insurance policy not to exceed \$5,000 deductible from an insurer or surplus line broker authorized to do business in Arkansas insuring the Custom Application Firm and any of its agents against liability for injury resulting from the application of products with this designation.

If a claim is made on this type of policy, then the policy must not expire for at least six (6) months after the expiration of the permit;

- b. A letter of credit from a bank located in Arkansas guaranteeing financial responsibility;
- c. A surety bond; or

- d. An escrow account with a bank located in Arkansas.
7. Application for a permit must be made on forms furnished by the Plant Board accompanied by the following fees:
- a. Aerial Custom Application Firms must pay an annual application processing fee of \$150.00 plus \$50.00 for each Operator-in-Charge. Pilots making Custom Applications must pay an annual application processing fee of \$35.00 for Authorization to apply products in Classes E and F.
 - b. Ground Custom Application Firms must pay an annual application processing fee of \$150.00 plus \$50.00 for each Operator-in-Charge.
 - c. Applicants for a Tree Injector's Permit must pay an annual application processing fee of \$50.00 plus \$50.00 for each Operator-in-Charge.

Should, at any time, a Custom Application Firm be left without an Operator-in-Charge or a pilot with an Individual Commercial Applicator Pilot License with Authorization to apply products with the Class E or F designation, either because of invalidation of the permit or for any other reason, such shall automatically invalidate the custom applicator's firm permit. It shall be a violation of these rules for an individual or firm to act as a Custom Applicator that is not licensed to do so by the Plant Board.

8. The Plant Board or its authorized representative(s) may refuse issuance, after a hearing, of a custom applicator's permit to any applicant when such applicant has been found in violation of these rules four times in a three year period. Such applicant may appeal to the Board. All requests for an appeal must be made in accordance with the Plant Board's policy on appealing a decision.
9. All equipment used for custom application of the products with this designation must have a decal provided by the Plant Board affixed to the device in a location where it can be easily seen by a Plant Board representative and protected from removal or disfigurement by work activity. This decal may only be affixed to equipment that meets the requirements set out in these rules and other applicable rules promulgated by the Plant Board. Use of equipment for custom application that does not have a current decal will be a violation of these rules. Decals are not transferable between equipment. Each decal shall be issued at a cost of \$50.00 each. Subsequent to issuance of a decal, the equipment on which the decal is to be attached will be subject to inspection by the Plant Board. Equipment found not meeting the requirements set out by these rules or other applicable rules promulgated by the Plant Board will be issued a Stop Use Order that will be released by the Plant Board once the Plant Board is satisfied that the equipment meets the set up requirements of the applicable rules. The applicator will also be considered in violation of the Plant Board's rules on pesticide application and be subject to the required enforcement action. All decals and permits expire on

December 31st of each year.

Equipment used to apply pesticides with this designation shall not be used for the application of other pesticides that do not carry this designation or the Class F designation unless the following has been done:

- a. The vehicle must be thoroughly decontaminated;
 - b. The tank must be thoroughly rinsed and the rinsate disposed of in accordance with the label. If the label does not address rinsate disposal, the rinsate should be collected and disposed of in accordance with applicable state and federal disposal laws; and
 - c. The entire spray or application system must be replaced or decontaminated using the best available technology such that a sample taken from the successive pesticide tank load would contain no detectable concentration of the previous product. Where research has established a concentration below which no adverse effects occur and that concentration level is not a violation of state or federal law or rules written pursuant to such laws, then that established concentration will be acceptable. Compliance with this provision in no way exempts the product user from compliance with any other responsibility imposed by state or federal law or regulation written pursuant thereto. Pesticide application equipment must have a leak free valve that is painted hunter orange from which a sample can be taken. Aircraft must have a sample valve located at the low point in the spray system. Ground application equipment must have a sample valve located in the pressure by-pass line.
10. All firms desiring to do custom application work must have a Custom Application Permit to do so. Said permit must designate an Operator-In-Charge. Eligibility as Operator-in-Charge will be conditioned on the following:
- a. Achieving a score of 70% or better on an examination administered by the Plant Board;
 - b. Pilots must hold a valid FAA pilot's Commercial Certificate;
 - c. Applicant may not have more than four (4) enforcement actions indicated on the Plant Board's records in the three years prior to the date of testing; and
 - d. The fee for each test shall be \$35.

Pilots and Operator's-In-Charge shall be responsible for notifying the Plant Board of the name and location of employment prior to starting work.

11. The Custom Application Firm must maintain records of each application of

products with this and the Class F designation. Said records must be retained at the principal Arkansas office of the Custom Application Firm as indicated on the Firm license for a period of three (3) years and be available for inspection by a Plant Board representative. The records shall include at a minimum the following information:

- a. Name and address of the person(s) in control of the crops, plant, etc;
- b. Location of the crop, plants, etc. treated. Location description must include county, nearest town, physical address if available, and GPS or map coordinates of the primary entrance to the field;
- c. Date, start and ending time of the application;
- d. Wind speed and direction at the start and ending time of the application and the type of instrument used to measure wind speed and direction. The location of instrument at time of reading (preferably "field of application") must also be recorded;
- e. Complete brand name and EPA registration number of the material used;
- f. Number of acres and type of crop to which the material was applied;
- g. Type of equipment used and the Firm's Custom Application Equipment number assigned to it by the Plant Board;
- h. Distance from and direction to any susceptible crops within a one mile radius of the treated crop; and
- i. Name of the application vehicle operator.

C. Requirements For Non-Custom Application Of Products In This Class

1. Whether designated as "Restricted" by the EPA or not, products in containers of more than one (1) quart with this class designation and the Class F designation may not be purchased by or sold to persons who do not have a current Commercial, Non-Commercial, or Private Applicator's license.
2. All applications of products with this designation by Private Applicators must be in accordance with the applicable application conditions required of the custom applicator.
3. The Private Applicator must maintain records of each application of products with this and the Class F designation. Said records must be retained for a period of three (3) years and be available for inspection by a Plant Board representative. The records shall include at a minimum the following information:

- a. Name and address of the person(s) in control of the crops, plant, etc;
- b. Location of the crop, plants, etc. treated. Location description must include county, nearest town, physical address if available, and GPS reading or map coordinates of the primary entrance to the field;
- c. Date, start and ending time of the application;
- d. Wind speed and direction at the start and ending time of the application and type of instrument used to measure wind speed and direction. The location of instrument at time of reading (preferably "field of application") must also be recorded;
- e. Complete brand name and EPA registration number of the material used;
- f. Number of acres and type of crop to which the material was applied;
- g. Type of equipment used. If the product was applied by a custom applicator, record the Firm's Custom Application Equipment number assigned to the equipment used by the Plant Board;
- h. Distance from and direction to any susceptible crops within a one mile radius of the treated crop; and
- i. Name of the application vehicle operator.

D. Exemptions

1. The licensing requirements of these rules do not apply to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Arkansas Experiment Stations and other State or Federal Agencies, to ornamental and turf weed control, or to company demonstrations with ground equipment, or to sales of fertilizer, soil conditioners or similar products containing registered products with this designation and packaged for home use. Provided that nothing in this section shall be construed as exempting custom applicators from the provisions of these rules when making applications for the agencies listed herein, or exempting any such agency acting as a dealer from the dealer requirements.
2. Products with the Class E or F designation that are not designated as restricted use products by the Environmental Protection Agency may be purchased from an Arkansas pesticide dealer for use outside the state of Arkansas without the dealer having to have a dealer's license or the purchaser having an applicator's license.
3. Commercial Applicators and Private Applicators that can provide proof of current certification and licensing from another State may purchase restricted use pesticides from a restricted use pesticide dealer licensed in Arkansas if the product is to be used outside of Arkansas.

Section XI. Class F

Products with this designation shall be used in accordance with all other applicable federal or state laws and the rules written pursuant thereto, the label registered with the State of Arkansas, the applicable requirements identified for Class A, B, C, D, and E above, and the following additional restrictions.

- A. Dealers may not store or transport products with this designation in the same room or vehicle with seeds, other pesticides that do not have this designation, or fertilizers except in leak-proof containers not to be opened while in storage and must observe all other precautions necessary to prevent contamination of these products.
- B. The use of esters of the products with this designation, except low-volatile esters, is prohibited.
- C. No product with this designation may be applied within the 1/4 mile of susceptible crops at any time except as otherwise indicated by this regulation.
- D. From April 16th through September 15th of each year, the following conditions shall apply:
 - 1. Pesticides labeled for agricultural use that contain the active ingredient(s) assigned to this Class, may not be applied by ground or air in Clay, Greene, Craighead, Poinsett, Cross, Crittenden, St. Francis, Lee, Phillips, and Mississippi Counties.
 - 2. Where no viable alternative is believed to exist, an annual permit may be obtained from the Plant Board to allow an exemption to these restrictions. Said permit must be obtained prior to application and will require a permit application fee in the amount of \$100. The application for the permit must be on forms authorized by the Plant Board. This exemption is conditioned on the producer complying with the following requirements:
 - a. The permittee must have the permit in his/her possession prior to making the application and it must be made available to the Plant Board or its designee upon request.
 - b. For each application the following information must be recorded:
 - i. A physical description of the location of the field;
 - ii. Date of the application;
 - iii. Start and stop time for each load applied to the field;
 - iv. Wind speed (may not be less than 2 mph), wind direction, ambient temperature, and precipitation condition at ten minute intervals during the application of each load. Said measurements must be

made at the field of application; and

- v. The producer must be present during the application and sign the document containing the information.
 - c. The above information must be filed with the Plant Board's Pesticide Division along with a GPS map of the application to the field within 10 days of the date of application.
 - d. Applications made within four (4) miles of susceptible crops (defined as cotton when applying 2,4-D) must be done when the wind is blowing at least two (2) mph away from the susceptible crop.
 - e. Rice levee spraying shall not require a permit in Cross, Poinsett, Clay, Greene, Craighead, Crittenden, St. Francis, Lee, Phillips, and Mississippi counties west of the approximate north-south center line of Crowley's Ridge. However, paragraphs b(i) through b(v) and paragraph d above must be complied with. The records for each application must be maintained by the producer for a period of three years and be made available to the Plant Board upon request by a Plant Board representative. The application device must 1) generate a spray with a droplet spectrum such that no more than 10 % of the spray droplets are smaller than 300 microns, 2) the boom width may not exceed 10 feet, 3) during application the spray nozzle height may not exceed 30 inches above the top of the levee, and 4) the spray vehicle may not exceed 8 miles per hour. No 2,4-D Esters may be used.
3. In the remainder of the State the following conditions shall apply:
- a. A buffer zone between the field to be treated and susceptible crops (susceptible crops is cotton when applying 2,4-D containing products) of four (4) miles for aerial application and one (1) mile for ground application shall be maintained.
 - b. Applications made within four (4) miles of susceptible crops must be done when the wind is blowing at least two (2) miles per hour away from the susceptible crop.
 - c. Applications may be made within the applicable buffer zones if the owner or supervisor of the sprayed or treated field has obtained a waiver from the producers of all susceptible crops within the buffer zone. The waiver shall be developed by the Plant Board and provided to said producers by the owner or supervisor of the sprayed or treated field. A copy of the waiver must be provided to the applicator who sprays or treats the field. The applicator shall retain the record for a period of three (3) years. When making an application within the applicable buffer zone, at the time of application, the wind must be blowing away from susceptible crops.

4. Failure to comply with the requirements for a Class F product when using a Class F product will result in enforcement action being taken against the producer and the applicator in accordance with the Plant Board's Penalty Matrix. Any penalty mandated by the Penalty Matrix may have additional civil penalty added to it to bring the amount of the assessment up to the maximum amount allowed by law.
- E. Any custom applicator who violates the buffer zones defined in Section (XI)(D) shall be subject to a civil penalty as prescribed by the penalty matrix for the violation plus \$1000. However, the total civil penalty for one violation may not exceed \$2000. Failure to comply with the decontamination requirements of Section (X)(B)(9) of these rules before making an application of a product with a Class A, B, C or D designation inside a designated buffer zone for Class E and F products will be considered a buffer zone violation.
- F. Products with this designation shall be applied in accordance with the application equipment set up required for herbicide applications to field crops itemized in the rules written pursuant the Pesticide Use and Application Act of 1975, as amended. Except that these conditions will apply, in addition to field crops, to pastures, rights-of-way, drainage ditches, brush and forest land.
- G. The wind velocity during the application shall not exceed eight (8) mph and the temperature may not exceed 90 degrees F.
- H. Applications of products with this classification shall not be made unless the following condition exists:
 1. For applications made before noon, the air temperature at the field of application at the beginning of the application must be a minimum of three (3) degrees Fahrenheit above the morning low measured at the applicator's air strip or mixing/loading facility. If the applicator has knowledge that the temperature measurement at his/her air strip or mixing/loading facility would not be the same as a reading taken at the same time at the field of application, then all temperature readings must be taken at the field of application.
 2. For applications made after noon, the temperature at the field of application must not have decreased more than five (5) degrees Fahrenheit from the afternoon high measured at the applicator's air strip or mixing/loading facility. If the applicator has knowledge that the temperature measurement at his/her air strip or mixing/loading facility would not be the same as a reading taken at the same time at the field of application, then all temperature readings must be taken at the field of application.

All temperature measurements referenced above must be maintained by the grower as well as the applicator and be made available to the Plant Board upon request.

I. Enlist Exemption

- a. Dow Agro-Sciences' products identified as Enlist One and Enlist Duo - premix of glyphosate and 2,4-D Choline may be used on Enlist Weed Control System soybeans, cotton, and corn. All Plant Board restrictions on 2,4-D containing products will apply except the following:

Section XI(C), and

Section XI(D)(1), and

Section XI(D)(2), and

Section XI(D)(3), and

Section XI(G), and

The application window in Section XI(D) shall not apply.

- b. In addition to all product label requirements, the following conditions apply:

i. At the time of application, the wind must be blowing away from adjacent sensitive areas and non-target susceptible crops as identified by the product label.

ii. The wind speed during the application may not exceed 10 mph.

iii. The volume median diameter (VMD) of the spray droplets must be greater than 300 microns.

iv. Tank mixes will not be permitted unless research data, from a source acceptable to the Plant Board, is provided. This data must prove that the mix, when applied according to the product label and state restrictions, does not increase the driftable fines (those less than 200 microns) by more than 10% over that of the product alone. However, there will be a limit of no more than 10% of the total mix's droplets to be smaller than 200 Microns. This tank mix requirement may be waived in part or in whole by the Plant Board if no entity can be identified as an acceptable source for development of the data.

v. Where the product label is more restrictive than the Plant Board's restrictions, then the label must be complied with.

c. Ground applications of products with this classification shall not be made to Enlist seed technologies without Commercial, Non-Commercial, and Private Applicators first completing New Technology Certification training.

New Technology Certification training must be obtained through the Cooperative Extension Service. Upon request proof of training must be provided to the Plant Board.

SECTION XII. CLASS G

Products with this designation shall be used in accordance with all other applicable federal and state laws and rules written pursuant thereto, the label registered with the State of Arkansas, the applicable restrictions identified for Class A, B, C, and D above and the following additional restrictions. Products assigned to this class include only those products packaged in containers one (1) gallon or larger, labeled for agricultural use, and used in row crop and rice production and commercial right-of-way treatment.

- A. Class G products may not be applied in winds greater than 10 miles per hour, 15 miles per hour if using a commercially available hooded sprayer. However, if the product label indicates a lesser wind speed should be used, then that wind speed must be used.
- B. Civil penalties assessed for each violation of the product label, applicable State or Federal law or the rules promulgated pursuant to these laws that involve a product with this classification shall be assessed at the level indicated by the Plant Board's Enforcement Response Rules for a restricted-use product plus, where not otherwise forbidden by state or federal law, additional civil penalty may be added to bring the amount of the assessment up to the maximum amount allowed by law.
- C. For purposes of civil penalty assessment, products named to this classification shall be considered the same as Federally Restricted Use products if not already designated as such.
- D. Failure to comply with these requirements will be a violation of these rules.

SECTION XIII. CLASS H

Products with this designation shall be used in accordance with all other applicable federal and state laws and rules written pursuant thereto, the label registered with the State of Arkansas, the applicable restrictions identified for Class A above and the following additional restrictions. Products assigned to this class include only those products packaged in containers of more than one quart, labeled for agricultural use.

- A. Dealer Requirements:
 - 1. Before selling, offering for sale, or distributing pesticides with this designation in packages of more than one quart, a dealer must be a licensed Restricted Use Pesticides dealer. A dealer may sell, offer for sale, or distribute only those pesticides that are registered in the State.
 - 2. Each branch of a license holding dealer which also sells or distributes these products must have a dealer's license. Firms or distributors who take orders for these products must secure a dealer's license, even though the order is placed with

a dealer or manufacturer who holds a license, and even though no profit is made.

3. Dealers must keep a record of each sale or distribution of products with this designation to commercial, non-commercial, private applicators or dealers in containers of more than one (1) quart on forms available from or approved by the Plant Board. Entries in the record shall be made at the time of sale or distribution and shall include the date of the purchase, the name, address and license or permit number of the purchaser and the name and address of the delivery location. The complete brand name and quantity of the product shall also be recorded. These records shall be kept by the dealer for two years from the date of sale and be made available for inspection by the Plant Board or its representative upon request.
4. The sale or distribution of products with this classification in containers of more than one (1) quart to any firm or person other than a dealer or applicator holding a current and valid license or permit is prohibited. Dealer must have a copy of the applicator's license on file.
5. Non-residents of Arkansas shall designate and maintain a resident agent in this state for service of process.

B. Requirements For Commercial, Non-Commercial, and Private Application of Dicamba Containing Pesticides:

1. From ~~May 26th~~ July 1st through October 31st of each year, applications of products labeled for agriculture use that contain dicamba are prohibited except applications made:
 - a. for turf, ornamental, direct injection for forestry activities and home use are allowed year round;
 - b. for pasture and rangeland are allowed year round. However, such applications must maintain buffers required in Section 2.5; ~~or~~
 - c. ~~pursuant to a special permit for Arkansas land east of the Mississippi river levee may be allowed if all of the following requirements are met. In no event will a special permit be issued for applications made more than 45 days (soybeans) or 60 days (cotton) after planting.~~
 - i. ~~The permit must be obtained prior to application and will require a permit application fee in the amount of \$100. The application for the permit must be on forms authorized by the Plant Board. The permit will expire on December 31st of each year. Applications for the permit must be submitted to the Plant Board, no later than 10 business days prior to application and contain the following information:~~

- aa. ~~Name, farm entity, mailing address, county of each field of application, and phone number of individual applying for permit;~~
 - bb. ~~Field name, GPS latitude and longitude coordinates at the primary entrance of each field to be sprayed provided in decimal degrees;~~
 - cc. ~~Planting date of each field;~~
 - dd. ~~Crop planted and acres of each field;~~
 - ee. ~~Distance from and direction to any susceptible non-dicamba tolerant crops;~~
 - ff. ~~Number of prior in-crop dicamba applications made to each field to date;~~
 - gg. ~~Information (other than cost) sufficient detail to allow Plant Board staff to determine that alternative pesticides will not be practical at this location.~~
 - ii. ~~During application a 1-mile buffer zone from non-dicamba tolerant crops must be maintained.~~
 - iii. ~~Within ten days of the date of pesticide application, records required by the federal label must be submitted to the Plant Board.~~
2. From April 16th through ~~May 25th~~ June 30th, all applications for in-crop agricultural use:
- a. Must maintain a one (1) mile buffer, in all directions, from University and USDA research stations, ~~certified organic crops, and commercially grown specialty crops (defined as a minimum of 1,000 plants or the average annual crop sales for the previous three years exceeding \$25,000).~~
 - b. Are prohibited from using tank mixes of products containing the active ingredient Glyphosate mixed with pesticides containing the active ingredient dicamba labeled for in-crop use.
 - c. During application a $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ mile buffer zone in all directions from non-dicamba-tolerant crops must be maintained and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile for all certified organic crops, and commercially grown specialty crops (defined as a minimum of 1,000 plants or the average annual crop sales for the previous three-years exceeding \$25,000).

3. From April 16th through October 31st, applications of pesticides labeled for agricultural use that contain the active ingredient dicamba are prohibited for pre-plant (burndown) applications except for:

From April 16th through ~~May 25th~~ June 30, pesticides labeled for in crop agricultural use, by ground that contain the active ingredient dicamba and allow for the pre-plant (burndown) applications may be applied. However, such applications must maintain the requirements of buffers required in Section B.2.

4. Training Requirements:

- a. Applications of products with this classification to dicamba-tolerant crops shall not be made without Commercial, Non-Commercial, and Private Applicator, first completing dicamba specific training provided by a registrant of a dicamba product for use on dicamba tolerant crops. Upon request proof of training must be provided to the Plant Board.
- b. Applications of products with this classification to non-dicamba crops or pasture and rangeland shall not be made without Commercial, Non-Commercial, and Private Applicators first completing New Technology Certification training. New Technology Certification training must be obtained through the Cooperative Extension Service. Upon request proof of training must be provided to the Plant Board.
- c. Applicators must provide the proof of training required by paragraph 4 to Pesticide Dealers prior to purchase.

5. Record Keeping Requirements:

Applicators must maintain records of each application of products with this designation. Said records must be retained for a period of three (3) years and be available for inspection by a Plant Board representative. The records shall include at a minimum the following information:

- a. Name and address of the person(s) in control of the crops, plant, etc;
- b. Location of the crop, plants, etc. treated. Location description must include county, nearest town, physical address if available, and GPS reading or map coordinates of the primary entrance to the field;
- c. Date, start and ending time of the application;
- d. Wind speed and direction at the start and ending time of the application and type of instrument used to measure wind speed and direction. The location of instrument at time of reading (preferably "field of application") must also be recorded;

- e. Complete brand name and EPA registration number of the material used;
- f. Number of acres and type of crop to which the material was applied;
- g. Type of equipment used. If the product was applied by a commercial applicator, record the Firm's Application Equipment number assigned to the equipment used by the Plant Board; and
- h. Name of the application vehicle operator.

C. Exemptions:

1. The licensing requirements of these rules do not apply to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Arkansas Experiment Stations and other State or Federal Agencies, to ornamental and turf weed control, or to company demonstrations with ground equipment, or to sales of fertilizer, soil conditioners or similar products containing registered products with this designation and packaged for home use.
2. Products with the designation that are not designated as restricted use products by the Environmental Protection Agency may be purchased from an Arkansas pesticide dealer for use outside the state of Arkansas without the dealer having to have a dealer's license or the purchaser having an applicator's license.
3. Commercial, Non-Commercial, and Private Applicators that can provide proof of current certification and licensing from another State may purchase restricted use pesticides from a restricted use pesticide dealer licensed in Arkansas if the product is to be used outside of Arkansas.

EMERGENCY DECLARATION

Current board rules do not allow for the use of dicamba in accordance with the federal label approved by the Environmental Protection Agency, and the proposed permanent rule may not go into effect until well into or even after this year's growing season.

An emergency rule can be in effect prior to the May 25 cutoff date. The use of dicamba is essential to the sustainability of row crop agriculture in Arkansas, especially now that there is extensive resistance to other weed control products. The ability to use all methods of available weed control is necessary to preserve the use of effective technology for the future. The inability to use dicamba places Arkansas farmers at a severe disadvantage to producers in surrounding states. Protection of the public welfare requires taking immediate action to allow the use of dicamba for the 2021 growing season.

These matters constitute imminent peril to the public welfare which requires adoption of an emergency rule that will take effect upon filing the rule with the Secretary of State, in addition to adoption of the proposed rule as a permanent rule.

SECTION XIV. CLASS I

Products with this designation are those for which none of the aforementioned classification or any combination thereof will resolve to an acceptable level the problems associated with the use of such product.

Effective: ???

ATTACHMENT 1

Quinclorac Use Restrictions

1. The buffer zones in the table below shall apply to Quinclorac herbicide applications:

Herbicide Treatment Options	Application Equipment	Buffer Zones	
		When winds are blowing in the direction of incorporated towns or commercial plantings of the solanaceae family.	When winds are NOT blowing in the direction of incorporated towns or commercial plantings ¹ of the solanaceae family.
a. Water diluted spray of Quinclorac herbicide tank-mixed with emulsifiable concentrate (EC) formulation herbicides	Aircraft Spray Wind Speed 3 to 8 mph	4 miles	1 mile

such as: ·Stam M-4 EC ·Arrosolo 3+3 EC ·Propanil EC ·Ordram 8E ·Abolish 8E ·Bolero EC	Ground Spray Wind Speed 3 to 8 mph	1 mile	1/2 mile
b. Water diluted spray of Quinclorac herbicide applied in water alone or tank-mixed with emulsifiable concentrate formulation free herbicides such as: ·Stam 80EDF ·Basagran ·Terra Propanil 80DF ·Blazer ·Wham EZ, Super Wham ·Storm ·Pentagon 60 WDG ·Londax	Aircraft Spray Wind Speed 3 to 8 mph	1 mile	1 mile
	Ground Spray Wind Speed 3 to 8 mph	1/2 mile	1/2 mile

1. Exemption: In areas where cities have annexed blocks of agricultural land, water diluted sprays of Quinclorac may be used within or adjacent to the city limits, provided the application site is no closer than 1/2 mile to subdivisions when using ground equipment or 1 mile to subdivisions when using aircraft and no closer than 1/4 mile to established plants of the solanaceae family or established/emerged cotton.
2. No water diluted spray of Quinclorac herbicide shall be applied closer than 1/4 mile by any means to established/emerged cotton, noncommercial plantings of the solanaceae family, or closer than 1/2 mile by aircraft if the wind is blowing in the direction of such plants.
3. No water diluted spray of Quinclorac herbicide shall be applied closer than 1 mile by aircraft or 1/2 mile by ground equipment to established, certified commercial plantings of the solanaceae family (>1,000 plants each kind) statewide.
4. In addition to the above statewide requirements, the following additional restrictions shall apply to Poinsett County.
 - a. No water diluted spray of Quinclorac herbicide shall be applied in an area from one mile west of Highway #1 to one mile east of Highway #163 from the Craighead-Poinsett County line to the Cross-Poinsett County line.
 - b. Water diluted spray of Quinclorac herbicide shall be applied only by ground equipment in the area of Poinsett County from one mile west of Highway #1 to two miles west of Highway #1 and only by ground equipment in the area of Poinsett County from one mile east of Highway #163 to Ditch #10, from the Craighead-Poinsett County line to the Cross-Poinsett County line.
 - c. No water diluted spray of Quinclorac herbicide shall be applied within 1/2 mile with ground equipment or 1 mile by aircraft of commercial plantings of the solanaceae family and towns. This buffer is extended to one mile for ground application and two miles for aerial application when Quinclorac herbicide is mixed with emulsifiable concentrate formulation herbicides.
5. The buffer zones defined in paragraph one (1) (b) shall apply to tank mixes of water diluted sprays of Quinclorac and EC products for which the EC manufacturer has provided the Plant Board with atomization study data from a research entity acceptable to the Plant Board that shows that the product does not produce more “fines” (percent of total spray volume in droplets <105µm) than water.
6. All applications of Quinclorac shall be made in accordance with the applicable drift minimization recommendations of the Spray Drift Task Force.
7. Both air and ground application equipment shall be set up for application of Quinclorac in such a way that generation of spray droplets less than 105 microns in size is less than 5% of the total volume. The spray nozzle size classification must be designated as “coarse” by the British Crop Protection Council.
8. Quinclorac may not be sold to persons that do not possess a current Private, Commercial or Non-Commercial Applicator’s License.



STATE OF ARKANSAS
BUREAU OF
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH

Marty Garrity, Director
Kevin Anderson, Assistant Director
for Fiscal Services
Tim Carlock, Assistant Director
for Information Technology
Matthew Miller, Assistant Director
for Legal Services
Estella Smith, Assistant Director
for Research Services

Memorandum

TO: Members, ALC – Executive Subcommittee

CC: Marty Garrity, Director, Bureau of Legislative Research;
Jessica Whittaker, Administrator, Administrative Rules Review Section, Legal Services Division

FROM: Rebecca Miller-Rice, Legislative Attorney, Administrative Rules Review Section, Legal Services Division

DATE: May 3, 2021

SUBJECT: Legal Authorization for the Emergency Promulgation of the Pesticide Classification Rules by the Arkansas Department of Agriculture’s State Plant Board

The Arkansas Department of Agriculture’s State Plant Board seeks legislative review and approval for the emergency promulgation of its Pesticide Classification Rules, amending the requirements for the use of dicamba products. The State Plant Board shall administer and enforce the Arkansas Pesticide Use and Application Act (“Act”), codified at Arkansas Code Annotated §§ 20-20-201 through 20-20-227, and shall have authority to issue rules after a public hearing following due notice to all interested persons to carry out the provisions of the Act. *See Ark. Code Ann. § 20-20-206(a)(1)*. When the Board finds it necessary to carry out the purpose and intent of the Act, rules may relate to the time, place, manner, amount, concentration, or other conditions under which pesticides may be distributed or applied and may restrict or prohibit use of pesticides in designated areas during specified periods of time to prevent unreasonable adverse effects by drift or misapplication to: plants, including forage plants, or adjacent or nearby lands; wildlife in the adjoining or nearby areas; fish and other aquatic life in waters in reasonable proximity to the area to be treated; and humans, animals, or beneficial insects. *See Ark. Code Ann. § 20-20-206(a)(1)(A)–(D)*. In issuing rules, the Board shall give consideration to pertinent research findings and recommendations of other agencies of this state, the federal government, or other reliable sources. *See Ark. Code Ann. § 20-20-206(a)(2)*.

