

**APPROVED AUGUST 12, 2016**

**EXHIBIT B.1**

**MINUTES**

**SENATE AND HOUSE INTERIM COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY,  
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Room B, Multi-Agency Complex (MAC), Little Rock, Arkansas**

**Thursday, July 21, 2016**

---

The Senate and House Interim Committees on Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development met Thursday, July 21, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. in Room B, of the Multi-Agency Complex Building (MAC), Little Rock, Arkansas.

**Committee members present:** Senators Ronald Caldwell, Chair; Alan Clark, Vice Chair; John Cooper, and Blake Johnson. Representatives Dan Douglas, Chair; Charles Armstrong, Rick Beck, Ken Bragg, David Branscum, Jon Eubanks, Lane Jean, Mark McElroy, Ron McNair, Steven Meeks, John Payton, Matthew Pitsch, James Ratliff,

**Other legislators present:** Senators Linda Chesterfield, Jonathan Dismang, and Bryan King. Representatives Nate Bell, Jim Dotson, Kenneth Ferguson, Vivian Flowers, Jeremy Gillam, Bill Gossage, Michael Gray, Justin Harris, Betty Overbey, Sue Scott, Brandt Smith, and James Sorvillo.

Senator Caldwell called the meeting to order.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES [Exhibit B]**

**Representative Pitsch made a motion to approve the May 26, 2016, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Representative Ratliff, and without objection, the motion carried.**

**RESEARCH AND EXTENSION OVERVIEW OF HERBICIDE RESISTANT WEEDS IN ARKANSAS [Handout 2]**

**Dr. Mark Cochran**, Vice President, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, **Dr. Rick Cartwright**, Associate Director, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture and **Dr. Bob Scott**, Professor and Weed Scientist, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, were recognized and presented a PowerPoint presentations titled, "Dicamba Drift Cutting Mid-South Soybean Yields" and "Herbicide Resistance in Arkansas Soybean and Cotton" [**Handouts 1 and 2**].

Dr. Scott gave a brief history of herbicide resistance in Arkansas and how it impacts soybeans and cotton more than other field crops. He stated several thousand acres of Mid-South soybeans have been affected by drift, volatility, temperature inversion or tank contamination from Dicamba herbicide applications.

### **DISCUSSION CONCERNING Xtend FOR SOYBEANS BY MONSANTO**

**Mr. Ben Noble**, Noble Strategies, Incorporated, was recognized. He spoke briefly about the issues regarding Xtend brand soybeans being exported to the European Union (EU).

Mr. Nobel stated the EU has approved the individual traits in the plants separately. Monsanto and other companies moved forward to commercialize its new technology, the Roundup Ready Xtend crop system without international approval. Regulatory approval is expected to be in place by harvest time.

### **DISCUSSION CONCERNING ENGENIA FOR SOYBEANS BY BASF CORPORATION**

**Mr. Dan Westberg**, Regional Technical Service Manager, BASF Corporation, **Dr. Jeff Birk**, Federal Regulatory Manager, BASF Corporation, and **Ms. Judy Fersch**, State Registration Manager, BASF Corporation, were recognized and presented a PowerPoint presentation titled, “Engenia Herbicide” [Handout 3].

Mr. Westberg gave a brief overview of Engenia Herbicide as a current utility of Dicamba based products. He stated Dicamba has been utilized for 50 years to manage more than 190 broadleaf weeds. It was the 5<sup>th</sup> most widely used herbicide in the U.S. in 2013 and used on more than 35 million acres.

### **DISCUSSION ON THE USE OF DICAMBA**

**Mr. Tommy Anderson**, President, Arkansas Agricultural Aviation Association (AAAA), was recognized. He spoke briefly about the use of Dicamba. Mr. Anderson stated none of the new products that were discussed earlier will have an aerial label; therefore, the AAAA will not be involved with any new applications for the products.

### **DISCUSSION AND OVERVIEW OF REGULATORY ISSUES**

**Mr. Terry Walker**, Director, Arkansas State Plant Board (ASPB), was recognized and stated the ASPB is currently working on 200 complaints across all applications and chemicals; 25 active complaints against Dicamba products. He stated the ASPB does not want to take a stance that will impede the development of new technology; however, they will work to protect producers.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:57 a.m.