

Feature Story



Grower to grower: Advice on applying Engenia herbicide on dicamba-tolerant soybeans

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Growers Perry Galloway of Arkansas and Scott Dauk of Minnesota both opted to plant dicamba-tolerant soybeans this year after dealing with water hemp, pigweed and giant ragweed. This led them to apply Engenia® herbicide to help manage these troublesome weeds. Problems with other herbicides were prevalent on Scott's 1,800-acre farm.

"All the other products we've been using have been burning weeds back," said Dauk. But despite their best efforts, the weeds would regrow a few weeks later, leading to spraying several times during the growth process.

While applying Engenia, Dauk paid close attention to his neighbor's crops, the weather and mostly the wind. He became aware of dicamba drift damage a few months later. But Dauk was very confident in his applications, after receiving assistance from his local BASF field rep and free nozzles from the company's nozzle giveaway program.

"If you follow the label, everything goes right," said Dauk.

On Galloway's 8,000 acres, he followed the label up to a certain point. The label states specific wind speeds during which Engenia can be applied. However, Galloway used the herbicide when it was about two miles over the required speed. Nearly five days later, his neighbor noticed damage to his beans. A BASF rep visited his neighbor's field and opened a claim to further investigate the incident. Galloway now recognizes the importance of following the label.

"I would be more cautious when applying during winds, as they change directions pretty quickly," he said.

Growers are already worried about next year's crop and whether they should be using dicamba. But Dauk and Galloway don't think growers should hang up the dicamba hat so quickly.

"It's a great tool to have," said Galloway. "I'm very excited about the yields."

Dauk was very adamant that all crop technologies can coexist as long as growers are mindful of what their neighbors are planting, so drift can be avoided.

"It is up to the individual farmer what they should plant," said Dauk. "If you plant the crop, read the labels and follow the directions, I don't think you'll have any issues."

Growers can learn more about Engenia herbicide by visiting www.AgProducts.basf.us.com, sending an email to engeniaquestions@basf.com, or by contacting their local BASF representative.

Always read and follow label directions.

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