



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT of
AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

MIKE STRAIN, DVM *Commissioner*

RUP OTT Dicamba Update

January 2025

The active ingredient dicamba has been around since 1967 and is a selective herbicide for broadleaf weeds. For those who have been following along for the last eight years, though, it has been a topic of contention. Restricted use dicamba for over-the-top (OTT) use first came on the scene in 2017 with dicamba-tolerant soybean and cotton and has had a number of label vacatures and re-registrations since. With each new registration came new and stricter label requirements, from record keeping and training requirements in 2017 to application cut-off dates in 2020. The 2020 registrations were originally granted for five years and set to expire in December 2025. That all changed on Feb. 6, 2024, when a ruling by the U.S. District Court of Arizona vacated the 2020 registrations for OTT dicamba products - XtendiMax, Engenia, and Tavium. Given the timing of the vacatur, an Existing Stocks Order was issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and products were allowed for distribution and use in the 2024 growing season. Currently the three OTT dicamba product labels have been resubmitted to the EPA for consideration for registration. Each has modifications to the previously approved labels and draft labels of each product were open for public comment this fall and are under EPA's review processes. **As of today, none of the OTT dicamba products are registered or labeled for use in 2025, nor does it appear that there will be a decision reached before the 2025 planting season.**

With a strong possibility of no OTT dicamba product being available this coming year, it is important to remember that it is a violation of both state and federal law to use a pesticide in a manner not specified on the label. **Using any dicamba products on sites and crops not listed on the label is illegal.** No other dicamba herbicide label allows for use in-season over the top once soybean and cotton plants have emerged, up to pre-harvest desiccation. Please be aware that violations of LDAF Pesticide Laws, Rules and Regulations could result in a fine of up to \$5,000 per violation, while the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) allows for fines exceeding \$7,500 per violation.

In order to keep dicamba in the toolbox for the future, we must all be good stewards of the environment to ensure future use of these tools. Please reach out to your local LSU AgCenter Agents and crop advisors for additional herbicide options that may be used for the upcoming 2025 planting season if needed.

Current Dicamba Status Recap:

- Registered Dicamba products exist - None currently for OTT use.
- New OTT dicamba registrations submitted for EPA registration review in 2024: Xtendimax, Engenia, and Tavium - submitted with new proposed usages and timelines for use.
- EPA plans to perform risk assessments for all 3 products together.
- These new registrations must meet new ESA mitigation requirements; thus, this may take more time to review due to ESA consultation with the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

Additional questions about the RUP OTT dicamba labels can be directed to the LDAF Pesticide Division at 225-925-3763 or the LSU AgCenter at 225-578-4161

