

Potential impacts of dicamba and 2,4-D off-target movement on specialty crop injury and yield

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and food safety

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Session Goals

- At the end of this session participants will be able to:
- Describe specialty crop injury and yield loss potential from off-target herbicide movement
- Explain the relationship between drift rate, herbicide residue,
- Appreciate the importance for observing herbicide labels to protect sensitive plants







Dicamba tolerant soybean







Wind speed > 9mph





Susceptible crops (lettuce)









Dicamba tolerant soybean

Environmental factors

- Temperature
- **Relative humidity**
- Wind speed

Application factors

- Boom height
- Nozzles selection
- Travel speed





Susceptible crops (lettuce)







Common symptoms of dicamba and 2,4-D injuries



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Background • Specialty crops are high value Most are broadleaf and susceptible to synthetic auxin growth regulator herbicides • The use of dicamba and 2,4-D tolerant crops is increasing

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Enlist One COLEX•D® technology

HERBICIDE

Full Rate dicamba: 2.9 lbs ae/gal 22 Fl oz/acre 560 g ae/ha

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Background

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HERBICIDE

Full Rate 2,4-D: 3.8 lbs ae/gal 32 Fl oz/acre 1066 g ae/ha

dicamba drift on seedling lettuce

dicamba drift on mature lettuce

Dicamba drift on seedling Vulcan lettuce: 5% of labeled rate = 50% visual injury 7 DAT = 10% yield loss

10% of labeled rate = 10% yield loss 25% of labeled rate = 35% yield loss

Dicamba drift on mature Vulcan lettuce:

2,4-D drift on seedling lettuce

1/10000

Romaine 2,4-D @ 7 DAT

2,4-D drift on mature lettuce

2,4-D drift on seedling Vulcan lettuce: 2% of labeled rate = 50% visual injury 7 DAT = 10% yield loss

2,4-D drift on mature Vulcan lettuce: 8% of labeled rate = 10% visual injury 7 DAT 0.2% of labeled rate = 10% yield loss

• Herbicide residue test is key for demonstrating cause of crop injury and potential for yield loss • dicamba residue is stable in first week and highly correlated with drift rate

(ddd)

Residue

Observed

1/500 drift rate = 12 ppb at 16DAT

Application Rate (g ae/ha)

----IR3DAT ----IR7DAT

----IR16DAT

- <400 ppb for lettuce
- <40 ppb for sweet corn
- <4,000 ppb for asparagus

Even in the absence of significant injury or physical yield loss, off-target herbicide movement can compromise food safety and marketability

U.S. EPA sets tolerance thresholds for pesticide residues in food for human consumption

§ 180.142 by EPA sets 2,4-D tolerance for indirect residues <50 ppb for pumpkins and other fruiting vegetables

§ 180.227 by EPA sets dicamba tolerance for residues

dicamba drift on pumpkins

Dicamba drift on vegetative pumpkins: 6% of labeled rate = 50% visual injury 14 DAT = 50% yield loss

Dicamba drift on flowering pumpkins: 20% of labeled rate = 50% yield loss

dicamba drift on seedling pumpkins 7DAT

2,4-D drift on pumpkins

2,4-D drift on vegetative pumpkins: 5% of labeled rate = 50% visual injury 14 DAT = 20% yield loss

2,4-D drift on flowering pumpkins: 8% of labeled rate = 50% visual injury 14 DAT = no estimate on % yield loss

2,4-D drift on seedling pumpkins 7DAT

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- Lettuce and pumpkin are very susceptible to dicamba and 2,4-D off-target injury
- The growth stage at time of drift event is critical for estimating yield loss
- Herbicide residue analysis should be conducted in the first week after drift event for best estimates of inadvertent rates and yield loss
- Occasionally very low rates of dicamba and 2,4-D can increase "yield," but injury symptoms and residue will likely compromise marketability of vegetables
- Follow the label and communicate with specialty crop neighbors

Take Home Points

https://ne.driftwatch.org/map

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