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AAD Announces Information Page and Continuous Pesticide Committee Meetings in Response to High Volume of Alleged Dicamba Misuse Complaints to the Arkansas State Plant Board

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. – The Arkansas Agriculture Department is working to keep Arkansans informed about dicamba laws and regulations as inspectors work to address an increasing number of alleged dicamba misuse complaints. Governor Hutchinson has directed Secretary of Agriculture Wes Ward and Plant Board Director Terry Walker to visit areas where there have been complaints in order to report back to him with findings and recommendations.

An online webpage has been established that will provide updated information to the public which will include the current number and county of alleged dicamba misuse complaints, frequently asked questions, links to pesticide training, and applicable regulations. This webpage is available at www.aad.arkansas.gov. Additionally, the Plant Board’s Pesticide Committee will hold weekly public meetings beginning this Friday, June 16 through Friday, July 21 to stay updated on the situation.

“The Arkansas Agriculture Department is working to ensure that our inspectors have all the tools that they need to adequately investigate these complaints and we will be providing updates to the public as information becomes available,” says Arkansas Agriculture Secretary Wes Ward. Each year, field inspectors investigate complaints relating to alleged misuse of pesticides. There are currently 50 alleged dicamba misuse complaints for this year. These complaints are under investigation and a final determination of the products that were used, or even if dicamba was involved, is not yet available.”

“The Plant Board has a system in place and is actively investigating the complaints that have been received. We encourage farmers to contact us with any potential misuse complaints,” says Plant Board Director Terry Walker.

The State Plant Board is a part of the Arkansas Agriculture Department. The Arkansas Agriculture Department is dedicated to the development and implementation of policies and programs for Arkansas agriculture and forestry to keep its farmers and ranchers competitive in national and international markets while ensuring safe food, fiber, and forest products for the citizens of the state and nation.

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