

April 2021

To Members of the Arkansas State Plant Board,

Much attention has been brought to the state over the past several years about the increased pressure of palmer amaranth and other hard to control weed species. At the most recent Arkansas State Plant Board (ASPB) meeting, there were various comments made by board members noting that there is only one choice available to growers for seed and herbicide technologies to combat against palmer amaranth.

There are in fact other seed and herbicide technologies currently available to farmers in Arkansas, one of those being the Enlist™ Weed Control System. Founded on the strong efficacy of 2,4-D, Enlist is a combination of new herbicide-tolerant traits and Enlist Duo® and Enlist One®, herbicide products designed for use with these traits with near zero volatility and reduced potential for physical drift, that build upon the demonstrated effectiveness of 2,4-D over decades of extensive use. These herbicide products were specifically designed to reduce the potential for off-target movement.

### **Weed control**

The Plant Board has acknowledged how severe the weed pressure is for farmers in the state, particularly in the Delta growing counties. The good news is that Enlist provides excellent weed control solutions and flexibility for farmers because of the ability to use Enlist One in a tank mix with glyphosate or glufosinate (Liberty).

In 2020, weed control studies were conducted in seven locations across the Midwest and Midsouth utilizing Enlist One and these tank mix partners. Results showed that the combination of Enlist One and Liberty had a control rating of 91% on palmer amaranth. Waterhemp control was at 98% and lambsquarter showed 100% weed control with Enlist One and Liberty or Enlist One and glyphosate. *[Corteva Field Trials 2020 – Appendix A]*

### **Improvements of Enlist herbicides**

The Enlist trait in soybeans and cotton allows growers to confidently use Enlist herbicides with better on-target results than traditional 2,4-D products. With the inherent near-zero volatility of 2,4-D choline, Enlist One® and Enlist Duo® herbicides provide effective weed control that stays where it is sprayed when the label is followed. Volatility is reduced by 96% vs. 2,4-D ester. In addition, applicators can tank-mix 2,4-D choline with qualified glyphosate DMA (amine), glufosinate ammonium and ammonium sulfate (AMS) products. These products will not break the inherent low volatility of 2,4-D choline when mixed together.

Enlist herbicides with Colex-D Technology have been tested by universities since 2007, with off-target movement studies beginning in 2012. The company's collaboration research of Enlist herbicides included extensive work with the University of Arkansas. Their work has confirmed that volatility is not observed from the application of the 2,4-D choline containing Enlist herbicides used according to the



label. (Summary of Dicamba and 2,4-D Off-target Movement Research in 2020; Dr. Jason Norsworthy, University of Arkansas)

### **Adoption rate and zero issues**

Growers are seeing the value that the Enlist Weed Control System brings. The number of acres of Enlist planted and sprayed continues to increase every year and the stewardship remains strong. 2020 season saw a 3.5x increase in acres sprayed and fewer field inquiry visits than 2019. On average, last year only had one field visit per 300,000 acres sprayed and no field visit in the history of Enlist use has confirmed volatility.

Specialty crop growers have also shown support for their neighboring growers to use the Enlist Weed Control System. The Save our Crops Coalition (SOCC), which represents a variety of vegetable and fruit producers and companies, engaged frequently with industry manufacturers of these new technologies in efforts to seek an amicable path forward to allow all of agriculture to co-exists. The development and research of Enlist was done hand in hand with input from these growers to ensure the best stewardship of the product could be achieved. SOCC noted in a petition to USDA *"that impressive research findings presented by Dow AgroSciences [Corteva] have been published in refereed journal articles. Specifically, SOCC cites research Dow AgroSciences [Corteva] has made available indicating the reduced drift and volatilization potential of its new herbicide solution for Enlist crops. Farmers have a long history of wanting to do the right thing for their crops, their land and their neighbors. The willingness of industry segments to discuss and understand each other illustrates the spirit and commitment to success that is typical in American agriculture."* ([www.saveourcrops.org](http://www.saveourcrops.org))

### **Yield increases**

The Enlist traits continue to be introgressed into our top germplasm. Growers are seeing strong yields in both the E3 soybeans and Phytogen Enlist varieties. Moreover, the other advantage of E3 stacked trait is that it makes it very easy to breed so there are multiple seed companies with licenses to the technology, including local seed companies in the state. This provides for a large range of seed options to fit any grower's need.

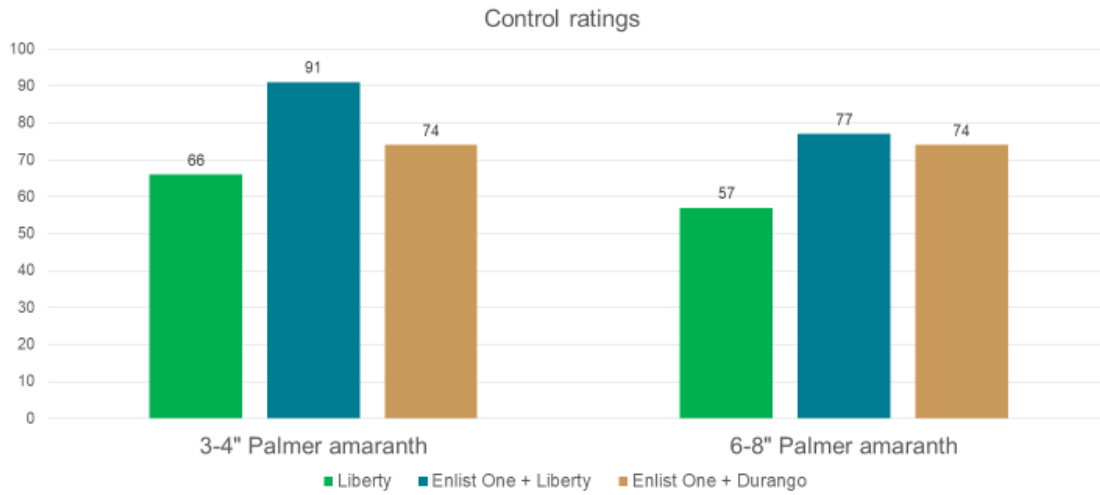
More than ever, it is important that Arkansas farmers have equal ability to choose a weed control system that best fits the needs on their farm, not based on what is planted next to them. Exclusive reliance on any single means of weed control (mechanical and/or chemical) can foster the spread of hard-to-control weeds. It is important that farmers have equitable access to all tools available to them in Arkansas so growers can have successful operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elisha Kemp".

Elisha Kemp

**Palmer amaranth Treatments**



**Lambsquarter Treatments**

