

Matthews Ridgeview Farms

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Arkansas State Plant Board

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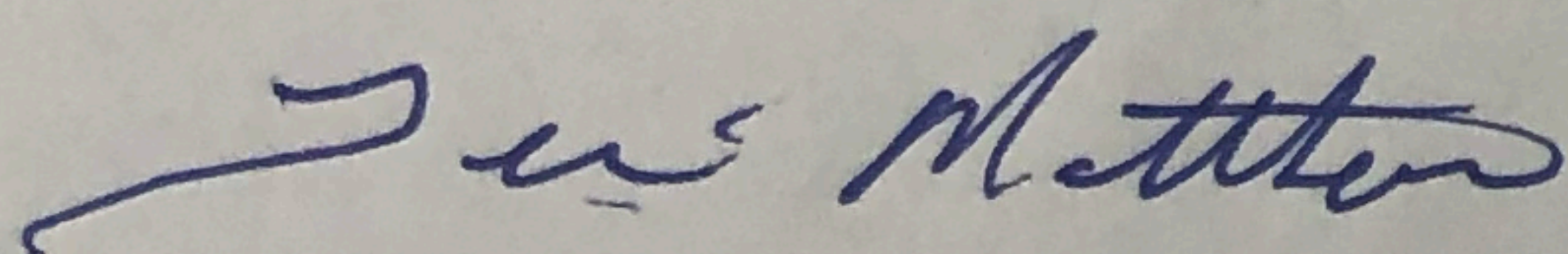
To whom it may concern:

My name is Terris Matthews. I am the owner/partner along with my wife, Kim at Matthews Ridgeview Farms. We are vegetable growers in Cross county. We employ 80-100 full time employees and about 150 seasonal employees. We also have other farmers that grow for us.

The purpose of this letter is to express concern regarding the agricultural use of Dicamba. As a specialty crop farmer in Arkansas, the use of Dicamba could lead to a huge loss of our crop due to the severity of harm it causes. Each year we strive to grow as a company to open jobs and opportunities to positively affect our local community in this great state of Arkansas. Losing a large portion of our crop could have a negative impact to employment by causing job loss instead of job opportunity. Dicamba also has a potential to negatively affect our grower's crops and their employees. Losing crops and employment opportunities can be an economic blow to any farming community. The negative effects of Dicamba strongly outweigh the positives for specialty farmers. This is especially relevant when considering there are safer alternative herbicides available today for use in our Natural State.

In closing, my question is why would anyone want to use a chemical that would potentially hurt their neighbors along with their environment when there are other alternative chemicals that can be used? Matthews Ridgeview Farms is against the use of Dicamba.

Best Regards,



Terris Matthews

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