

## REGULATORY ALERT

### Illinois Dept. of Ag Announces Special Local Needs Dicamba Labels for 2020

Today, the Illinois Department of Agriculture announced a 24c Special Local Needs (SLN) label for the four dicamba products labeled for 2020 soybean growing season: Engenia, FeXapan, Tavium, and Xtendimax. Each label now spells out additional requirements for application in Illinois, as follows:

1. DO NOT apply this product if the air temperature at the field at the time of application is over 85 degrees Fahrenheit or if the National Weather Service's forecasted high temperature for the nearest available location for the day of application exceeds 85 degrees Fahrenheit.

(Local National Weather Service forecast are available at <https://www.weather.gov>.)

2. DO NOT apply this product after June 20, 2020.
3. DO NOT apply this product when the wind is blowing toward adjacent residential areas.
4. Before making an application of this product, the applicator must consult the FieldWatch sensitive crop registry (<https://www.fieldwatch.com>) and comply with all associated record keeping label requirements.
5. Maintain the label-specified downwind buffer between the last treated row and the nearest downfield edge of any Illinois Nature Preserves Commission site. (Note: IFCA has posted the DNR sensitive areas on our homepage at [www.ifca.com](http://www.ifca.com)).
6. It is best to apply product when the wind is blowing away from sensitive areas, which include but are not limited to bodies of water and non-residential, uncultivated areas that may harbor sensitive plant species.

IFCA supports these label changes, and we were part of the meetings and discussions with the IDA, farm groups, the University of Illinois and the registrants to help develop the 24c label language. IFCA supports this herbicide technology, but it is imperative that the number of misuse complaints are reduced in Illinois, and also vital that all applicators understand the requirements to protect both sensitive crops AND sensitive areas. By being proactive to help assure judicious use of these herbicides, we are also demonstrating that we recognize the concerns of the specialty crop industry, sensitive soybean growers, and the non-ag community; we knew it was vital to address their concerns.

Violating these new provisions of use in Illinois may be considered a "Knowing" violation of the label, resulting in substantial monetary penalties or potential revocation of the applicator's license, so please take this new label seriously.

Throughout this process, IFCA felt it was extremely important to try and fully understand, as best we could, our member's opinions on the use of dicamba on soybean. As we had done in the two previous growing seasons, IFCA once again surveyed our members in 2019 to try and assess their experience with dicamba. A cover letter explaining the results of the survey along with the actual questions and answers can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

If you have questions, please contact IFCA. Thank you for understanding the proactive reasons why IFCA supports these label changes and please help us communicate the changes to your farmer customers.

To view the official press release from the Illinois Department of Agriculture, please click [here](#).