

The Legislative Session is over, but SDABA Continues to Work for You!

Two issues from the 2019 Legislative Session remain as topics of discussion between SDABA, SDDA (South Dakota Department of Agriculture) and other involved ag groups.

1) Pesticide Drift: SB 147 was introduced by Senator Rusch on behalf of Prairie Sun Organics that is located just north of Vermillion. The bill would have required liability insurance or a surety bond for JUST commercial applicators. The bill was defeated in the Senate Ag Committee, but the issue far from dead. SDABA attended a meeting hosted by SDDA with legislators, grower groups, and the owners of Prairie Sun Organics, Angela and Glenn Pulse. In addition, the Pulse's hosted a community meeting last week in Vermillion to address "Agricultural Pesticide Reporting and Risk Management". The meeting was attended by four SDABA members from that area. There will be more to come on this issue.

Glen Pulse took video of pesticide applications last year and claimed that all applications were off-label.

- PLEASE BE EXTRA VIGILANT with pesticide applications this spring – they could be video taped.
- DOCUMENT, DOCUMENT AND DOCUMENT EVERYTHING – including wind speed.
- BE AWARE that your applicators may be approached and prepare your employees on how to respond to questions.

2) Palmer Amaranth Noxious Weed Seed: As result of a terrible Palmer Amaranth seed infestation in Potter County, there are plans to have the seed added to the Noxious Weed Seed list. SDABA will take part in this discussion with SDDA and other interested groups later this month.

Help Spread the Word about Seed Treatment Stewardship!



As planting season begins across the country, ASTA urges its members to help remind farmers about the importance of seed treatment stewardship. To join the conversation, follow @Better_Seed on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) and share posts using #Plant19. Listen for our PSA running on farm broadcasting networks over the next few weeks. A variety of educational resources, including an updated guide, handouts, FAQs and videos, are available for download at

seed-treatment-guide.com. Source: ASTA

2019 Regulatory Posters on the Way - Watch for Yours to Arrive Soon!

The 2019 regulatory posters have shipped and should hit your desk soon. The set of three posters includes information on DOT shipping descriptions, Worker Protection Standards and Restricted-Use Products. The posters are printed by the Asmark Institute and SDABA purchases them for you! Please call or email the office if you would like extra copies.

Are you using the 4Rs this Planting Season?

Planting season in the Midwest is getting underway (or trying to as fields dry out), and it's a good time to remember that the 4R Nutrient Stewardship initiative is more than just a public relations campaign. Unless agriculture starts to do things differently, we'll continue to see headlines from the Mississippi River, to Lake Erie, to the Gulf of Mexico, about serious water quality challenges.

The 4Rs - applying the right **source** of fertilizer, at the right **rate**, at the right **time**, and in the right **place** - are rooted in science. Meaning they are proven to work in the field to help farmers reduce their environmental impact.

TFI is working to ensure that members are able to get these practices in the field. And they are increasing the capacity to do so with new staff support to manage the 4R Research Fund and 4R communications, a [new online store](#) with resources dedicated to nutrient management, and oversight of the [InfoAg conference](#).

All of these changes will enhance the ability to deliver scientifically accurate information to you about how to best implement the 4Rs with your farmer customers. It will also help to educate policy makers so they can make intelligent decisions. For example, there were multiple provisions in the recently passed Farm Bill that will move these efforts forward. *Source: TFI*

South Dakota State University updates Fertilizer Recommendations Guide for 2019

SDSU Extension recently released the online Fertilizer Recommendations Guide, available at extension.sdstate.edu/fertilizer-recommendation-guide.

Although the recommendations remain the same as the 2005 guide, the 2019 guide is updated to a more user-friendly format with easier-to-follow calculations and reformatted tables.

Written by Jim Gerwing, SDSU Extension soil specialist and Ron Gelderman soil testing program manager, the Fertilizer Recommendations Guide is utilized by the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Natural Resources Conservation Service as well as agronomists and crop producers across the state.

The guide provides fertility recommendations for corn, soybeans, wheat and more than 20 other grains and forages grown in South Dakota. It also contains lawn and garden fertility recommendations.

Clark revised the current edition. He is eager to inform South Dakotans that research is currently underway across the state to update recommendations. **The South Dakota Nutrient Education and Research Council (NREC)** is funding new research that is being conducted through a collaborative effort of SDSU Extension, South Dakota State University staff and researchers at the Agriculture Research Station at SDSU.

USDA Announces Sign-Up Period for Updated Conservation Stewardship Program

The next deadline for Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) applications to be considered for funding in fiscal year (FY) 2019 is May 10, 2019. USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) plans to invest up to \$700 million for new enrollments and contract extensions in fiscal year 2019. The 2018 Farm Bill made several changes to this critical conservation program, which helps agricultural producers take the conservation activities on their farm or ranch to the next level.

The 2018 Farm Bill authorizes NRCS to accept new CSP enrollments from now until 2023, and it makes some important improvements to the program. These updates include:

- NRCS now enrolls eligible, high ranking applications based on dollars rather than acres. For fiscal 2019, NRCS can spend up to \$700 million in the program, which covers part of the cost for producers implementing new conservation activities and maintaining their existing activities.
- Higher payment rates are now available for certain conservation activities, including cover crops and resource conserving crop rotations.
- CSP now provides specific support for organic and for transitioning to organic production activities and a special grassland conservation initiative for certain producers who have maintained cropland base acres.

About the Program

CSP is offered in South Dakota through continuous sign-ups. The program provides many benefits including increased crop yields, decreased inputs, wildlife habitat improvements and increased resilience to weather extremes. CSP is for working lands including cropland, pastureland, rangeland, nonindustrial private forest land and agricultural land under the jurisdiction of a tribe. For additional information about CSP, contact [your local USDA service center](#).



 **CORTEVA**[™] Agriculture Division of DowDuPont[™]

Environmental Respect Awards 2019 - Deadline June 7

The Environmental Respect Awards are the industry's highest recognition for environmental stewardship among U.S. agricultural retailers. The awards are sponsored by Corteva Agriscience, Agricultural Division of DowDuPont, and presented by CropLife and AgriBusiness Global

magazines each year. The stewardship program, which began in 1990, is designed to honor outstanding work in preserving the environment through safe, responsible business practices. Winners are selected by a panel of industry experts that judge each applicant based on categories such as environmental stewardship, safety education for employees, professional excellence, leadership in compliance, innovative technology and community outreach.

New for this year, the awards have been broadened to include not only crop protection and seed retailers/agencies, but also service providers, integrated producers and public agencies. The deadline to enter is June 7, 2019. To learn more and to enter, click [here](#).

Calendar

JULY

10-11 - [Governor's Ag Summit](#)

11 - SDABA Board of Directors Meeting, Pierre

14-18 - TAL Session II and Washington, DC Fly-in

16-17 - IPM Field School, Volga

SEPTEMBER

12 - SDABA Board of Directors Meeting, Brookings

OCTOBER

9-10 - TAL Session III, Sioux Falls

NOVEMBER

14 - SDABA Board of Directors Meeting, Sioux Falls

DECEMBER

11-12 - Agronomy Conference 2019, Sioux Falls www.sdaba.org

2020

January 14 - SDABA Board of Directors Meeting, Sioux Falls

January 15-16 - Ag Expo, Sioux Falls www.agexpo-sd.org

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