



**AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL OF INDIANA NEWSLETTER**  
*Promoting Agribusiness Policy in Indiana*  
*April 6, 2018*

**IDEM Seeks Nominations for the 2018 - Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence**

*Source: IDEM*

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is now accepting nominations for the 2018 Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence to recognize organizations that have implemented outstanding environmental strategies into their operations and decision-making processes.

The Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence are Indiana's highest environmental recognition and are open to all Indiana facilities, government agencies, individuals and other groups that implement exemplary environmental projects or initiatives with measurable results. By seeking out and utilizing innovative environmental practices, organizations and businesses around the State have reduced waste, saved money and contributed greatly to Indiana's environmental protection efforts.

IDEM, along with Gov. Eric J. Holcomb's office, will present seven awards, one in each of the following categories:

- Energy/Renewable Resources
- Greening the Government
- Land Use/Conservation
- Environmental Education/Outreach
- Pollution Prevention
- Recycling/Reuse
- Five Year Continuous Improvement

Nominations must be received by IDEM by no later than **5 p.m. on Monday, May 7, 2018**.

Winners will be personally acknowledged by Gov. Holcomb and IDEM Commissioner Bruno Pigott. They will be recognized and receive their awards at the Annual Pollution Prevention Conference, titled "Sustainability: Pollution Prevention is a Piece of the Puzzle", which will be held on September 19. IDEM will also honor the seven winners and summarize their projects in a press release.

The public is invited to submit nominations and organizations may also self-nominate. If you know of a particular project, company or organization that deserves recognition, please submit a nomination or share this information. Eligibility requirements and details about the nomination process can be found by visiting [www.idem.IN.gov/GovAwards](http://www.idem.IN.gov/GovAwards).

Questions about the nomination process can be sent to Cameron Maschino by calling 317-233-5434 or by emailing [GovAwards@idem.IN.gov](mailto:GovAwards@idem.IN.gov).

## **Planting Season Reminder**

It's that time of year again, and it's important to keep in mind some key tips on safety:

- Transport Safely
  - o Be sure to use warning signs while using public roads. This will help keep drivers aware of the possible danger, and mitigate accidents.
- Follow the Label
  - o Labels are important as they contain product warnings and directions for proper use.
- Maintain Equipment
  - o Make sure your equipment is well maintained and that it's been inspected before seasonal use. If you had your equipment serviced before the end of last season, it does not mean the equipment is still in proper condition.
- Store Fuel Properly
  - o Store fuel away from machinery and fire sources. Keeping your fuel containers secured ensures that damage is minimal in the event of a fire.
- Stay Healthy
  - o Despite working long hours, agribusiness operators should still eat and sleep well. Sleep deprivation or malnutrition results in a deterioration of mental functions, meaning that equipment operation is more dangerous.
- Watch for Children
  - o Noisy and large equipment can attract curious children. It's important to make sure your children are safely secured at all times.

## **OISC Notice of Intent**

The Indiana State Chemist has posted a Notice of Intent to Readopt rules related to "Fertilizer Material Use, Distribution, And Record Keeping". [Please click](#) here to read the rule.

If you have any questions, please contact Mark Shublak at 317-236-5981 or [mark.shublak@icemiller.com](mailto:mark.shublak@icemiller.com).

***Please contact Mark Shublak at [mark.shublak@icemiller.com](mailto:mark.shublak@icemiller.com) or Lesa Dietrick at [lesa.dietrick@icemiller.com](mailto:lesa.dietrick@icemiller.com) if you have any questions or needs regarding policy matters.***

## **Washington Report**

### **ELD Enforcement Underway**

*Source: Agriculture Retailers Association*

The U.S. Department of Transportation began enforcement of the Electronic Logging Device mandate April 1.

Despite efforts by the Agricultural Retailers Association, the soft enforcement period has ended and retailers must now be following the ELD mandate. Some exemptions have been made for retailers operating under the Hours of Service agricultural exemption's "planting and harvesting season" as designated by the state and within a 150 air-mile-radius from where the farm supplies originated, where they were picked up or when operating under other ELD exemptions.

More information about the ELD mandate is [available here](#).

Earlier this year, ARA sent a letter to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration requesting an exemption and extension of the soft enforcement period. ARA is awaiting a response. Additional information is available from FMCSA [here](#) and [here](#).

### **Rural Broadband Provision included in Omnibus**

*Source: Agriculture Retailers Association*

In addition to the 199A fix, the omnibus also will provide USDA with \$600 million to fund rural broadband grants. [Read more](#). This is a huge first step for rural broadband infrastructure, particularly for farmers because the U.S. Department of Agriculture will administer the funds. Much of the discussion around rural broadband centers around anchor institutions in rural areas (hospitals, schools, libraries), having grants allocated specifically for farms will help production agriculture better implement precision and connected technologies.

### **Industry News**

#### **Responsible Use of Dicamba in 2018**

*Source: Agriculture Retailers Association*

As the growing season approaches, stay informed of dicamba use restrictions.

The Agricultural Retailers Association will host a webinar April 11 promoting the proper use of dicamba. The webinar will cover new label requirements, best management practices for application, and the science behind the regulations.

The April 11 webinar will feature Rick Keigwin of the EPA Office of Pesticide Programs and Dr. Stanley Culpepper, Professor, Extension Weed Scientist, University of Georgia.

**Wed. April 11, 3-4 p.m. EDT**

[RSVP/Submit Presenter Questions](#)

*Once RSVP is submitted you will receive an email with webinar login and call information*

#### **What's Behind the Label on a Bag of Seed?**

*Pat T. Miller, Director State Affairs, American Seed Trade Association*

*Mike Stahr, Seed Lab Manager, Iowa State University Seed Laboratory &*

*Vice President, Association of Official Seed Analysts*

The seed label, or tag as it is often referred, is like the inside jacket of a novel. It tells you everything that's important about your bag of seed. The United States is frequently cited as one of the most reliable producers of food in the world. One of the reasons for that is because we have some of the most stringent seed laws in the world. The seed label reflects those laws. Strong seed laws provide the means to ensure plant breeder's rights, encourage biodiversity, and greater opportunity for financial success by the grower community. Of course, the ultimate benefit is the consumer.

When you look at a seed label you'll see a lot of numbers. But on closer look, all of those numbers are significant. The Federal Seed Act and all state seed laws require a seed label, although they vary slightly in their requirements. Most of these laws were created over 80 years ago and variances have evolved, but they generally all have the same means to an end. Some of

the notations on a label are obvious, some not so much. Here's what most states require on a seed label and what each item means:

- Product name: the brand name and/or species name, so the consumer knows what they are getting
- Pure seed: percentage by weight of the desired seed(s) based on the entire contents of the bag
- Other crops seed: percentage by weight of seeds not considered weed. If the amount is over 5% (generally) then those species are considered Pure Seed and are to be listed by name. In some cases those species present at 5% or less may also be listed as Pure Seed if so desired by the seller.
- Weed seed: the percentage by weight of weed seeds unless they are considered restricted noxious weed seeds by law where the seed will be sold. If they are restricted noxious weed seeds, then they must be listed individually by name and are limited to the amount in the state law (usually around 0.25%). (NOTE: prohibited noxious weed seeds are not allowed at all)
- Inert matter: the percentage by weight of whatever is in the package that doesn't grow (i.e. broken seed that are half or less what was originally there, seed coats, insects, etc.).
- Address: the contact information for the company providing the seed
- Origin: state where the seed was grown
- Lot number: a unique number so that the seed can be traced to its origin
- Test date: month and date that this lot was tested. The date of the standard germination test must be listed, even if it is different from the dates of other tests done.
- Germination: the percentage of seed in the bag that is expected to grow (based on a lab test)
- Treatment: coatings generally used to enhance germination, protect the seed, or assist in growth
- Other items deemed necessary by the state, as this list is not all-inclusive.

The seed label is generally backed up by a test from a seed lab. It is required that the person from a seed lab signing the report of analysis be certified in testing or that the person conducting the testing be certified. Certification is in purity testing which includes conducting the mechanical purity test & the noxious weed seed exam and also in germination testing. The Association of Official Seed Analysts (AOSA, which is composed of state, federal, university and some crop improvement labs) and the Society of Commercial Seed Technologists (which is composed of analysts from seed companies, private labs, crop improvement labs and some AOSA labs) jointly give certification exams. A person must provide evidence of training (related college courses; workshops and training within their lab) and experience to qualify to take the exams. A person passing both exams becomes a Registered Seed Technologist (RST) and is able to sign and put their seal on reports of analysis. Certified analysts must show evidence of continuing education & proficiency testing to remain in good standing.

Seed labs can conduct more than 50 distinct types of tests. A number of these are not used to provide information for the label, but rather provide supporting information (such as vigor) to the seed company. Many states require testing for the label to be done according to the AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds and seed produced in one state and sold in another must meet the requirements of the Federal Seed Act and its regulations. Others don't list the AOSA Rules. A mechanical purity test is done on approximately 2,500 seeds, while a noxious weed exam is approximately 25,000 seeds. Seeds aren't counted out, but rather a table in the Rules lists the required weight for more than 700 species of seed. Some seeds are easy to identify, but others (example: Quackgrass from Western Wheatgrass) take a highly trained person with good eyes and a lot of patience. The standard (or warm) germination test is conducted under conditions considered

ideal and so its results are likely the maximum germination rate of that seed. It must be remembered that fields (gardens, etc.) vary in soil type, fertility, fungal & insect population, environmental conditions, etc. and so the germination percentage or the result of a vigor test may or may not match field emergence. Vigor of a seedling isn't considered in the germination test, but rather that the parts of a seedling are present and not badly damaged mechanically or by fungi or insects. Volume four of the AOSA Rules provides information on how to classify seedlings as normal or abnormal according to the species of seed. Also determined in the germination test is the percentage of dead seed, dormant seed (those that take up moisture, but don't grow) and hard seeds (certain types of seeds that can have a seed coat that doesn't allow water to penetrate until later).

As you can tell, there is more to a bag of seed than meets the eye. However, a grower can find out all they need to know by studying the seed bag label. And then, like reading a novel, they'll know the rest of the story.

***For more information, contact:***

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**Dicamba Best Management Practices**

*Source: Agricultural Retailers Association*

The Agricultural Retailers Association has collected guidance and best management practices from the dicamba registrants to help retailers make the sound decisions regarding handling, mixing and application.

**BASF**

[Engenia Spray System Hygiene Technical Bulletin](#)  
[Engenia Mixing Order Guidance](#)

**Corteva**

[Bulk Handling Guidance](#)

**Monsanto**

[XtendiMax Best Management Practices](#)

These and other dicamba-related documents are available on the [ARA website](#) (login required). Questions related to these products and best management practices should be directed to the registrant.

**Suspicious Activity and Facility Security; fact sheets and information**

*Source: The Fertilizer Institute – Justin Louchheim, Director of Government Affairs*

The safe and secure handling of commercial fertilizers is paramount. In coordination with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), we have compiled key documents and information that may be of interest to the fertilizer industry and agribusinesses.

DHS has made available the following information and fact sheets:

- [CFATS Overview](#)
- [CFATS Quarterly Spring 2018 Newsletter](#)
- [CFATS Tiering Methodology](#)
- [CFATS Response](#)
- [CFATS Detect and Delay](#)
- [Know Your Customer](#)
- [See Something Say Something Trifold](#)
- [Security Training Resources](#)
- [Security Guide](#)
- [Active Shooter Booklet](#)
- [Active Assailant Security Resource Guide](#)
- [Voluntary Security Programs](#)

Suspicious activity should always be reported to the FBI to prevent the illicit use of materials. Suspicious activity can be reported by calling 1-855-TELL-FBI (or 1-855-835-5324).

The FBI Chemical Countermeasures Unit is available to work with industry and provided the following information on a series of education programs they administer that may also be of interest. If you would like more information and/or to schedule a meeting with the appropriate personnel at the FBI, you can reach out directly to [Justin Louchheim](#) at TFI (202-515-2718) or [Lisa Parnpichate](#) at the FBI (202-324-1117).

#### MISSION:

The Chemical Countermeasures Unit's mission is to deter, detect and disrupt the production, acquisition and intentional misuse of chemicals through foreign and domestic outreach initiatives.

They administer the following programs to enhance individual facility operations.

#### Chemical Facility Outreach Exchange (CFOX)

- Half-day workshop to systematically complete outreach with high-risk chemical facilities throughout the territory of all 56 field offices
- Audience: Chemical facility personnel from the nation's highest-risk facilities, law enforcement
- Themes: Emphasize the importance of establishing tripwires to report suspicious activity to law enforcement; Facilitate the sharing of best practices and lessons learned between high-risk chemical facilities and members of private industry
- Expectation: To provide law enforcement with the opportunity to spread the chemical countermeasures mission while also creating an environment encouraging the sharing of best practices among high-risk chemical facilities

#### Chemical Industry Outreach Workshop

- One-day workshop to educate Chemical Industry executives and security personnel.
- Audience: Chemical industry personnel, chemical facility security professionals, members of academia, local first responders, emergency management

- Themes: Explore the use of explosive precursor chemicals to manufacture improvised explosive devices and chemical WMDs through briefings and a range of demonstrations; Emphasize the importance of reporting suspicious activity and sharing information with partners
- Expectation: To increase chemical industry personnel awareness of explosive precursor chemicals and improvised explosive devices, and increase awareness of the chemical countermeasures message

#### National Retailers Program

- Familiarizes chemical industry partners with chemical threat concepts and the precursor chemicals they manufacture, sell, or distribute which can be used in the production of homemade IEDs
- Audience: Chemical retail personnel, local law enforcement
- Themes: Provide chemical retailers with an understanding of the potential for their precursor materials to be used in an improvised explosive device; Provide security training materials for retailers to share with their employees; Encourage information sharing between chemical retail personnel and law enforcement; Provide best practices for point-of-sale employees about the potential indicators of terrorist activities, suspicious purchases, and suspicious activity reporting mechanisms
- Expectation: To train all levels of chemical retailers about the procurement and illicit uses of precursor chemicals to manufacture improvised explosives

As we work to promote safety and security at facilities, we hope you will reach out with any questions or suggestions.