Monday – June 29, 2020

BILL: And good morning and welcome into another week of our Ag Talk Programs. This is Bill Rice along with Ed Lentz. Happy Monday to you Ed and we’re revisiting a topic that we talked about a couple of weeks back because we had a deadline looming.

ED: Yes, I want to give an update on what the dicamba products that basically a court banned for us on Xtend soybeans. And of course this really came about sudden. No one saw this coming and a lot of times they give you a time frame that you can adjust something and this was like courts came out June 3, they said they are vacated which meant if that fully held there as of June 3 you couldn’t use Xtendimax, Engenia, and FeXapan and these are the products for these Xtend soybeans that are resistant dicamba chemistry that you couldn’t use them and of course people already bought them. You can’t return them and it’s already in your plan for weed control. So it really caused a lot of concern about the agriculture community. The EPA took the response to it. They came back and said okay anything that you had on hand, you already purchased and all that by June 3 you can use that up by July 31. Here in Ohio though, we have a registration on those products that ends June 30 and because of that registration we can’t renew their registration because of this court case even though EPA said July 31 for Ohio farmers it’s going to be June 30 so tomorrow is the last day that they can legally use this product as the result of this court case. So it’s pretty significant, here in the area we don’t have a lot of famers who are using it. We probably have more use of it as a burn down rather than a post treatment so it may not be as great of effect. But still this is unusual for this to occur and what happened. It’s kind of a change of procedures, usually EPA has the oversight of what we can and can’t do and the act of this group have now gone to this courts now saying what we can use this products and that rather than using the science from EPA. You know it will be interesting, I know that the courts, the environmental groups tried to enforce that you couldn’t use is after June 3, the courts came back and said that they’re going to allow to do what the EPA is saying for right now. They have also allowed all the companies that make these products to have their day in court cause a lot of them did not have a say so in this decision. So the litigation is still going to continue on this, Bill. Where it’s going to end up, we don’t know. A lot of precedents could be set here but for now you can’t use these products after June 30 in Ohio. And if we have problems with waterhemp and giant ragweed and maretail we may have to look at other avenues to see what we can do which are not as effective as the dicamba chemistry.

BILL: Thank you Ed. For Ag Talk this is Bill Rice along with Ed Lentz. Good morning to you.

Ed: Good morning.