SCS-2016-15

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH

Flag the Technology

And Avoid Crop Injury!

Paul A. Baumann, Ph.D.[1]
Peter A. Dotray, Ph.D.[1]
Professors and Extension
Weed Specialists
(College Station & Lubbock)

Joshua A. McGinty, Ph.D.[1]
Assistant Professor and Extension
Agronomist *(Corpus Christi)*

Gaylon D. Morgan, Ph.D.[1]
Professor and Extension
Cotton Specialist *(College Station)*

Muthu Bagavathiannan, Ph.D.[1]
Assistant Professor and
Weed Scientist *(College Station)*

Wayne Keeling, Ph.D.[1]
Professor and Research
Agronomist *(Lubbock)*

Todd Sink, Ph.D.[2]
Assistant Professor and Extension
Fisheries Specialist *(College Station, TX)*

Robert Coulson, Ph.D.[3]
Professor and Director, Knowledge
Engineering Lab *(College Station, TX)*

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension and Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Department of Soil and Crop Sciences [1], Department of Wildlife and Fisheries [2], Department of Entomology [3]

This publication produced in cooperation with:

Texas Ag Industries Association

West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute

Texas Plant Protection Association

Flag the Technology is a field marking program originally developed by personnel at the University of Arkansas[1] and is now a widely accepted practice to reduce the risk of a misapplication. This practice will also make the applicator aware of sensitive crops adjacent to the field being sprayed. Recent herbicide tolerant crop introductions have provided new options for controlling herbicide resistant weeds. However, the herbicides used in these programs can have detrimental effects on non-tolerant crops. To minimize misapplications, marking fields with designated color flags representing the herbicide tolerant trait(s) has become a beneficial practice. Flags should be placed in a location clearly visible to applicators upon entry into the field, or GPS coordinates.

Since the color of the flag represents a specific trait technology, multiple flags may be placed in a field where stacked technologies are used, such as those possessing both Liberty Link and Roundup Ready traits. The objective of the Flag the Technology program is to help reduce herbicide application errors, improve herbicide and technology stewardship, and foster good community relations.

[1] Bob Scott, Dharmendra Saraswat, Ples Spradley and Ron Baker, "Flag the Technology" FSA2162

Flags should be placed at all likely entry points and/or GPS coordinates into the field.

Very low concentrations of some herbicides drifted on to non-tolerant crops can cause noticeable injury.

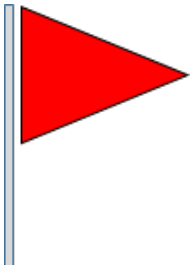
[2] *Please look for the mobile app* "FLAG THE TECHNOLOGY" *available in 2016.*

Preferred Flag Size

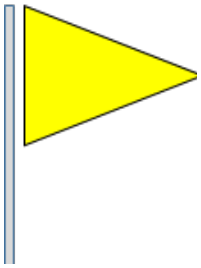
6’ x 1/4” fiberglass pole with minimum 11” x 17” flag for maximum visibility

Color Codes

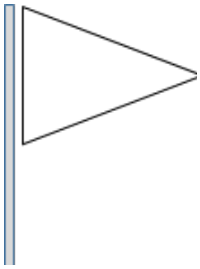
RED
signifies conventional varieties with no herbicide technology traits, vineyards, apiaries, orchards, vegetable fields and organic crop production. *Extreme caution.*



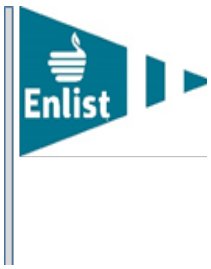
YELLOW
is the color chosen for Clearfield® rice, sunflower, wheat and canola technologies, STS® soybeans[1] and INZEN grain sorghum.



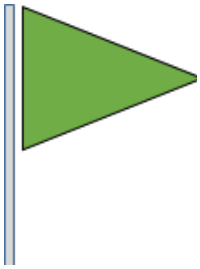
WHITE
represents technology that is tolerant to glyphosate herbicide. (e.g., Roundup Ready, Glytol)



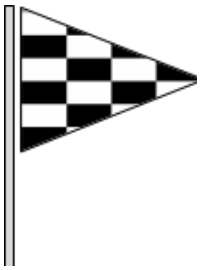
TEAL (with White Stripes)
indicates tolerance to both 2,4-D and FOP (ACCase) herbicides. The white stripes indicate tolerance to glyphosate. Where glufosinate tolerant cotton and soybean are planted, a green flag should be added to denote tolerance to glufosinate [2].



GREEN
This technology is tolerant to glufosinate.



BLACK & WHITE
The black and white checks indicate tolerance to both dicamba and glyphosate. A green flag should be added for cotton to denote glufosinate tolerance [2].



[1] Although many herbicides are in the ALS family of herbicides, crops with this technology are not tolerant to all ALS herbicides.
[2] Stacked technologies may require more than 1 flag.

Produced by the Department of Soil & Crop Sciences
soilcrop.tamu.edu