

Real Farmers Speak Out Against Dicamba and 2,4-D Resistant Crops

“Independent studies show that GE crops don’t increase yields – they **just increase pesticides.**”

– Pat Trask, South Dakota rancher

“Initially corporations modified crops genetically for ethanol and animal feed, but farmers will soon have to grow food crops that can withstand 2,4-D from overspray and drift, too. **For producers and consumers working to rebuild the fragile local food economy, 2,4-D resistant crops will be a disaster.**”

– Margot McMillen, Missouri organic farmer

“The danger of Dicamba is it’s a very volatile compound. It will literally go to a gaseous state and rise up above the crop it’s applied to. Then the slightest bit of wind can move it off target. And **whatever other crops it settles on can really be harmed**, whether it’s another farmer’s soybeans, my fruits and vegetables, or a home gardener’s garden.”

– Troy Roush, Indiana farmer



Dicamba and 2,4-D Resistant Crops: What You Need to Know





2,4-D Grape Damage

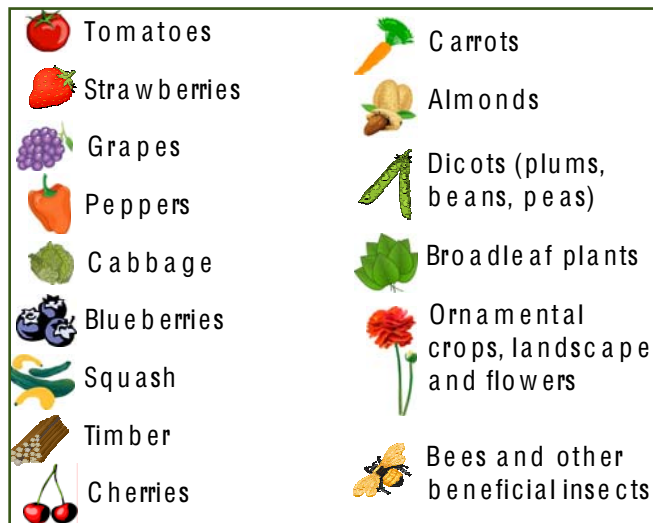
Left:Healthy leaf, Right:Leaf damage

Photo from Jeff Cope



Dicamba Caused Tomato Damage

Photo from Steven Weller, Purdue University



Crops Vulnerable to Herbicide Drift

2,4-D and Dicamba Crops: What Changes?

- Widespread use of 2,4-D resistant corn could trigger as much as a **30-fold increase in 2,4-D use on corn.**
- 2,4-D and Dicamba resistant crops allow farmers to spray more frequently, **increasing the likelihood of spray and volatilization drift.**
- As with Roundup Ready, increases in use of 2,4-D and Dicamba can lead to **increased herbicide resistance** and the emergence of more superweeds.
- If more genetically engineered (GE) crops are deregulated, farmers will have **fewer choices of non-GE crops** because non-GE crops will be too vulnerable to the increased pesticide spray, despite often outperforming GE crops during drought and other extreme conditions.

What can you do to safeguard your crops?

- **Get informed**, starting at: <http://panna.org/current-campaigns/24D>
 - www.nffc.net/Issues/GeneticEngineering
 - www.centerforfoodsafety.org/campaign/genetically-engineered-food/crops
- **Spread the word.** Share information with your neighbors, family, and friends.
- Contact your county's Extension Agent or Agricultural Commissioner to learn where GE crops are grown. Express your concerns about increased herbicide drift.
- Contact the USDA and demand that they conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment on the full effects of 2,4-D and Dicamba tolerant crops.

Real Farmers, Real Problems: 2,4-D and Dicamba

"California's San Joaquin Valley reported **15,000 acres of crop damage due to 2,4-D drift.** The damage occurred **100 miles** from the application's target sites."

– Western Farm Press, June 2012

"I worry about all the drift and fumes getting into our eyes and lungs, especially for kids since **2,4-D is linked to human health effects** like reproductive toxicity, endocrine disruption, and cancer."

– George Naylor, Iowa corn and soy farmer