

Applicator Training Meeting/Workshop Opportunities

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This proposal outlines a potential workshop(s) that can be customized for the needs of your company. There are several options ranging from what would be a full course of five hours down to a 1½ hour talk, or anywhere in between. Or a completely customized workshop can be developed as requested. The full course (5 hours) would include all 10 topics listed below and would require a sprayer furnished to do any calibration activities. Depending on the technology included on the sprayer, it may be useful to support other topics as well. Class size of 30 – 40 students would be suggested, especially as the course length expands.

My first proposal would be to suggest at a minimum a 1½ hour workshop that will focus on the issues and strategies that will be involved in making applications to herbicide tolerant crops (HTC). I will discuss how these requirements may be much different than past applications. Though many HTC acres are predicted, not all future applications will be made on herbicide tolerant crops where drift mitigation will be a high priority. Coverage herbicides, fungicides, and insecticide application strategies will also be discussed. What we do know, future application programs will be more diverse than ever before, at least from an equipment/nozzle perspective. Listed are the three main discussion topics that will be a part of this workshop.

1. Intro, Professionalism, Goals of Application, Application Inefficiencies (30 minutes)
2. Nozzle Technology-non Herbicide Tolerant Crops (HTC) (30)
3. Application Strategies including nozzle/droplet size requirements for HTC (30)

Another suggestion would be to consider the 3½ hour version (named the short course), which would begin with agenda items 1-3, and then choosing 4 items from topics 4-9 on the list. That would mean choosing a total of 7 of the topics listed, to equal 210 minutes = 3½ hours. This program could occupy a ½ day time slot either before or after lunch.

Topics:

4. Calibration and Electronics (Rate Controllers) (30)
5. Application Equipment Technology (30)
6. Spray System Cleanout Issues and Concerns (30)
7. Spray Solution Effect on the Application of Crop Protection Products (30)
8. Field Driving Techniques for More Efficient Application - Open Discussion Utilizing Experience Of Applicators In The Audience (30)
9. Technical Aspects Of Spray Drift with Focus on Environmental Concerns (30)
10. Hands-On Sprayer Calibration Requiring TeeJet Catalogs and a Furnished (clean) Sprayer (60)