



Welcome to AG-ASSIST, a WSDA-sponsored Listserv that is dedicated to chemigation, fertigation, irrigation practices, pesticide use, and related topics.

June 30, 2006

Chemigation and Fertigation Technical Assistance Program

Welcome to the debut of AG-ASSIST-WSDA, a Listserv with a focus on chemigation and fertigation topics, and related issues. You received this initial mailing at your own request, or it was requested on your behalf.

The Rationale for this Listserv: AG-ASSIST-WSDA is in response to requests from growers and crop advisors for a more convenient means of accessing timely information in a readily available format, including the ability to retrieve archival information.

What is a Listserv: A Listserv, or list server, is an automatic mailing list server that manages mailing lists and that automatically sends messages to the e-mail addresses of everyone on the mailing list. A Listserv is similar to an on-line discussion group (newsgroups or forum), except that messages are transmitted as e-mail and are only available to individuals on the list. In addition, AG-ASSIST-WSDA does not allow a subscriber to send a message to the mailing list. But comments can be sent to the List Owner, Tom Hoffmann, by clicking on “E-mail the List Owner.” (Please see below.)

A feature of AG-ASSIST-WSDA is that previous information is archived, allowing a subscriber to retrieve previous articles or documents.

Subscribing to or Unsubscribing from the Listserv: Users can join or remove themselves from the mailing list. When someone subscribes to a mailing list, the listserv will automatically add the address and distribute future e-mail messages to that address, along with all the others on the list. When someone unsubscribes, the listserv simply removes the address. New users can subscribe by clicking on “E-mail the List Owner” and then send an e-mail with the word “subscribe” in the Subject: line or in the message block. Or, you can subscribe from the following Internet address: <http://listserv.wa.gov/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=ag-assist-wsda>.

Security and Privacy Features: AG-ASSIST-WSDA also includes security features that will keep the mailing list secure and free from viruses and spam. The mailing list will not be shared with others. For more information about the WSDA privacy policy, please click on the “Privacy Policy” button.

Click on the “Update your Preference” button if you wish to update your preferences, such as your e-mail address or your name. You may also subscribe to other WSDA mailing list servers from this site.

Now, for the first article . . .

WSDA Considers Second Party Participation during a Chemigation Application

Many commercial applicators have inquired what role, if any, that a client-grower could serve during the course of a commercial application. For instance, a commercial applicator might

ask the grower to briefly monitor an application, thereby allowing the commercial applicator to perform errands or to check on other commercial chemigation applications.

Current laws and rules would require each applicator to keep a pesticide application record for their own activities, regardless of whether the activity is for a couple of minutes or for several hours. Thus, a separate application record must be kept each time that the application switches from commercial to private, or vice versa. Consequently, each party may have multiple pesticide application records for the same chemigation application.

With guidance from the Chemigation Advisory Committee, WSDA is contemplating an enforcement policy in which application functions may be temporarily assigned to another. A brief synopsis of what is being considered follows.

Before the application starts, both parties must sign a form that specifies who will maintain the pesticide application record (as the applicator of record) throughout the application. Actions performed during the application by the other party will be noted on an activity log, which will be given to the applicator of record at the end of the application. The applicator of record must then maintain the activity log with the pesticide application record, and submit it along with the record when requested by the Department.

A decision involving possible participation by a second party in a chemigation application along with the scope of that involvement will be forthcoming. You will be kept informed.

WSDA staff acknowledge the members of the Chemigation Advisory Committee for their contribution and guidance.

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