

Flag the Technology

By John Green, Little York

“What herbicide trait are your beans this year?” That is a question we should be asking of our neighbors and communicating our seed plans to them and to local custom applicators.

This crop year will present many challenges for private and custom applicators. The adoption of the new Enlist and XtendFlex traits mean there will now be (predominately) two different and totally unique herbicide traits in area soybean fields this season. Communicating “what is planted where” is of the utmost importance. Communicating which herbicide trait you planted, to your custom applicator, to your neighbors and to their custom applicators, will lessen the chances for application errors that could result in crop damage.

Let’s review the terminology:

Liberty Link: tolerant to Liberty herbicide only

Xtend: “dicamba beans”- tolerant to Roundup & Dicamba (Engenia, Xtendimax herbicides)

XtendFlex: new for 2021, tolerant to Roundup, Dicamba & Liberty

Enlist: “2,4-D beans”- tolerant to Roundup, Enlist herbicides (2,4-D Choline) & Liberty

How do we communicate “what is planted where”? The first and best option is to pick up the phone and call or text your neighbor. Let them know what trait you intend to plant and don’t forget to reach out again if plans change in season. Secondly, add a visual layer of communication. Flag the Technology flags will be available at the Farm Bureau office, free of charge.

What is Flag the Technology? Flag the Technology is an industry standardized system of color-coded flags that can be placed in fields to communicate **which** herbicide **tolerance** trait is being used in that field.

Red flags denote a conventional crop with no herbicide traits.

Bright Green = Liberty Link - Tolerant to Liberty herbicide only.

Black & White (checkerboard pattern) = RR Xtend- Tolerant to Roundup & Dicamba herbicides

Teal = Enlist Technology- Tolerant to Roundup, Liberty & 2,4-D Choline herbicides

Black & White checkerboard with Green border = XtendFlex – Tolerant to Roundup, Liberty & Dicamba herbicides

Flags are available at the W-HFB office, contact W-HFB at 309-734-9401 with any questions. Up to 10 flags per person will be available at no charge.

