



SYNTHETIC AUXIN HERBICIDE

APPLICATOR TRAINING PROGRAM

Common Methods of Off-Target Movement

Module 2

In this module:

- + Details and best management practices to help you prevent off-target movement due to:
 - Physical drift
 - Secondary drift
 - Tank contamination

Which of these factors can influence off-target movement of pesticides?

Call out the items you think could cause off-target movement

Physical Drift

Secondary Drift & Movement

Tank Contamination

Wind speed

Nozzle type

Droplet size

Sprayer speed

Boom height

**Herbicide
volatility**

Temperature

Dust

Water runoff

Tank type

Hose type

Tank cleanout

Common Methods of Off-Target Movement

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Physical Drift

Definition and How it Occurs

- + Physical drift occurs when the droplets leaving the sprayer do not reach the intended target
- + Physical drift is influenced by:
 - Wind speed
 - Boom height
 - Nozzle Selection
 - Droplet Size
 - Sprayer Speed



Physical Drift

Distinguishing Characteristics

Physical drift can usually be distinguished as clear patterns of injury that are more severe closest to the spray source.

Important!

Do Not Rely on Formulation Alone to Prevent Drift

Wind speed

Nozzle type

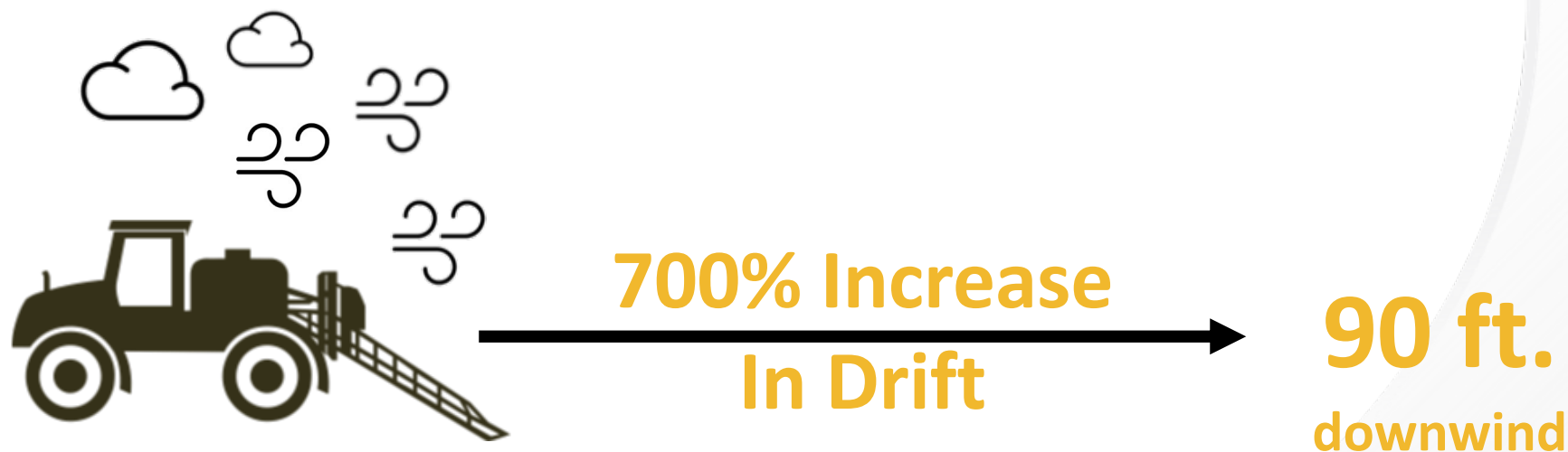
Droplet size

Sprayer speed

Boom height

Wind Speed

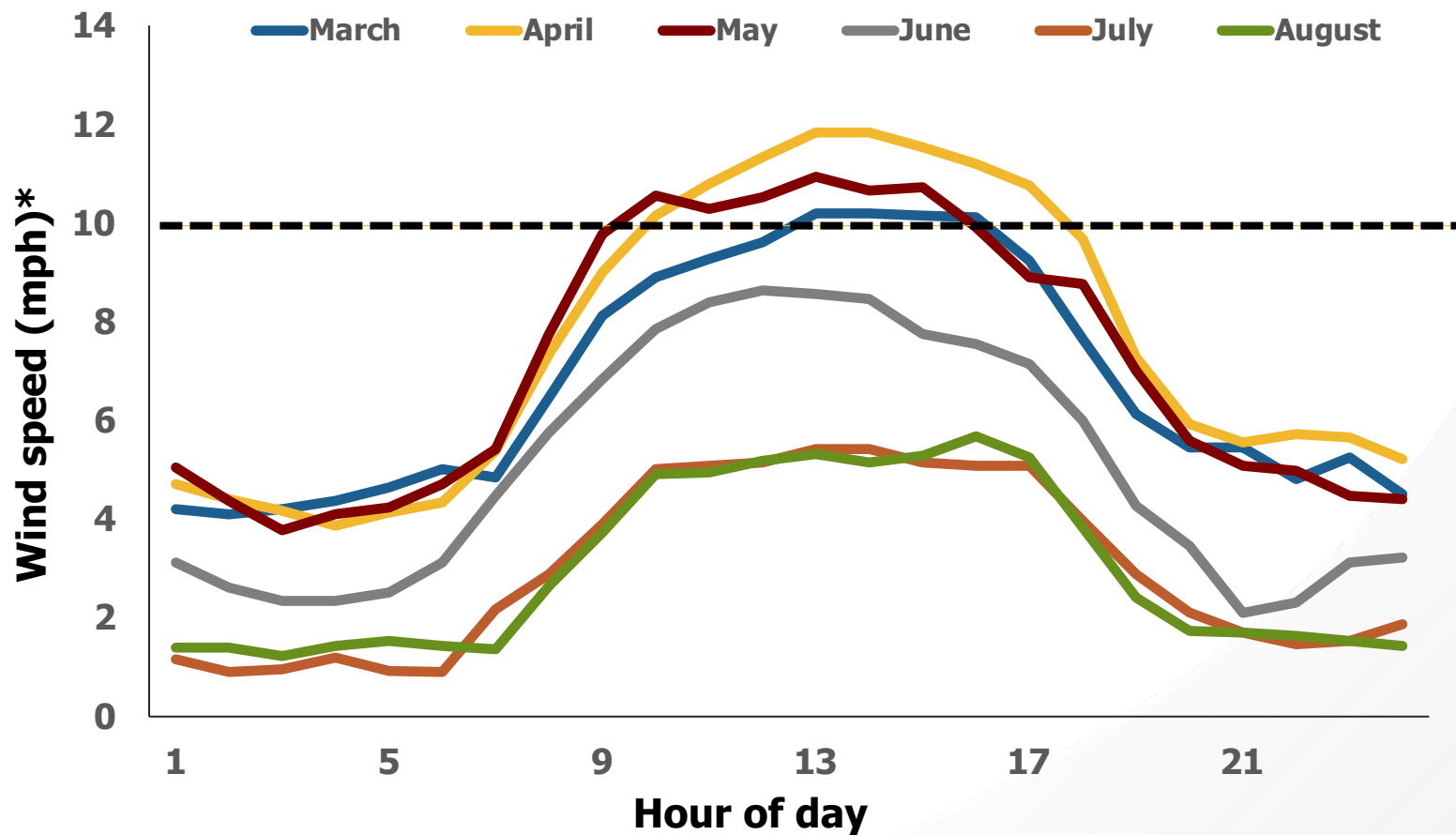
Sources of Physical Drift



Always read and follow the labeled wind-speed requirements!

Historical Wind Speeds

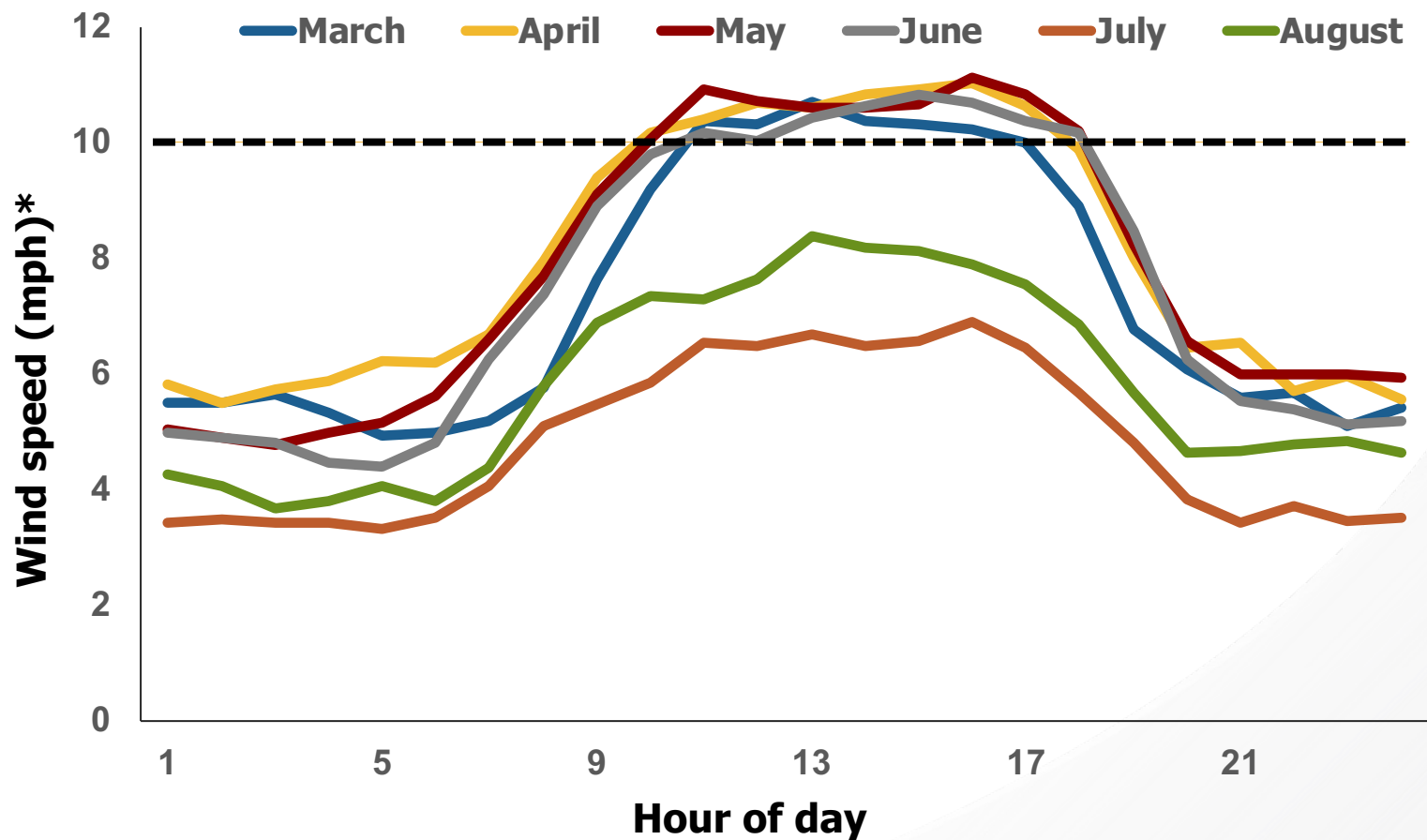
Example: Hourly Average Wind Speeds in Southeast Missouri by Month*



*Hourly wind-speed averaged from the years 2000 to 2015

Historical Wind Speeds

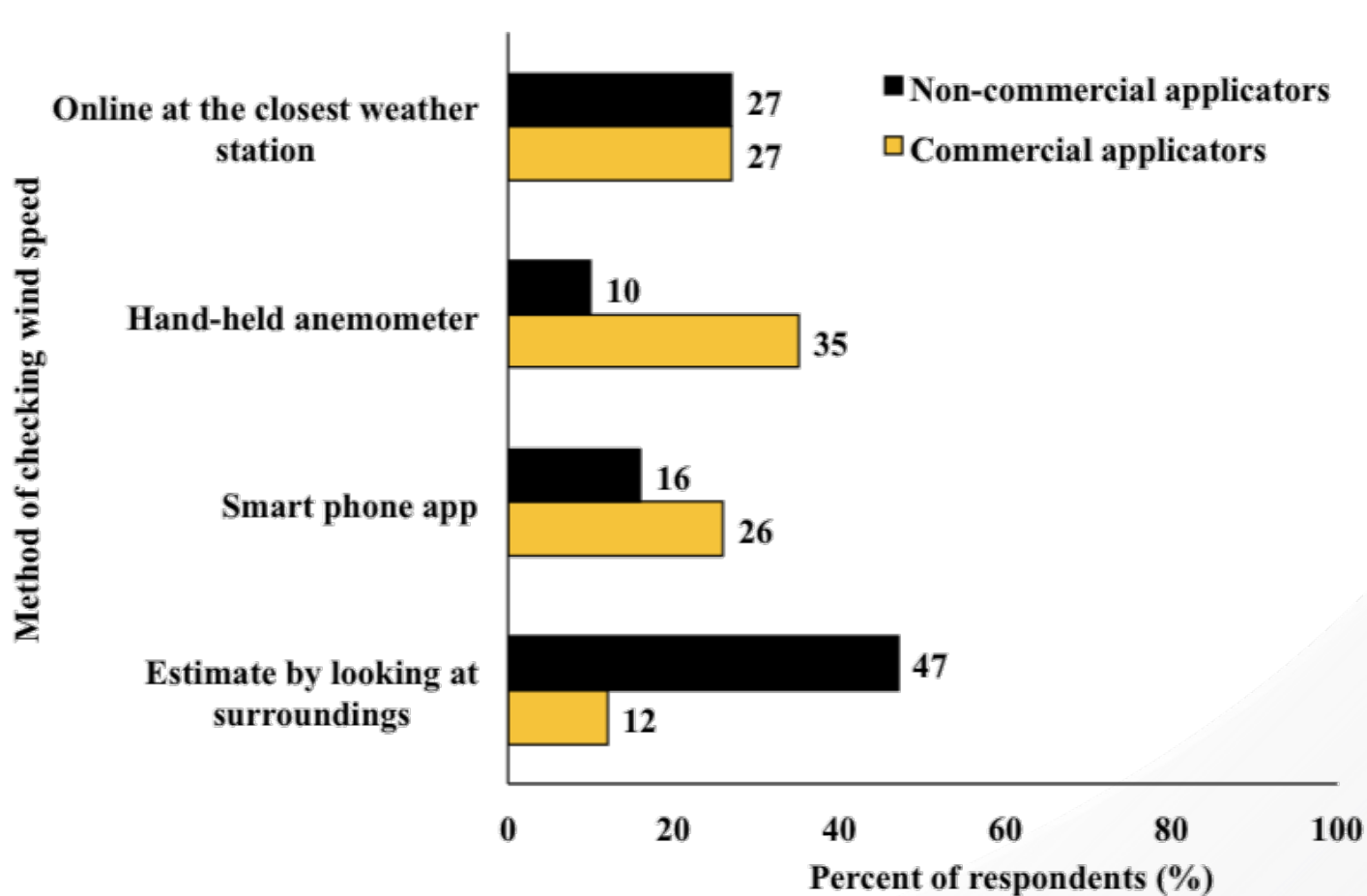
Example: Hourly Average Wind Speeds in Northwest Missouri by Month*



*Hourly wind-speed averaged from the years 2000 to 2015

How are you checking the wind speed?

Best Practice: Check Wind Speeds at the Site of Application



Nozzles and Droplet Size

Sources of Physical Drift



✓ Wind speed

Nozzle type

Droplet size

Sprayer speed

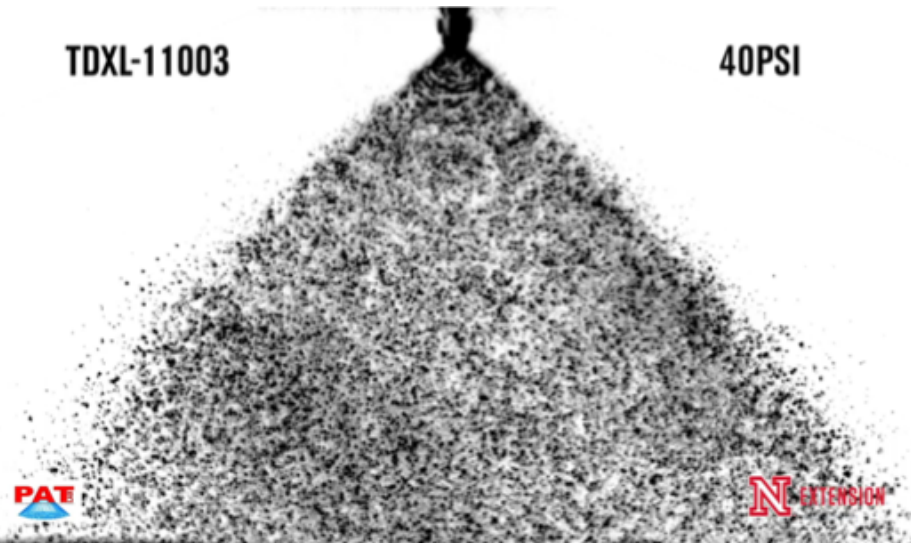
Boom height

Relationship of Nozzle Type and Droplet Size

Comparison of Two Different Nozzle Types

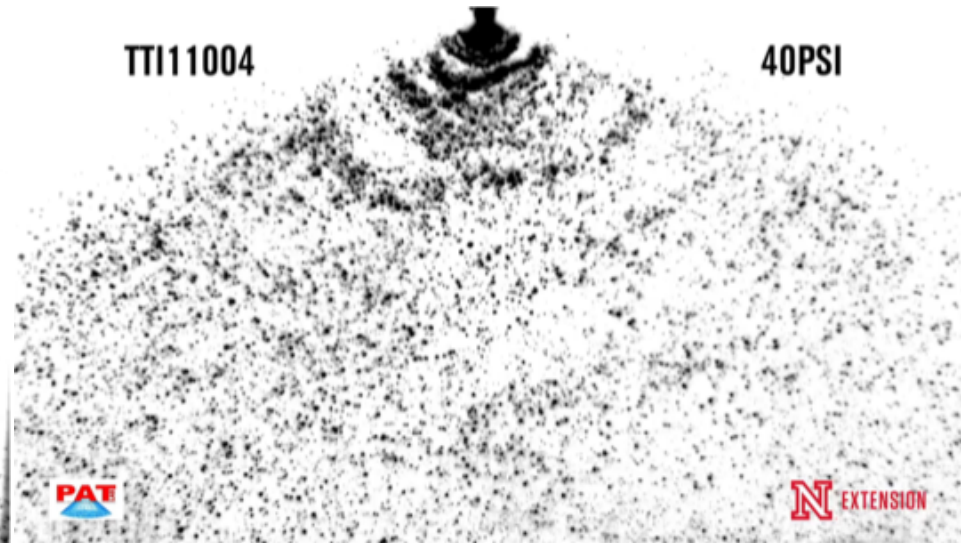
TDXL-11003

40PSI



TT111004

40PSI

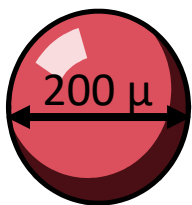
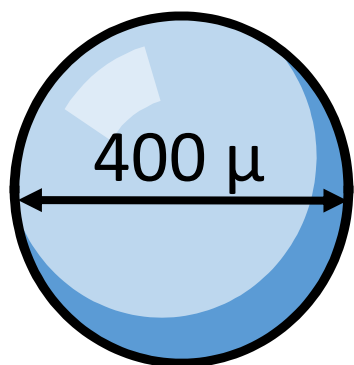


Extended Range Flat Fan Spray Tip

Turbo TeeJet Induction Nozzle

Droplet Sizes in Real World Terms

Comparison of Droplet Sizes with Familiar Objects



Pencil lead



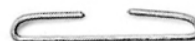
2000 μm

Paper clip



850 μm

Staple



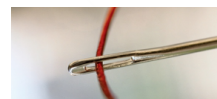
420 μm

Toothbrush bristle



300 μm

Sewing thread



150 μm

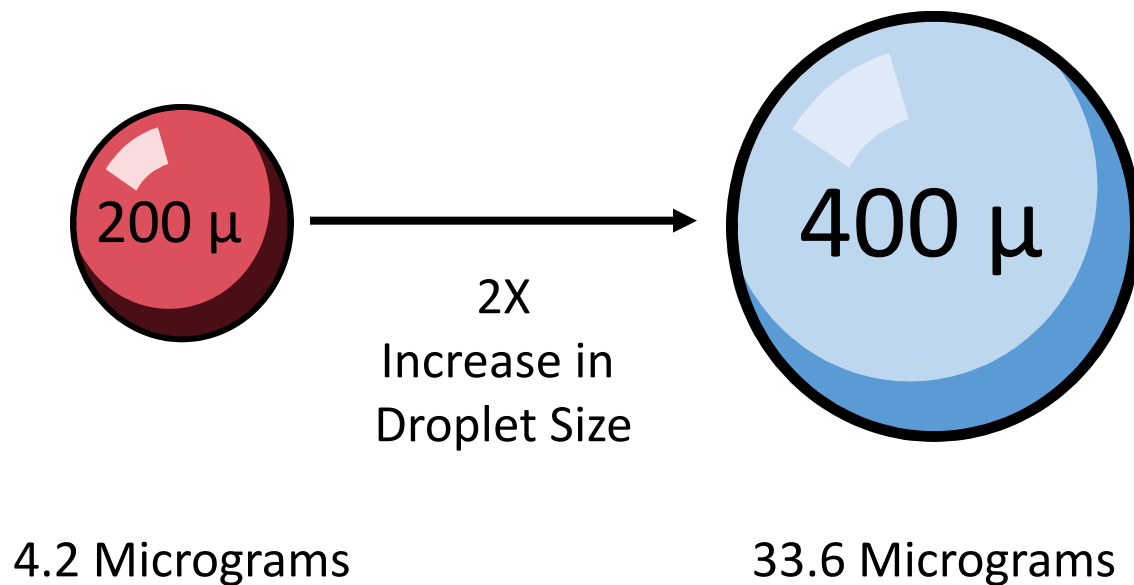
Human hair



100 μm

Droplet Size to Weight Relationship

Result of Doubling the Diameter of a Spray Drop



2X Increase in Diameter = 8X Increase in Weight!

How far will spray particles move?

Relationship of Droplet Size to Distance Traveled

Droplet Size	Diameter (in μm)	Time to fall 10 ft	Travel distance in 3 mph wind
Fog	5	66 min	15,840 ft
Very fine	20	4.2 min	1,100 ft
Fine	100	10 sec	44 ft
Medium	240	6 sec	28 ft
Coarse	400	2 sec	8.5 ft

Bottom line? Using nozzles that produce droplets smaller than the labeled requirements will likely cause significant problems with drift!

Sprayer Speed

Sources of Physical Drift



✓ Wind speed

✓ Nozzle type

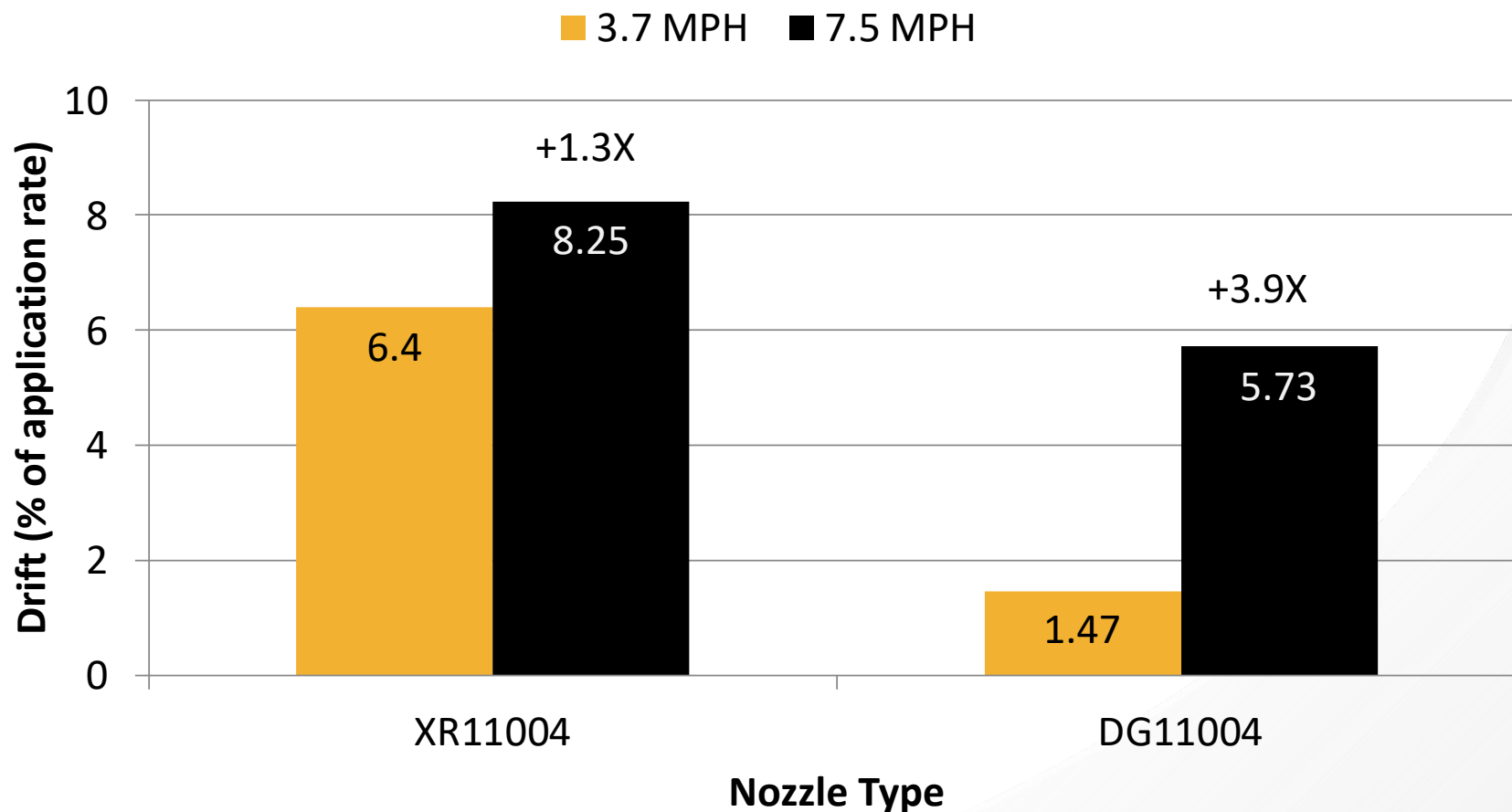
✓ Droplet size

Sprayer speed

Boom height

Influence of Sprayer Speed on Spray Drift Deposition*

Increasing Tractor Speed Can Increase Drift Potential



Boom Height

Sources of Physical Drift

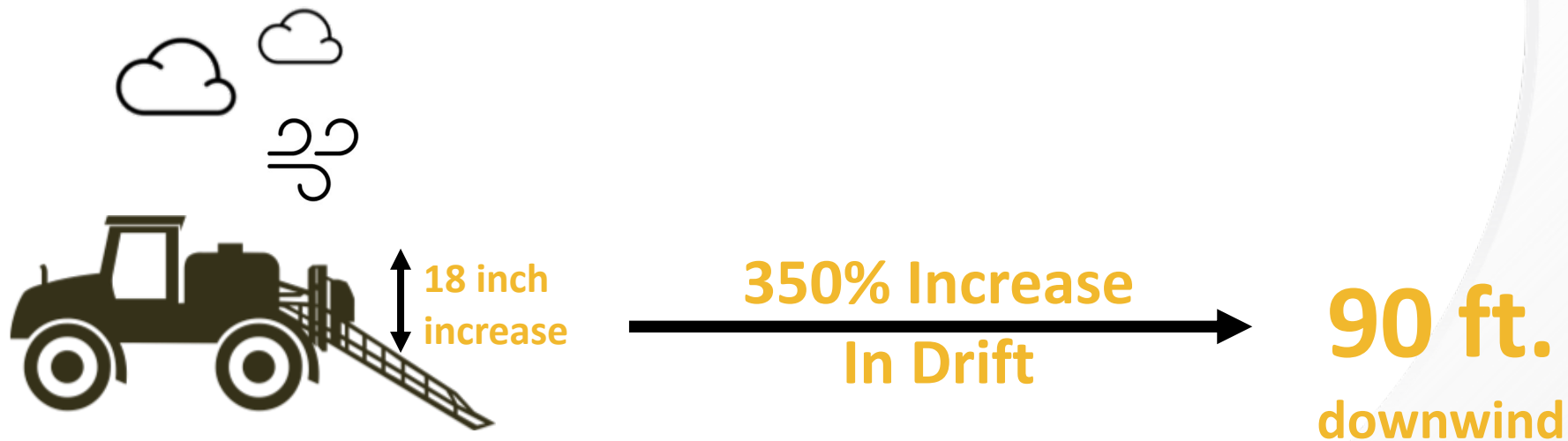


- ✓ Wind speed
- ✓ Nozzle type
- ✓ Droplet size
- ✓ Sprayer speed

Boom height

Boom Height

Increasing Boom Height Can Increase Drift Potential



Always read and follow the labeled boom height requirements!

Common Methods of Off-Target Movement

Physical Drift

Secondary Drift & Movement

Tank Contamination

Wind speed

Nozzle type

Droplet size

Sprayer speed

Boom height

**Herbicide
velocity**

Temperature

Dust

Water runoff

Tank type

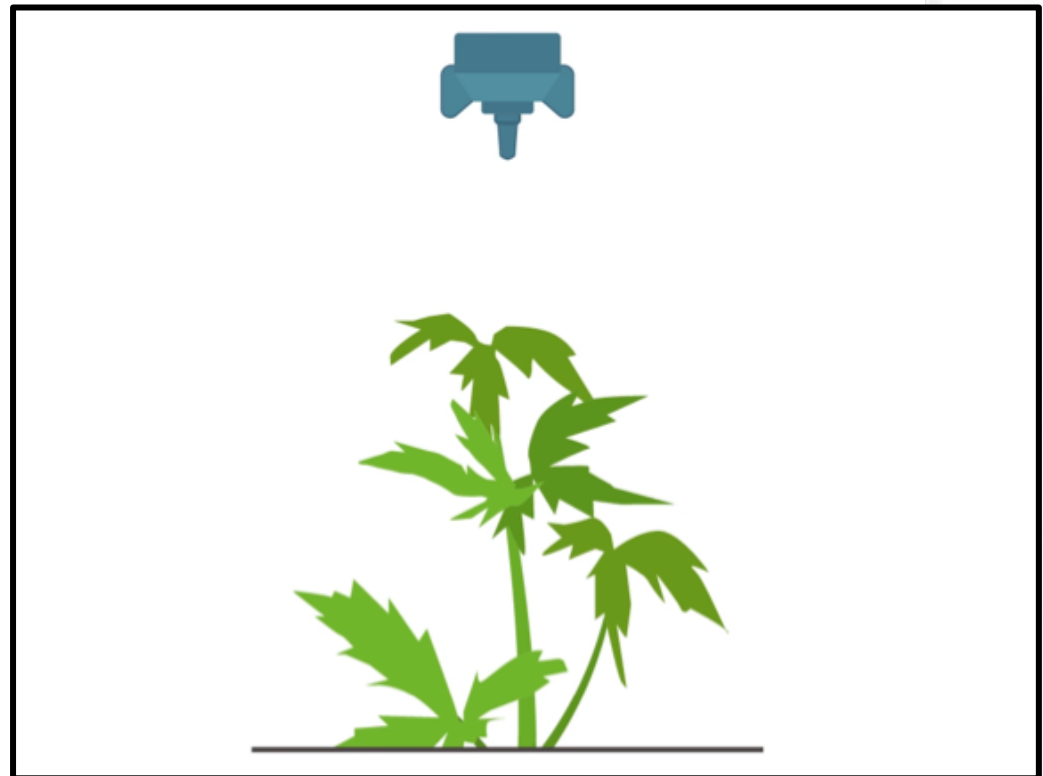
Hose type

Tank cleanout

Herbicide Volatility

Definition and How it Occurs

- ✦ Occurs when the herbicide lands on the intended target, but evaporates and moves off-target before absorption
- ✦ Injury due to volatility is less discernable than injury due to physical drift
- ✦ New formulations reduce, but do not eliminate, drift due to herbicide volatility



Factors that Influence Herbicide Volatility

2,4-D and dicamba volatility are influenced by:

Temperatures:

Higher temperatures generally leads to ↑ volatility

Humidity:

Lower humidity generally leads to ↑ volatility

Surface:

Volatility is generally greater from leaves vs. soil

Formulation (salt):

Acids are generally the most volatile; only use approved formulations

Carrier Volume (GPA):

Lower carrier volumes lead to ↑ volatility

Droplet Size:

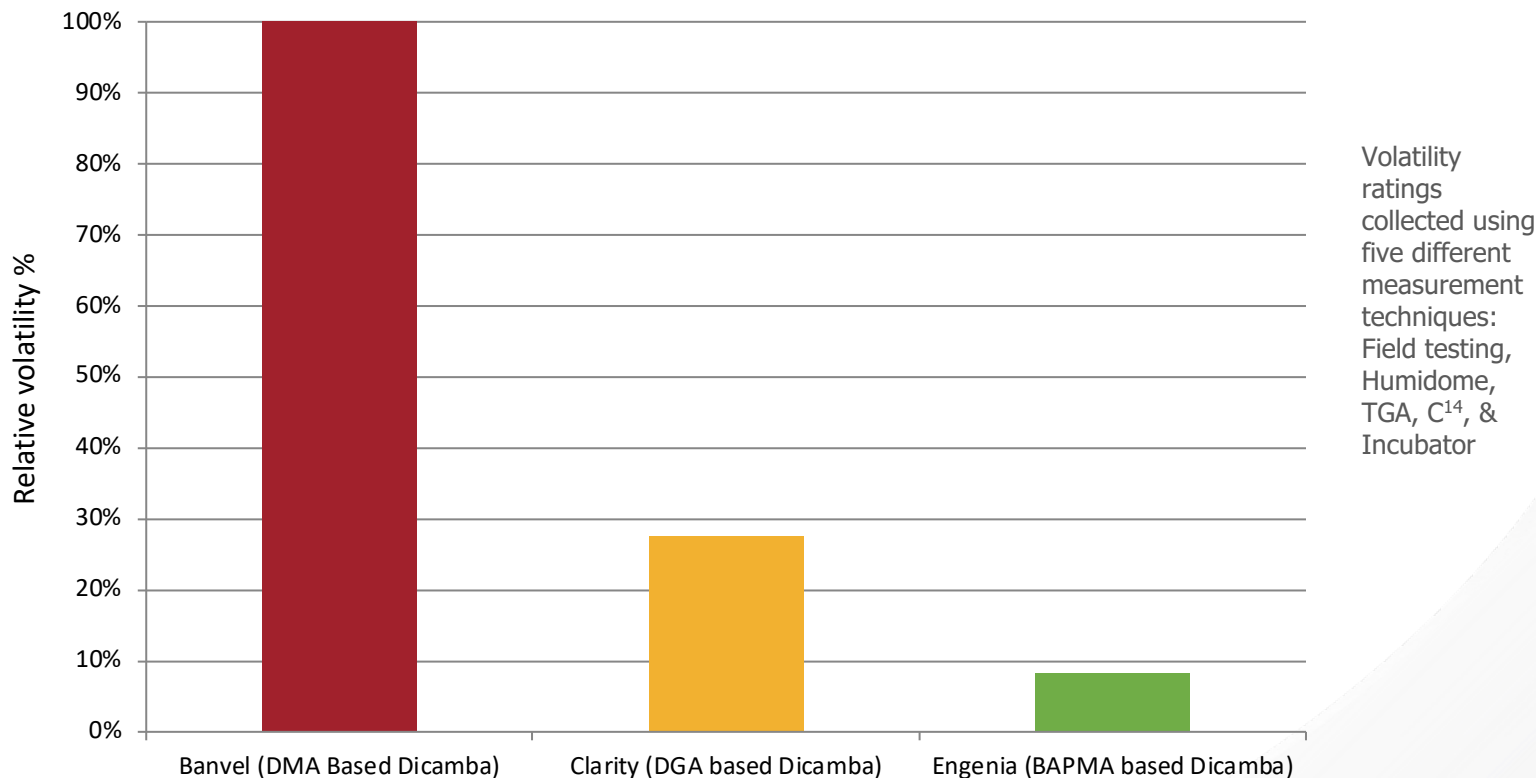
Fine droplets can result in ↑ volatility than coarse or ultra coarse droplets

Tank Mixes:

Other products can ↑ volatility of specific herbicides (e.g., AMS can increase the volatility of dicamba)

The Salt in the Formulation Matters

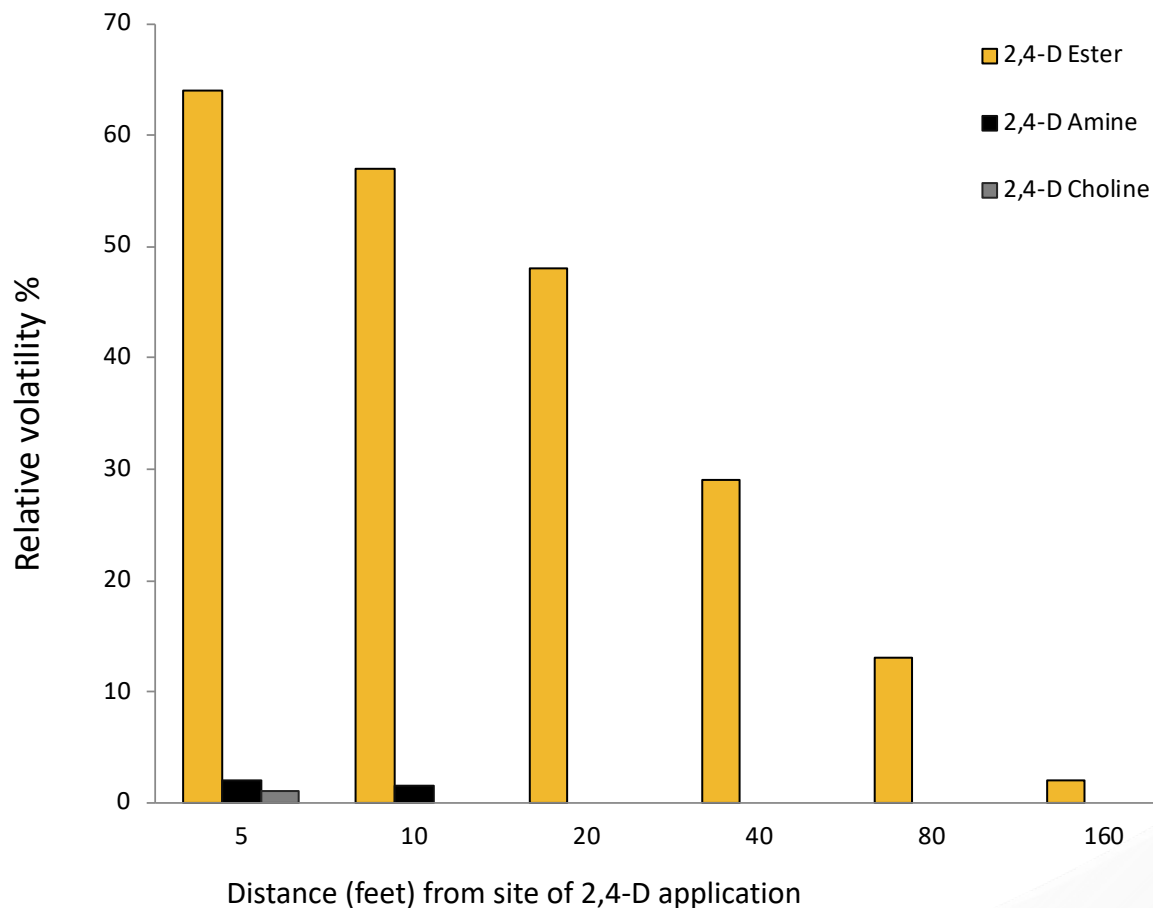
Example: Relative Volatility of Engenia



In trials, Engenia exhibited 70% lower volatility relative to DGA-based Dicamba.

The Salt in the Formulation Matters

Comparison of Three 2,4-D Formulations with Different Salts



Low Volatility \neq Zero Volatility

Soybean "Indicator Plant" Response following Application of Engenia and XtendiMax



Hours After Treatment: 0 0.5-2 2-8 8-16 16-24 24-72

**Photos taken 21 days after in-field application*

Temperature Inversions

Sources of Secondary Drift

- ✦ During an inversion, herbicide droplets may be trapped in air masses that settle-in above the Earth's surface
- ✦ If the air mass moves, the trapped herbicide droplets may land off-target when it dissipates

✓ **Herbicide Volatility**

Temperature

Dust

Water Runoff



Recognizing Temperature Inversions

Conditions, Indicators, and Duration

- + Usual conditions at onset:
 - Sunset
 - Clear to partly cloudy skies
 - Light winds
- + Often indicated by:
 - Ground fog
 - Smoke not rising
 - Dust hanging over road
 - Dew or frost
- + May continue until surface temperature and wind increase



Temperature Inversions in Missouri

Example: Frequency and Timing of Surface Inversions in Southeast Missouri

	Number of Inversions ^a		Typical Start Time	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
March	21	22	4:00-5:00 p.m.	5:00-6:00 p.m.
April	23	27	4:00-5:00 p.m.	5:00-6:00 p.m.
May	17	25	4:00-6:00 p.m.	6:00-7:00 p.m.
June	16	24	5:00-6:00 p.m.	6:00-7:00 p.m.
July	22	20	6:00-7:00 p.m.	7:00-8:00 p.m.

^aInversions were classified as air temp at 46 cm above surface < air temp at 168 cm < air temp at 305 cm; temperature differences had to occur for > 1 hour in duration and intensity had to be > 1.0°C between 305 and 46 cm air temperatures.

Temperature Inversions in Missouri

Example: Frequency and Timing of Surface Inversions in Northwest Missouri

	Number of Inversions ^a		Typical Start Time ^b	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
March	24	15	5:00 to 6:00 p.m.	5:00 to 6:00 p.m.
April	23	13	6:00 to 7:00 p.m.	6:00 to 7:00 p.m.
May	15	24	6:00 to 7:00 p.m.	6:00 to 7:00 p.m.
June	13	29	6:00 to 7:00 p.m.	6:00 to 7:00 p.m.
July	12	14	6:00 to 8:00 p.m.	7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

^aInversions were classified as air temp at 46 cm above surface < air temp at 168 cm < air temp at 305 cm; temperature differences had to occur for > 1 hour in duration and intensity had to be > 1.0°C between 305 and 46 cm air temperatures.

^bMode was used to determine typical start times

Detecting Surface Inversions

Using Smoke Grenades to Validate Inversion Conditions

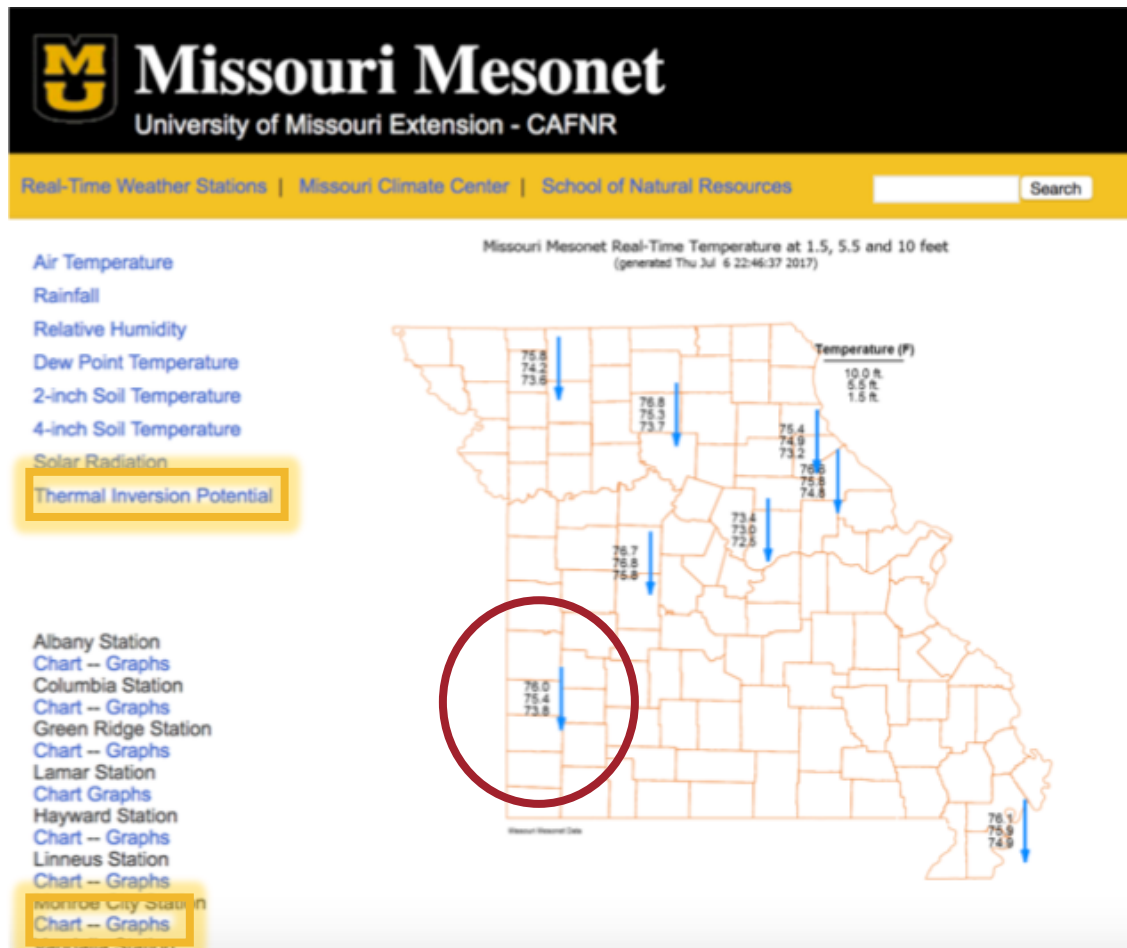
Released at 4:00 PM, No Inversion Present

Released at 7:30 PM, Inversion Present



Real Time Monitoring for Inversion-like Conditions

mesonet.missouri.edu



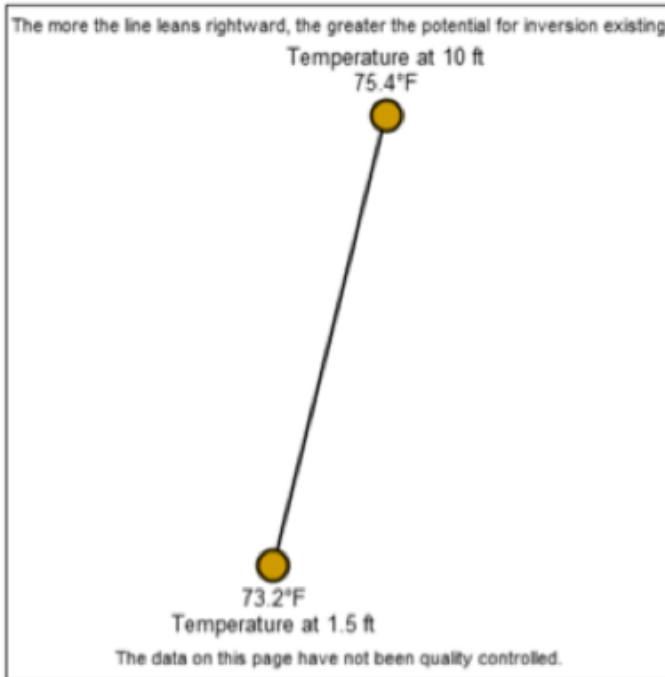
Real Time Monitoring for Inversion-like Conditions

mesonet.missouri.edu

Monroe City Airport, Monroe City, MO
Jul 6, 2017 10:40 pm CDT

Updated every 5 minutes

Local conditions will vary



Monroe City, Missouri



[Lat: 38.897236°](#), [Lon: -92.218070°](#)

Graph Description:

Little to No Inversion Potential:
line is vertical or slants leftward, i.e. | or \

Inversion Potential:
line slants rightward, i.e. /
(The more the line leans rightward,
the greater the potential for inversion existing)

American Meteorological Society definition of
[Temperature Inversion](#)

Dust and Water Movement

Sources of Secondary Drift

- ✦ Excessive dust can carry herbicide particles away from the intended target



✓ Herbicide Volatility

✓ Temperature

Dust

- ✦ Heavy rainfall events can cause movement due to runoff from nearby fields



Water Runoff

Common Methods of Off-Target Movement

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Secondary Drift & Movement

Tank Contamination

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Hose type

Tank cleanout

Spray Tank Contamination

Tank Contamination Can Lead to Crop Injury



Leaving as little as 8 fl oz of solution in a 1,200 gallon spray tank can result in **significant injury** to a subsequent sensitive soybean variety!

Spray Tank Cleanout Procedures

Improper Cleanout Procedures can Lead to Yield Loss

Comparison of Three Equipment Cleanout Procedures Following Dicamba Application



**Non-treated
control**

Yield: 48 Bu/A



**Single rinse
water**

37 Bu/A



Double Rinse 1st
rinse water; 2nd rinse
ammonia

44 Bu/A



Triple Rinse
1st rinse water; 2nd
rinse ammonia;
3rd rinse water

48 Bu/A

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**Herbicide
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Tank type

Hose type

Tank cleanout

Which of these do you need to be more mindful of during the upcoming application season?





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Acknowledgements

Module Authors

- + Dr. Kevin Bradley
- + Dr. Mandy Bish
- + Division of Plant Sciences
- + University of Missouri-Columbia



Other Contributors

- Dr. Stanley Culpepper, University of Georgia
- Dr. Greg Kruger, University of Nebraska
- Dr. Larry Steckel, University of Tennessee
- Missouri Department of Agriculture

+ Sources

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