



Weed control in sugarbeets has grown extremely difficult with the spread of glyphosate-resistant weeds.
Courtesy / Montana State University

TRUVERA TRIPLE-STACK TRAIT SUGARBEETS INCH CLOSER TO COMMERCIAL USE

BY JENNY SCHLECHT | AGWEEK

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. — KWS Seeds is confident that its Truvera Triple-Stack Trait sugarbeet platform will give growers another option in controlling weeds, but it will take some time to get it on the market.

Mark Schmidt, vice president of sales for KWS Seeds, spoke at the American Sugarbeet Growers Association annual meeting on Jan. 28, 2026, and explained progress on Truvera seeds, which have tolerance to glyphosate, glufosinate, and dicamba.

Schmidt walked the meeting through the steps the company and Bayer Crop Science have taken to get Truvera to this point, from the development and breeding process to working with researchers and regulators throughout the world.

While the company has gained cultivation approval from the USDA, FDA, and Canadian agencies, they still need to get approval from countries overseas to ensure that products grown in the U.S. will not be barred from export. Schmidt said they are making progress with other countries,

though the process could take through the 2027-28 growing season.

Another big hurdle will come from gaining herbicide registrations from the EPA, Schmidt said. Glyphosate and glufosinate can be used on emerged sugarbeets, but dicamba still needs to be registered for use in sugarbeets.

The day prior to Schmidt's speech, Charles "Billy" Smith, director of the registration division at the EPA Office of Pesticide Programs, told the ASGA the EPA is working "feverishly" on new labels for over-the-top application of dicamba on soybeans and cotton.

A Feb. 6, 2024, ruling by the United States District Court for the District of Arizona vacated the 2020 registrations for XtendiMax, Enginia, and Tavium herbicides. An existing stock order allowed product already purchased to be used in the 2024 growing season, but dicamba could not be used during the 2025 growing season.

In July 2025, the EPA announced a proposed registration decision on XtendiMax, Enginia, and Tavia after it had conducted a robust human health risk assessment for the three over-the-top dicamba products and had not identified human health or dietary risks of concern. The industry also proposed several measures to protect against ecological risks found in the EPA's assessment.

Smith said that while the process has a ways to go, he is hopeful a new label will be in place that will allow dicamba to be used in some growing regions in 2026. Smith also said there is no application with the EPA yet to allow for over-the-top use of dicamba in sugarbeets. He anticipated that



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