

To view the image attribute file of the downloaded CDL data in GeoTIFF format in ArgGIS software, the user has to load a **.tif.vat.dbf** created by ArcGIS. The **.tif.vat.dbf** file has to have the same file name as the CDL data file. There are two **.tif.vat.dbf** files included in the downloaded package. The default **.tif.vat.dbf** file, which has the same file name as the CDL file, is compatible with the ArcGIS 10.3.1 as shown in the following example:

CDL\_2019\_clip\_20200203101819\_718535908.tif  
CDL\_2019\_clip\_20200203101819\_718535908.tif.vat.dbf

Please notice that all three file extension tags **.tif.vat.dbf** are required.

The ArcGIS 10.3.1 (including earlier version) and ArcGIS 10.7.0 use different scales for RGB values. The ArcGIS **10.3.1** outputs RGB values ranging from **0 – 1** (same as the Erdas Imagine values), while ArcGIS **10.7.0** has RGB values ranging from **0 – 255**.

All CDLs from previous years (up to 2018) have **.vat.dbf** files with RGB values ranging from 0 – 1. Therefore, they are compatible with the **.tif.vat.dbf** file of the ArcGIS 10.3.1 version. Starting from 2019 CDLs, the **.tif.vat.dbf** file of ArcGIS 10.7.0 are included in the downloading package to make it compatible with ArcGIS 10.7.0. Users have to rename the included file “ArcGIS10.7.0\_2019\_30m\_cdls.tif.vat.dbf” to the same name as the CDL file’s like the following:

CDL\_2019\_clip\_20200203101819\_718535908.tif.vat.dbf

If you want to view the image attribute in the ArcGIS 10.7.0. The renamed **.tif.vat.dbf** file has to be loaded into ArcGIS 10.7.0. along with the CDL file.

NASS maintains an extensive Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) webpage, including how to properly attribute the CDL in ESRI ArcGIS and Erdas Imagine, at the following webpage:

[https://www.nass.usda.gov/Research\\_and\\_Science/Cropland/sarsfaqs2.php#Section2\\_1.0](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Research_and_Science/Cropland/sarsfaqs2.php#Section2_1.0).