We claim:

1. A polymer made by a process which comprises:

(a) reacting a di- or polyfunctional glycidyl intermediate with at least one molar equivalent per glycidyl equivalent of an aralkylated phenol to give a hydroxy-functional hydrophobe; and

(b) reacting the hydroxy-functional hydrophobe with from 1 to 100 recurring units per hydroxyl equivalent of the hydrophobe of one or more alkylene oxides (AO) selected from the group consisting of ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, butylene oxides, and combinations thereof to give the polymer;

wherein the polymer comprises 10 to 90 wt.% of aralkylated phenol units based on the combined amounts of aralkylated phenol units and AO recurring units; and

wherein the polymer has a number-average molecular weight within the range of 1,800 to 30,000 g/mol.

2. The polymer of claim **1** wherein the glycidyl intermediate is made by reacting a di- or polyfunctional nucleophilic initiator selected from the group consisting of phenols, alcohols, amines, thiols, thiophenols, sulfinic acids, and deprotonated species thereof with epichlorohydrin or its synthetic equivalent.

3. The polymer of claim **1** further comprising a capping group selected from the group consisting of ethers, esters, carbonates, carbamates, carbamimidic esters, borates, sulfates, phosphates, phosphatidylcholines, ether acids, ester alcohols, ester acids, ether diacids, ether amines, ether ammoniums, ether amides, ether sulfonates, ether betaines, ether sulfobetaines, ether phosphonates, phospholanes, and phospholane oxides.

4. The polymer of claim **2** wherein the di- or polyfunctional nucleophilic initiator has an average functionality within the range of 2 to 6.

5. The polymer of claim **1** comprising 5 to 80 recurring units of ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, or combinations thereof per hydroxyl equivalent of the hydrophobe.

6. The polymer of claim **2** wherein the di- or polyfunctional nucleophilic initiator is an alcohol or a phenol.

7. The polymer of claim **2** wherein the di- or polyfunctional nucleophilic initiator is an amine and one or more nitrogen atoms of the polymer are optionally oxidized to introduce an amine oxide functionality or optionally alkylated to quaternize the amine.

8. The polymer of claim **2** wherein the di- or polyfunctional nucleophilic initiator is a thiol or a thiophenol, and one or more sulfur atoms of the polymer are optionally oxidized to introduce a sulfoxide functionality, a sulfone functionality, or both.

9. The polymer of claim **2** wherein the di- or polyfunctional nucleophilic initiator is a mixed nucleophile.

10. The polymer of claim **1** further comprising recurring units of another monomer selected from the group consisting of thiiranes, glycidyl ethers, and other epoxides.

11. The polymer of claim **1** further comprising recurring units of a functionalized glycidyl ether.

12. The polymer of claim **1** comprising 15 to 35 wt.% of aralkylated phenol units based on the combined amounts of aralkylated phenol and AO recurring units.

13. The polymer of claim **1** having a number-average molecular weight within the range of 2,400 to 20,000 g/mol.

14. The polymer of claim **1** wherein one or more aromatic rings of the polymer are sulfonated.

15. A dispersant composition comprising a carrier and the polymer of claim **1**.

16. The dispersant composition of claim **15** wherein the carrier is water.

17. The dispersant composition of claim **16** further comprising a pH adjusting agent.

18. The dispersant composition of claim **15** comprising 0.5 to 90 wt.% of the polymer.

19. A dispersion comprising a solid, water, a pH adjusting agent, and the polymer of claim **1**.

20. The dispersion of claim **19** wherein the solid is a pigment.

21. The dispersion of claim **20** wherein the pigment is an organic pigment selected from the group consisting of monoazos, diazos, anthraquinones, anthrapyrimidines, quinacridones, quinophthalones, dioxazines, flavanthrones, indanthrones, isoindolines, isoindolinones, metal complexes, perinones, perylenes, phthalocyanines, pyranthrones,

thioindigos, triphenylmethanes, anilines, benzimidazolones, diketopyrrolopyrroles, diarylides, naphthols, and aldazines.

22. The dispersion of claim **20** wherein the pigment is an inorganic pigment selected from the group consisting of white pigments, black pigments, chromatic pigments, and luster pigments.

23. The dispersion of claim **20** having a pH within the range of 8 to 10 and a viscosity at 10 s^{-1} and 25°C less than 3000 cP.

24. The dispersion of claim **20** having an average particle size within the range of 100 to 1000 nm.

25. The dispersion of claim **20** wherein the pigment is a monoazo yellow, a quinacridone violet, a phthalocyanine blue, or a carbon black.

26. A wettable polymer composition comprising at least one agricultural active, an anionic surfactant, and the polymer of claim **1**.

27. The composition of claim **26** comprising 80 to 95 wt.% of the agricultural active, 0.1 to 5 wt.% of the anionic surfactant, and 1 to 20 wt.% of the polymer.

28. A suspension concentrate comprising at least one agricultural active, a carrier, and the polymer of claim **1**.

29. The suspension concentrate of claim **28** wherein the carrier is water and the concentrate comprises 20 to 60 wt.% of the agricultural active, 25 to 75 wt.% of water, and 0.5 to 3.5 wt.% of the polymer.

30. A water-dispersible granule or a seed coating comprising an agricultural active and the polymer of claim **1**.

31. A method which comprises stabilizing flow properties of an emulsion latex polymer against temperature-induced changes in the properties that occur within the range of -20°C to 50°C by combining the emulsion latex polymer with an effective amount of the dispersant composition of claim **16**.

32. The method of claim **31** wherein the dispersant composition comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of bisphenol A-DGE TSP(2)-EO(30), bisphenol A-DGE TSP(2)-EO(40), bisphenol A-DGE TSP(2)-EO(30) sulfate, resorcinol-DGE TSP(2)-EO(30), resorcinol-DGE TSP(2)-EO(40), resorcinol-DGE TSP(2)-EO(50), 1,4-butanediol-DGE TSP(2)-EO(40), and 1,4-butanediol-DGE TSP(2)-EO(80).

33. A method of enhancing the hydrophobic character of an alkyd coating, comprising combining an alkyd resin with an effective amount of the dispersant composition of claim **15**.

34. The method of claim **33** wherein the alkyd resin comprises a reaction product of glycerol, soybean oil, and isophthalic acid, and the dispersant composition comprises resorcinol-DGE TSP(2)-EO(60).