



NORTH DAKOTA WEED CONTROL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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June, 2018

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- Gov.: David Hirsch (701)527-7820
- Past Pres: Kevin Schmidt (701)663-2024
- Ex. Sec. Merlin Leithold (c) (701)527-6544
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Upcoming Meetings

June BOD Meeting - June 26th, Ramada Inn, Bismarck - 10:00 am.

Annual Meeting and Commissioner Forum
January 7-10, 2019 Ramada Inn, Bismarck

****NEWSLETTER****

Members, Pat yourselves on your back!!

You, our members have done your job in reducing our costs for the paper edition of the newsletter. The board understands that some of our members cannot receive the newsletter by e mail, or prefer the paper edition. But we want to continue to reduce the paper copies, so keep sending in your e mails for the electronic version of the newsletter.

Also, as weed boards get new members, please let us know, so we can update our list. We find where former members continue to receive the newsletter, and new members do not. Unless we are notified, we have no idea the comings and goings of board members.

Presidents Message

The 2018 spray season is well underway! I hope counties throughout the state have begun their own war on Noxious Weeds. With the recent rain showers we've had in Billings County the Leafy Spurge is in full bloom. We have been working on training our new sprayers for the summer and have already had several nice spray days. Tomorrow we look forward to attending the Dickinson Spray School, hosted by Stark County.

I would like to encourage landowners, renters, weed boards, and members of the public to be watching for new weed species this year. With the severe drought we experienced in 2017 a lot of people were forced to buy hay from several different areas for their livestock. I would encourage landowners to monitor their feeding ground throughout the summer. If you find any noxious or invasive weeds and need advice or assistance controlling them, please contact your local weed board. If you find a plant you are unfamiliar with or need help identifying, contact your local NDSU Extension or your local weed board.

With June just around the corner I would like to remind everyone to be in contact with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture regarding upcoming flea beetle collections. Billings County will have four collection dates this summer which will be open to the public. With the extremely hot summer we had last year the flea beetle season came early. The beetles sure do well when it's hot. I can't say the same for the collectors, but none the less it sounded like everyone's collections went well and they had good turnouts. Hopefully 2018 will be the same if not better.

I've received several calls from landowners who have begun to spray or have questions regarding spraying. This always makes me happy because the more public involvement we can get the better control we will have over noxious weeds in the future. It's always great to see landowners who help their neighbors or make them aware of infestations they might not know they have. Please do your part this summer at being a good neighbor and try and help those around you that might not have the knowledge or the experience you have at controlling noxious and troublesome weeds.

Thank you to everyone involved in weed control throughout North Dakota. Without all of you our native prairies wouldn't be as beautiful as they are. Keep up the good work, and I wish everyone a successful spray season.

Katie Clyde, 2018 NDWCA President

Education Committee Report

by Derrill Fick, committee chair

I want to thank everyone who attended the 2018 Sprayer Schools this year. They were held at the following locations: May 29th at the Carrington Research Center, May 30th in Minot at the North Central Research Center and May 31st in Dickinson at the Stark County Weed Control Office. We had a total of 144 attendees. This is a great turn out but we have room for more. We added something new to the training this year. It was a portion on Basic First Aid. Since we are working out in the middle of nowhere by ourselves or with one or two other workers we should know what to do incase an injury occurs while we are working. At each school we heard from the ND Dept. of Agriculture Plant Industries division updates on noxious weeds from the new noxious weed coordinator Richard Weisz. The Pesticide and Fertilizer Division had their Agriculture Program Inspectors give updates and hands on examples of how to use the proper personal protective equipment and what is needed during a use inspection. There was a Right-of-Way recertification training administered by the Pesticide Training Program of NDSU and a weed ID portion put on by the NDSU Research Centers The final item at the school was the sprayer equipment calibration session provided by Bill Walker of Crop Production Services. We need to thank each presenter for their presentations and a special thank you to Karissa Floerchinger of DOW AgroSciences, Scott Ohnoutka of Bayer Crop Science and Bill Walker of Crop Production Services for their support and sponsoring of the meals.

We had a booth at the earth day festival in Bismarck on April 19th. This is very well attended by grade school students so we are able to interact with the younger students and supply them with information about noxious and invasive weeds. Anna Mata was awarded a plaque and tee shirt for her winning poster that we had judged at our annual meeting in January. Anna is in the 5th grade at South Prairie Elementary School in Minot, ND. All of the remaining students also received a tee shirt with the plaque printed on it. Thank you to Stan Wolf for doing a presentation for the students. Attached is a write-up in the Minot Daily News about Anna and the reason the why the NDWCA does the contest.



Website

We met with Mike from Up and Running the gentleman who came and talked with the board last year about the website. He feels we could get a basic website within our budget that the association has set. I have also drafted a letter that has been sent out to various businesses across the state to help raise additional funds. We are asking a onetime fee of \$250 to be on the website and \$25 every year after the first for maintenance and changing of their information etc.

We are now gathering and organizing the required information that we will need to give Up and Running to make the process much easier once we give them the ok to start building the site. This will cut costs by having us gather and organize the information for them.

Social media is still in the works once we know when the website will be live we will construct a page for the association. We are also working on a plan to get all the board members involved with keeping the website fresh and have different content to look at. It will be a total association effort to keep the website with new content. And this way when people come and go from the board if each position has a duty there will always be someone to fill in

LAP Meeting

We (Derrill, Katie, Ron, and myself) met with Doug and Tom along with Chelsey and Richard about the reallocation of remaining LAP funds. We had a good discussion of how it was done in the past and the process that took place to get it done. Richard and Chelsey had print outs of every county on what they used for LAP and what they didn't and how much was revoked the year it was reallocated.

Doug said he would reallocate the funds that counties do not use the same way it was done in the past. This is a lot more leg work for the Dept. of Ag but the counties who use all of theirs will benefit if there is any left over.

Palmer Meeting

Katie and I were invited to attend a meeting at the capitol about the discussion of palmer amaranth. Invited to the discussion are representatives of State Seed, ND Soybean Growers, ND Corn Growers, and ND Association of Soil Conservation Districts.

There was a lot of good discussion in that meeting from all different types of industries. One of the biggest problems we face is the growing online market for cheaper seed. There is virtually no way to regulate those types of seeds coming in to our state.

Everyone was in agreeance that this weed will be devastating to our agriculture economy if and when it gets here. It was beneficial for us to attend we gave them a more local perspective of things being we both are county weed officers. A decision was not made that day if it will be a new noxious weed or not but I feel we all left with better sense of how each different groups feels and how they will handle it.

(The above minutes were submitted by Jamen Windish, NDWCA 1st Vice President)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!

Area Meetings for 2018 Schedule
October 22nd—Valley City
October 23rd—Devils Lake
October 24th—Minot
October 25th—Mandan
October 26th—Amidon

ND Department of Ag. Report

Biography:

Richard Weisz started as the noxious weeds specialist at the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) in May of this year. He worked previously as a policy analyst and research technician at NDDA for 3 1/2 years. Before starting at the department, he was an agronomist at both Missouri Valley Ag in Hazelton, ND and Hefty Seed Company in Wilton, ND. Richard is originally from Bismarck and graduated from North Dakota State University with a bachelor's degree in crop and weed science.

Richard works with city and county weed boards on LAP, TAG, and USFS grant funding. He also works with compliance and enforcement of the noxious weed act, conducts complaint or quarantine inspections, and maintains the state noxious weed list. He conducts and promotes integrated pest management through the use of biological control agents; and conducts education and provides technical assistance for the proper identification, prevention, detection, and control of noxious weeds.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Richard at (701) 328-2250 or raweisz@nd.gov.

LAP/TAG Deadlines:

Remember that vouchers for reimbursement are due July 9 for any spending that occurred between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018. Please call or email with any questions!

EDRR:

Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) of noxious and invasive weeds focuses on control of small populations of weeds before they have a chance to establish or spread. Invasive weeds typically go unnoticed until they become a major problem. EDRR consists of:

- Educating about invasive weeds
- Preventing invasive weeds
- Scouting for new or small infestations
- Reporting and getting confirmation
- Planning a course of action
- Rapidly responding

Houndstongue: (Pursuit of placing on the ND Noxious Weeds List)

The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) has consulted with NDSU Extension and reviewed the reported acres of Houndstongue within the state. NDDA will be seeking to change administrative rules to include Houndstongue as a state noxious weed.

Palmer amaranth:

The NDDA is advising landowners to be aware of and learn to identify Palmer amaranth because of the potential devastating impact it could have on North Dakota agriculture. Here are the reasons why:

- Palmer amaranth can grow 2 to 3 inches per day in optimum conditions
- Palmer amaranth can grow 6 to 8 feet tall
- Has reduced yield up to 91% in corn & 79% in soybean
- Seed production is anywhere from 100,000 to 1 million seeds per plant
- You will find it emerging throughout the growing season
- Palmer amaranth is very prone to herbicide resistance (multiple modes of action)

“Please continue to monitor leafy spurge infestations for the emergence of the leafy spurge flea beetle bio-agents. As with all bio-agents, we encounter a time sensitive issue with the leafy spurge flea beetles. On average, there is about a 2 week window from emergence to egg laying during which these bio-agents can be redistributed (mid-June to early-July).”

NDDA is available to assist counties in hosting public field collection days. Please contact Chelsey Penuel at 701-226-4321 or cpenuel@nd.gov when you see the flea beetles emerging and feeding on leafy spurge plants. We have nets, bug sorters, sweepers, and information to pass along to the public on how to start an insectary, monitoring, collecting, and redistribution of these leafy spurge bio-agents. Again, the goal of biological control is to reduce unwanted infestations to a manageable level.”

So far, planned field day events include:

Billings County: June 19th, 21st, 27th and 28th. Check out the newsletter for more details on locations and times - <http://www.bcwcb.com/upload/2018%20Newsletter%20PDF%20FINAL.pdf>

Stutsman County: 28th, starting at the Weed Board shop, time to be announced

Retail Items for sale

Your association continues to sell caps, padfolios, mugs, and other items. We also have a few vests and jackets left. Contact Stan Wolf, Cass County Weed Officer @ 701-730-6786. (We can ship)

Lobbyist Wanted

The NDWCA is looking for a lobbyist for the 2019 legislative session and beyond. See Merlin's column on back for more info.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S CORNER

By the time you receive this newsletter, you should have controlled some weeds. A cool spring, followed by some hot days, have really pushed the noxious weeds. As you may have seen under the NDDA report, some bio field days are already being scheduled. If you need help with setting up one, or extra help that day, feel free to contact David Hirsch with APHIS. They will be more than willing to assist you.

As you may have seen on the previous page, the board of directors is actively seeking a lobbyist for the 2019 session and hopefully beyond. I have been honored to be that person since the 1997 session. I actually testified a couple of times during the 1995 session. That's 12 sessions of legislative work. I told the board at the March meeting, that it is time to train in someone new. I am not getting any younger, and I really want the trust we have with the legislature to continue. I am willing to train in the new person, or also am willing to step aside completely on the lobbyist position, whatever is best for the association. Below is a description of a weed association lobbyist.

- Monitor bills pertaining to weed control. This also can be tax bills, century code changes, ag bills, etc.
- Testify for the Ag Department budget. Sometimes working with legislators one on one can be more effective with the budget.
- Attend NDWCA board meetings. The lobbyist is a non voting member of the board. This gives you a finger on the pulse of the assoc.
- Work with the NDDA. Their knowledge on the current daily news of the legislature during the session is enormous.
- Find legislators to sponsor bills for the NDWCA, and also line up those to testify, for or against a bill, if necessary.
- Talk to legislators, to let them know who you are and represent, and to show them that you are there, interested in their work as well.
- Work with other groups when needed. Sometimes you may have to stand against them on a certain bill, but never hold a grudge to them, as it is their job as well. Leave it up to the legislators to decide a bill, just nudge them along if needed.
- Write testimony on a bill, when needed. Work with the current legislative committee of the NDWCA.
- Give quarterly reports the board, and an annual report at the NDWCA annual business meeting

If you are interested, feel free to contact Merlin or Katie for more information. Also, you would need to attend the June board meeting.

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PLACE
STAMP
HERE