

(To be approved)

NDWCA 36th ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
January 7th, 2020 - 3:30 pm
Ramada Inn, Bismarck, ND

The NDWCA Annual Business Meeting was called to order by 2019 President Jamen Windish at 3:45 pm

Roll of voting members: Jamen called the roll of voting members. 27 counties and 2 industry members present, for a total of 49 in attendance.

Additional agenda items: none

Minutes:

The 2019 minutes were reviewed. Katie Dillman, Billings County moved to approve the minutes as presented. Joan Lorge, Slope County, seconded the motion. **M/C**

Presidents Report

President Windish thanked everyone for coming. Being this is his last meeting as President, three years have gone by pretty fast. A lot was accomplished. As far as a weed officer side, 2019 was a terrible year for nearly everyone. You are all a major player in weed control in our state. Without your efforts we wouldn't be where we are at today. I want to thank you for that. Thank you.

Financial Report

Merlin presented the financial report. He highlighted various line items. Financially, we have grown again this year.

Audit Report

Stan Wolf gave the Audit Committee report. Cody Schnabel and Travis Jepson were also on the committee. Stan stated that the books are in order and accurate. Joan Lorge moved to accept the auditor's report and approve the financial report. Steve Ginsbach, Richland County seconded the motion. **M/C**

Budget

Merlin presented the budget for 2020. Kevin Schmidt, Morton County moved to accept the budget as presented. Katie Dillman seconded the motion. **M/C**

Education Report

Derrill Fick, chairman, gave the education report. This past year, we did the poster contest. The winner was South Prairie School near Minot. We presented the plaque to the winner, and t shirts. We did not have any qualifying t shirts this year. We had a booth in Bismarck for Earth day. Handed out weed ID booklets, had folks walking around in the weed costumes. Held sprayer schools in May at Carrington, Minot and Dickinson Bill Walker with Nutrien gives sprayer calibrations, NDDA gives updates, and NDSU does right of way training. Thank you to Nutrien, Corteva and Bayer for sponsoring the schools. We do have retail items for sale at the registration table.

Legislative Report

Merlin gave the lobbyist report. Leon Pederson was our main lobbyist this past year. He attended the Ag. Department's budget and the hearing on the gravel bill. The department's budget was passed through the legislature, pretty much untouched as far as our portion for LAP & TAG. I led the testimony for the gravel bill. Had no opposition in either the House or the Senate. We had an emergency clause on the bill that put it into law as soon as the Governor signed it. Thanks to Derrill for testifying at both hearings. Thanks to Stan Wolf for getting a gravel contractor and his county highway department for submitting testimony on behalf of the bill.

Industry Report

Presented by Bill Walker, NDWCA Industry Director.

The industry has had a few things happen since the fall area meetings, again, most all pricing programs and price increase notices have come out by now and are in effect.

I will just take it by the companies as to what is going on.

Bayer – Final label approval for their new bareground combination product has been approved – Plainview Herbicide – this will be a pre-mix of Method, Esplanade and Arsenal herbicides for bareground applications, should be a good pre-mix to help in bareground around guardrails, road shoulders, parking lots and others but watch applications close to sensitive trees and shrubs, application rates are from 2 to 4 pints per acre rates with most using 3 pints per acre, cost is approximately \$248.32 per gallon.

Bayer is still working on getting **Invora Herbicide** approval from EPA, Invora would be a pre-mix of Method and Triclopyr (Garlon), they are really targeting this one for the southern states that have range and pasture brush problems (Mesquite) but are looking at very selective states in the north as well for noxious weeds.

While I see this as good for the southern states, we, in the north just need the Method 240 SL labeled for full Range and Pasture grazed sites, Method 240 SL still has the supplemental label that allows for applications to right-a-ways that transect grazed sites with no grazing restrictions for now.

Bayer will have price increases as of January 1, 2020 on the following:

Esplanade 200 Sc Herbicide Price	Quarts Old Price	Quarts New Price
	\$325.25 per quart	\$327.04 per quart
	2.5 gal. cont. Old Price	2.5 gal. cont. New
Method 240 SL Herbicide Price	\$1,169.92 per gallon	\$1,189.12 per gallon
	2.5 gal. cont. Old Price	2.5 gal. cont. New
	\$318.72 per gallon	\$322.56 per gallon

They are not making Method 240 SL Herbicide in quarts anymore and currently have no plans to.

Slight price increases on Escort XP Herbicide and Telar XP Herbicide of about 4%.

Bayer also now has the **Roundup brands** after the purchase of Monsanto, we have seen approximately 4% to 6% price increases on these as well, even with the lawsuit problems with glyphosate it seems stable for now.

CORTEVA – Is working on bringing out 2 new products to market at this time.

DuraCor and TerraVue Herbicide labels have now been approved by EPA and State registrations will begin soon or have begun.

Both DuraCor and TerraVue Herbicides will have the same active ingredients (some new chemistry) but possibly different labeled language, is a mixture of Rinskor Active (New) and Milestone Herbicides.

DuraCor Herbicide – will be a liquid product and will be mainly for the western states and use sites will include Rangelands, Permanent grass pastures including pastures grown for hay, CRP acres, Wildlife Management Areas including Seasonally Dry Flood Plains, Deltas, Marshes, Prairie Potholes or Vernal Pools in these sites as well as Woody plants in these sites.

Use rates are from 12 ounces to 20 ounces per acre rates with maximum use rates of 20 ounces per acre per year.

DuraCor Herbicide should be good on weeds like Canada Thistle, Musk Thistle, Knapweed Species, Common Mullin, Absinth Wormwood and carrot species such as Poison Hemlock, Wild Parsnip, Queen Ann's Lace, Wild Carrot and others.

The other product is called – **TerraVue Herbicide** – This one is a dry product like Opensight, low use rates of 2 to 2.85 ounces per acre rates, this one will mostly be targeted for the right-a-ways, I do not know the availability of this product into the western states yet.

TerraVue Herbicide will have all the same weed spectrum control as DuraCor, both should control around 140 broadleaf weeds and woody plant species, both should be non-restricted use products, again, both are a combination of Milestone Herbicide and the new Rinskor Active.

Freelexx - Some questions have come up on Freelexx and some people were told that it will no longer be available **"that is not true"**, CORTEVA is changing how and who it will be distributed through, true ag distributors will no longer have the product, it will now be gotten through distributors that do direct business with government agencies.

This is because some (Freelexx) was ending up in the cotton markets down south and the ag dealers were replacing the Enlist Herbicide (which is more expensive) with the Freelexx.

CORTEVA is solving the problem in this manner, yes it will still be available for counties and government agencies to purchase and use.

CORTEVA has moved some more products into its Manufacturer price set program going into 2020 and they are as follows:

Freelexx Herbicide (added for 2020)	\$20.00 per gallon (all sizes)
Vastlan Herbicide (added for 2020)	\$87.50 per gallon (all sizes)
Capstone Herbicide (added for 2020)	\$48.00 per gallon (all sizes)

Opensight Herbicide \$84.00 per pound (All sizes)

Cleantraxx Herbicide \$128.00 per gallon (all sizes)

Milestone Herbicide Government pricing is looking like it will price drop to \$265.00 per gallon at this time, all sizes and containers at the \$265.00 per gallon.

2.5 Gallon containers \$265.00 per gallon

Bulk Containers \$265.00 per gallon (15 gal., 30 gal. and totes filled as needed)

Quart Containers \$66.25 per quart

This new pricing on Milestone took effect November 4, 2019.

Tordon 22K Herbicide looks like pricing should be stable in 2020.

All other New pricing has taken effect as of October 1, 2019.

NuFarm – Has decided to leave some of the glyphosate business in their Vegetation Management division, AquaNeat Herbicide, Razor Herbicide, Razor PRO Herbicide and Razor Extreme will no longer be manufactured and offered from NuFarm from their Vegetation Management division after current inventories have run out, any products that you might have on hand will have the registrations and labels in place for about 2 years and all products should be used by then, we have gotten no answers from NuFarm on this decision but all of their Ag use glyphosates are still being manufactured.

As of this date NuFarm no longer has any AquaNeat herbicide and is very short supply on the others mentioned.

NuFarm still has Payload, Piper, E-2 and AquaSweep Herbicides.

E-2 pricing looks to be stable for now going into 2020 is again is priced by the manufacturer at \$42.00 per gallon.

BASF – Not much from them yet but we suspect that Plateau pricing might take about a 3% to 4 % increase from what we are hearing so far from them, Arsenal pricing does look stable and the generic market will play on that pricing.

BASF is also talking about adding Detail Herbicide into the Plateau mix for Leafy Spurge or into some of the bareground mixes to help speed up control and burndown in some cases on broadleaf weeds, more to come on that later in the year.

Others

2,4-D products, amines and esters pricing are stable at this time or we are seeing some slight price decreases, I suspect that this is currently due to some excess product in the supply chains due to less being used on farm acres in 2019 and by spring we may see this change again.

Surfactants:

From our brands (Loveland's) we are seeing very little increases, some of the Leci-Tech products we have seen about a 2.5% to 4% increase and the standard surfactants we have seen less than that for increases.

Dicamba's and the ongoing issues:

Please continue on with what you and your applicators are doing with any dicamba type products, I feel that this issue will likely go on for a few more years and you as County, State and Federal applicators and managers will need to remain cautious in your decision of using any type dicamba products near any sensitive crops or sites, especially in areas where the new dicamba resistant strains of crops are being planted, keep the targets off from your backs.

On the glyphosate law suit issues – here is what we know at this time – Bayer has lost three glyphosate trials so far, in each case the company has appealed the verdict or has plans to appeal it. In each of the three cases the awards have been \$289 million later reduced to \$80 million, \$80 million later reduced to \$25 million and \$2 billion later reduced to \$87 million.

More than 800 studies claim glyphosate is safe when users follow “the label”, one agency claims the opposite, The World Health Organization's – International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), labeled glyphosate as “probably carcinogenic”.

That has formed the basis of more than 13,000 lawsuits against glyphosate and IARC has similar claims about 2,4-D as a “possible carcinogen”. In May of 2019 EPA disputed IARC's claims in a review of its own, this announcement stems from the EPA's 2017 human health risk assessment, the agency noted that they didn't find a public health risk when the chemical is used according to label requirements.

So far there has been no discussions on pulling glyphosate products from the markets according to Liam Condon, president of Bayer Crop science but he also says, “If you can't justify glyphosate, you couldn't justify any crop protection product in the world – or even coffee, there are so many things IARC classifies as “potentially carcinogenic”. When this is done it could potentially drive up the costs of bringing any new products to market with more stringent and costly testing

***Recently California Physicians have weighed in on the on-going courtroom fight between Bayer/Monsanto and a former groundskeeper who blames the popular Roundup Herbicide for his terminal cancer.

Three state medical associations filed an amicus brief supporting Bayer's appeal of a jury's verdict in a civil suit that found the weed killer to have been a factor in causing the former groundskeeper's non-Hodgkin Lymphoma.

That verdict is under appeal by Bayer and they (Bayer) now finds itself with several new allies, following the move by the California Medical Association, California Dental Association and California Hospital Association.

(Some information on the glyphosate issue was excerpted from Farm Journal's AGPRO for this report).

***Finally, much of this will also be determined as to what might happen between the U.S. and China in trade talks, if new tariffs hit than much of what is mentioned above may change by spring.

We have way too many products or technical material for the products in this industry being made in China, and, that could have an impact on what really happens in 2020.

NDDA Report

Richard Weisz, NDDA thanked everyone for coming earlier today. He will be around throughout the conference, along with Chelsey and Jim. Stop by the booth in the vendor room.

Government Report

Kent Luttschwager, North Dakota Game and Fish gave the report, gave the government report. Kent is stationed in Williston. They have an ongoing problem with Saltcedar coming out of Montana on the Yellowstone River and the tributaries. They have been working with McKenzie and Williams County. The Game and Fish float the river scouting for Saltcedar. Since 2011, they have cut and stump treated over 1,100 plants. That is the most effective. The smaller 1 inch plants they generally leave, as they will get scoured out by the river over a short time. Being the new government rep, cannot replace what Dave Hirsch, but will try and do the best he can.

Old Business:

New Weed Officers: Dylan Ripplinger, Burleigh County, started yesterday. Josh Short, Cavalier County, started in October.

New Business:

Resolutions: None

Elections: Industry Rep: 2 year term: Joan Lorge nominated Bill Walker. No other nominations. Jim Hennessy, Mountrail County moved that nominations cease, and that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Bill. Terry Weis, Dickey County seconded the motion. By voice vote, **M/C**

2nd Vice President Election: Eligible areas are I, II, III. There was only one nomination from the area meetings. Stan Wolf, Area II, Cass County. Joan Lorge nominated Jim Hennessy, Mountrail County. Stan and Jim gave campaign speeches. Voting by ballot. **M/C**

President's Transition

President Jamen turned the gavel over to the 2020 President Cody Schnabel. President Jamen thanked everyone for the support.

Legacy Fund Proposal: Cody stated that we were going to have a proposal for obtaining funding from the Legacy Fund. When the board visited with Ag. Commissioner Doug Goehring last evening, it was decided to shelve the proposal for now. Seems like the money as already spoken for.

After the vote was tallied, Jamen stated that Jim Hennessy was the leading vote getter. Congratulations Jim.

By-Law Changes: Derrill spoke about the proposed changes to the by-laws. The reason for the changes is since Dave Hirsch retired, we have no government agency that are a full member in our association. The changes mainly remove a government as a voting member of the board, but allow them to be an advisor on the board. All of the changes reflect this, renumbering, etc. This change also formally requests the North Dakota Department of Ag. to appoint someone to be an advisor on the board.

Dan Dew, Renville County moved to accept the changes to the by-laws. Jamen Windish seconded the motion. **M/C**

Other? Merlin apologized for not bringing this up during the financials. The board voted last night to sponsor 2 campers to the range camp near Medora that Kevin Sedivic runs. The funding for this, \$280 for 2 campers, will come out of the youth fund. The association will reimburse the youth fund \$140/annually, with money from the beer and brat social. The association will continue to give \$500/annually to the camp for offsetting expenses. Years ago, when Myron Dieterle was working on passing the original EARP fund, the association paid him mileage for his work. He then donated that money, which formed the youth fund, for the primary reason, to help youth. Kevin Sedivic will pick two campers, who otherwise could not attend the camp, due to financial restraints, to attend with the scholarships. Those campers will submit a report to us what they learned at the camp.

Next year's conference will be held January 11-14, 2021 here at the Ramada.

Katie Dillman moved to adjourn the meeting. Steve Ginsbach seconded the motion. **M/C**

Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Merlin Leithold
Executive Secretary