

# NOXIOUS WEED QUARTERLY

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Summer 2005

Vol. 2, No.4

## LAP requires mapping

BY KEN ERAAS

County weed boards and individuals who participate with counties in the Landowner Assistance Program (LAP) are reminded that mapping is required by the program. The following excerpts from *Final State Guidelines for City and County Weed Control Programs* explain the requirement which was adopted in 1995 by the North Dakota Weed Control Association and the North Dakota Department of Agriculture:

County weed boards must request a map for each tract of land accepted into the landowner assistance program. ASCS (FSA) aerial maps are preferred, but county atlas maps or soil survey maps would also be acceptable.

Each map will serve as the basic inventory for the weed infestation in question. It should be reviewed annually by county weed boards and their employees with the landowner, before funding is awarded. This will help evaluate which integrated techniques can be used, and which environmental considerations need to be incorporated to meet the objectives of the County or City Noxious Weed Management Plan.

The landowner or operator is responsible for mapping the acres infested and the acres treated.

1. **Acres infested** are defined as the actual acres of noxious weeds in a given legal description of land. Example: On a quarter of land there are two large areas infested and three small patches. All five would be added together for a total of 20 acres of infestation. Do not consider the entire quarter infested.

See LAP mapping on page 3



## GPS data now easier to send

The North Dakota Department of Agriculture online weed database now allows users to download their GPS units directly into the database, instead of filling out hard copy or online forms. Entries can still be made online, although the online form has been shortened. All new information will be described in latitude and longitude rather than UTM coordinates.

Please see the newsletter calendar for training dates. For more information, contact Rachel Seifert-Spilde at (701) 328-2983 or [rseifert@state.nd.us](mailto:rseifert@state.nd.us).

## Four-state task force starts work on saltcedar plan

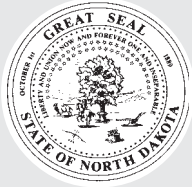
Representatives from North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and Wyoming recently met in Huntley, MT, to begin developing a cooperative plan for managing saltcedar.

The Four-State Headwaters Saltcedar Task Force was created as a result of the passage of federal legislation, the Salt cedar and Russian Olive Demonstration and Control Act (HR 489 and S177).

North Dakota participants at the initial meeting included Odin Heim, McKenzie County Weed Control; Tony Jacobson, Garrison Project Corps of Engineers, and Rachel

Seifert-Spilde, North Dakota Department of Agriculture. The main goal of the new task force is to develop a plan for the cooperating states to combat the spread of saltcedar, analyze the effectiveness of funding and assist in acquiring additional funding.

The next task force meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 20, in conjunction with the Bighorn Basin Floodplain Restoration Workshop and tour, July 19-21, in Thermopolis, WY. See Page 3 for more information about the workshop and tour.



## North Dakota Noxious Weed Quarterly

is published by  
**THE NORTH DAKOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**COMMISSIONER  
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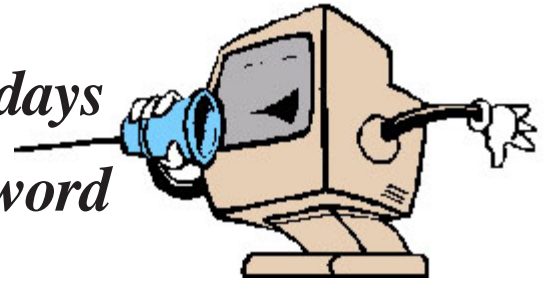
This newsletter is provided free-of-charge to county and city weed board members, weed control officers, weed scientists and other interested persons. Please address all correspondence to:

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## Biocontrol field days – spreading the word



The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) has created an e-mail distribution list at [ndda-weeds@state.nd.us](mailto:ndda-weeds@state.nd.us) to give weed boards and agencies a better way to announce their field days for the collection and redistribution of leafy spurge flea beetles.

The e-mail list, replaces the printed schedule that has often proven unreliable, as weather and other factors cause numerous cancellations and rescheduling of field days.

The distribution list forwards e-mails to more than 140 counties, agencies and individuals, including all North Dakota county weed officers and others who have requested inclusion on the list.

NDDA encourages all field day sponsors to announce their activities through this easy-to-use and up-to-date e-mail list. Agencies or persons, who do not have access to a computer but wish to have a biocontrol collection day put on the email list, should call the noxious weeds staff at 328-2980 or 328-2983.

## Weed control calendar

May 23 – Area IV NDDA GPS Training – 10 a.m.-noon, Brynhild Haugland Room, N.D. State Capitol, 600 E Boulevard Ave, Bismarck. Contact Rachel Seifert-Spilde at 328-2983 or [rseifert@state.nd.us](mailto:rseifert@state.nd.us).

May 24 – NDWCA Sprayer School – 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., McKenzie County Weed Control Building, Watford City. Contact Odin Heim at 842-4131 or [mcweed@restel.net](mailto:mcweed@restel.net).

May 25 – Area III NDDA GPS Training – 10 a.m.-noon, North Central Research Extension Center, 5400 Hwy 83 S., Minot. Contact Rachel Seifert-Spilde.

May 26 – NDWCA Sprayer School – 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Wells County Weed Control/Extension, 600 Railway Street North, Fessenden. Contact Rich Maine at 547-3341 or [rmaine@ndsuxext.nodak.edu](mailto:rmaine@ndsuxext.nodak.edu).

May 27 – Area V NDDA GPS Training – 10 a.m.-noon MDT, DSU Agriculture Building Auditorium, 291 Campus Drive, Dickinson. Contact Joan Lorge at (701) 879-06316 or [jlorge@popctel.com](mailto:jlorge@popctel.com)

June 1-2 – Weed Awareness Summit, Boise ID. Contact Rachel Seifert-Spilde.

June 14 – Lake Sakakawea Noxious Weed Task Force, 10 a.m., USACOE Garrison Project Office, Riverdale. Contact Tony Jacobson at 654-7411, ext. 226 or [tony.d.jacobson@usace.army.mil](mailto:tony.d.jacobson@usace.army.mil).

June 28 – NDWCA Board Meeting – 11 a.m., Seven Seas Inn, Mandan. Contact Randy Mehlhoff at 256-5491 or [mehlhof@ndsuxext.nodak.edu](mailto:mehlhof@ndsuxext.nodak.edu).

July 15-16 – North Dakota State Horticulture Society annual meeting, Beulah-Hazen. Contact Ken Erasas at 328-2980 or [keraas@state.nd.us](mailto:keraas@state.nd.us).

July 19-21 – Bighorn Basin Floodplain Restoration Workshop, Thermopolis WY. (Contact Steve Christy, BLM Worland WY Field Office, at 307-347-5148)

# Legislature amends state weed law

BY JEFF OLSON

The 59<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly made a number of changes to the noxious weed law, including:

- Weed control responsibilities for city weed boards were redefined to match those of county weed boards. This provides uniform enforcement and access to state funds for weed control assistance.
- Weed boards can now hire staff to assist with weed control.
- Counties may now use the 1-mill requirement for leafy spurge for any noxious weed problem.

## LAP mapping

Continued from page 1

2. **Acres treated** are the actual number of acres treated through any management practice and cannot exceed the total acres infested.

3. **Infestation density** is defined as: *Low* = occasional plant per acre, less than 5% canopy cover, *Moderate* = widely scattered plants, 5-25% canopy cover, *High* = more dense, 25-100% canopy cover.

Each year, county and city weeds boards must inspect some of the tracts of land in the LAP. This is necessary to ensure the number of acres claimed for landowner assistance received proper treatment. If a landowner is found to have problems he or she should receive a follow-up inspection the next year.”

Weed boards should remind producers who participate in cost share programs that they must furnish these maps.

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The author is a noxious weed specialist in the North Dakota Department of Agriculture.

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Counties must still levy at least 3 mills for weed control to qualify for LAP cost share funding.

- Weed control authorities can now use all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) for weed control along right-of-ways. “Monty’s Law” was expanded to allow use of ATV’s on the “inside slope” of highways.
- Landowners who do not receive a satisfactory response from weed control authorities can now appeal to the county commission or the agriculture commissioner. An appeal to the agriculture commissioner will be investigated by the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) with the possibility of civil

penalties against a landowner creating a weed problem.

- The penalty that weed control authorities can levy against a landowner was increased from \$25 to \$80 per day. The maximum annual penalty was increased from \$2,500 to \$4,000.

The changes become effective July 1, 2005, except the ATV legislation, which went into effect immediately. NDDA will print new booklets with the changes after July 1, and provide them to all weed control authorities.

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The author is Plant Industries program manager for the North Dakota Department of Agriculture.

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## North Dakota State Listed Noxious Weeds

1. Absinth wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium* L.)
2. Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense* (L.) Scop.)
3. Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria genistifolia* ssp. *Dalmatica* (L.)
4. Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa* Lam.)
5. Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis* L.)
6. Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula* L.)
7. Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans* L.)
8. Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria* L., *Lythrum virgatum* L., and all cultivars)
9. Russian knapweed (*Acroptilon repens* (L.) DC)
10. Saltcedar (*tamarix ramosissima* Ledeb., *Tamarix chinensis* Lour., and *Tamarix parviflora* DC)
11. Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa* Lam.)
12. Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis* L.)

## Saltcedar workshop, tour slated

The Bighorn Basin Floodplain Restoration Workshop and Tour will be held July 19-21 at Thermopolis, WY.

The purpose of the conference is to explore the impact, spread and control of saltcedar on rivers, streams, forests and grasslands.

The tentative program can be found at [www.weedcenter.org/calendar/Working%20Agenda.pdf](http://www.weedcenter.org/calendar/Working%20Agenda.pdf). Registration information is available at [www.weedcenter.org/calendar/Registration-bighorn.pdf](http://www.weedcenter.org/calendar/Registration-bighorn.pdf).

# Some things we all need to know

Questions about pesticide application, storage and handling requirements come to the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) every day. Here are some of the main things weed control authorities ought to know.

## ***Read the label***

The first requirement is read the pesticide label – the label is the law! If you have any questions about what the label requires, contact NDDA at (701) 328-2231 or (800) 242-7535 or visit your county extension office.

## ***Know the rules***

Refer to North Dakota Pesticide Laws and Regulations (NDCC 4-35

and North Dakota Administrative Code 60-03-01) for all pesticide requirements. These can be found on NDDA's web site at

**[www.agdepartment.com](http://www.agdepartment.com)**

Printed copies of the North Dakota Pesticide Act are available from Jeff Olson at (701) 328-4756 or Jerry Thompson at (701) 328-4922.

Weed control officials should be especially familiar of North Dakota Administrative Code 60-03-01-06 which pertains to pesticide mixing, loading, application, storage, transportation and disposal. This section includes the requirements for spill kits,

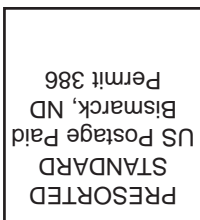
spray calibration, product labels, rinsate, and container disposal.

## ***Get certified***

Pesticide applicators, who purchase or apply restricted use pesticides or supervise uncertified applicators applying a general use pesticide, must be commercially certified in Ag Pest and Right-of-Way categories.

## ***Be careful!***

Pesticide application is a very serious activity so caution is always the best advice. Be especially careful around environmentally sensitive areas and potential areas of human endangerment.



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