

# ***North Dakota Weed Control Association Area Meetings***

---

Fall 2008 Program Update:  
North Dakota  
Department of Agriculture

**Roger Johnson**  
**Agriculture Commissioner**



## ***Noxious Weed Staff***

---

- ✓ Ken Junkert, Program Manager
- ✓ Judy Carlson, Noxious Weed Coordinator
- ✓ Blake Schaan, Noxious Weed Specialist
- ✓ Rachel Seifert-Spilde, Noxious Weed Specialist
- ✓ Jim Hansen, GIS/GPS Coordinator



## ***Hot Topics...***

---

- ⇒ Biological Control
- ⇒ Weed Seed Free Forage and gravel
- ⇒ Noxious Weed Law Re-Write

## ***Biological Control***

---

- Canada thistle (34/53 Counties)
  - Stem mining weevil and gall fly monitoring, mapping, distribution
- Leafy spurge (Statewide)
  - Flea beetles, gall midge, Red-headed horned beetle monitoring, mapping, distribution
- Yellow Toadflax (Wells County)
  - Stem mining weevil mapping, monitoring

## ***Biological Control – Funding***

---

- US Forest Service Grant for \$57,000
- Goals and Priorities:
  - Utilize an IPM approach
  - Stop the spread of existing weed infestations
  - Work cooperatively and across boundaries
  - Educate landowners/land managers
  - Require GPS mapping
  - Survey for new invasive weeds (EDRR)

## ***USFS Cooperative Grant***

---

- Purchased equipment, bio-control agents, field day lunches and refreshments
- Monitored Canada thistle stem-mining weevil sites and co-hosted leafy spurge bio-days
- Contact Blake to place a bio order, arrange lunch and refreshments for your bio day or ask about equipment available

\*Please fill out NDDA/USFS match sheets so your time, mileage, etc. can be used as a match toward this grant



## ***Field Days***

Counties may contact the department to receive help via funding (equipment, lunch, information, etc.)



2008 – co-hosted 5 field days and distributed ~87,000 spurge beetles for 29 new release sites in ND

# ***2009 Biocontrol Field Days***

---



NDDA will host  
or co-host  
biological  
control field  
day(s)



## ***Biological Control Canada Thistle***

---

- Monitored 95 release sites (releases made in 2004)

### Statistics:

- 44 of 75 undisturbed sites indicate weevil presence
- 27 sites show excellent control supporting low plant densities, remain undisturbed, and indicate weevil presence
- Larval infestation of Canada thistle at undisturbed sites was between 25 and 48% which had moderate Canada thistle densities



## ***Ceutorhynchus (Hadroplontus) litura***



## ***Weed Seed Free Forage (WSFF)***

---

- 2008 –reviewed current noxious weed law
- Result of review– issues with participation, county borders, advertisement, WSFF supply
- Noxious weed law re-write, if approved, will erase all WSFF language
  
- Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008 meeting – county weed officers should inspect/certify, state should oversee and regulate the program, county borders may hinder the functioning of the program



## ***Weed Seed Free Forage Update***

---

- Preliminary draft bill – gives authority to the NDDA to certify forage and gravel; NDDA is a “clearinghouse” for the program
- Commissioner - designate agents inspect and certify, which will include weed officers willing to participate in the program
- Plant materials include “mulch, grain straw, grasses, legumes, and forbs”
- Provide comments to your NDWCA area director



## ***WSFF continued***

---

- Advantage: Agents need not stay within their county boundaries, thus allowing the agents to do certifications wherever they are needed (**not a duty for county, but as independent contractors for the state who provide this service**)
- **Reason for this...problem with participation, thus insufficient supply to meet demand**
- Contact Blake for meeting minutes



## ***Noxious Weed Law Re-write & Weed Seed Free Forage Preliminary Bill Draft***

---

Please read the preliminary bill draft and re-write and work with your legislative committee

Legislative Committee-Executive Committee,  
Lobbyist (Merlin Leithold) and Member at  
large (Myron Dieterle)



## ***CRP Complaints***

---

- 1) Report situation to FSA-they will perform an inspection
- 2) County committee will notify the contract holder(s)
- 3) Contract holder(s)/landowner(s) will have an opportunity to control the problem weeds
- 4) If left uncontrolled, the FSA can fine the contract holder and has the option of terminating the contract



## ***CRP Complaints cont..***

---

- The role of the county weed board is the same as it is for all other private lands in their respective counties
- The county weed board may act at any time.  
Note: part of the annual CRP payment includes weed control funds

# ***TAG History***

---

- First round-due Jan 29, 2008
  - 70 proposals received/46 agreements signed
  - \$289,885 allocated this biennium/\$84,995 next
- Second round-due Aug 22
  - 16 proposals received/13 agreements signed
  - \$30,176 allocated this biennium/\$63,486 next

## ***\$390,000 TAG allocated 2007-2009 biennium***

---

- \$320,061 allocated 2007-2009 biennium
- \$148,481 already committed for 2009-2011 biennium
- 53% or 28 of 53 counties participating



## ***LAP Allocation and Deadline***

---

- ✓ \$942,758 for biennium or around 70% of total grant line
- ✓ Weed boards received one allocation for the July 1, 2007-June 30, 2009 time period
- ✓ Final vouchers are due by June 30, 2009



## ***LAP Funds***

---

- \$516,424 or 55% spent by 10/10/08 by 41 weed boards (11 weed boards and 6 cities are not eligible for LAP)
- Late fall-NDDA will contact weed boards that have not spent the majority of their funds

## ***ND Hub Explorer Weed Mapper & Datalogger Info.***

---

- Manual is now available-pick up a copy today!
- Need extra copies? Manual is online at <http://www.agdepartment.com/Programs/Plant/NoxiousWeeds.html>
- Contact Jim Hansen by phone 701-328-2330 or email [jimhansen@nd.gov](mailto:jimhansen@nd.gov)



September 2008

# NORTH DAKOTA Ag Mag

A Magazine about Agriculture for North Dakota Student



## Weeds, weeds, weeds!

They grow in gardens, crop fields and pastures; along roadsides; and by rivers and lakes. They grow in all shapes, sizes and colors.

Some people define a weed as any plant growing where it is not wanted, such as a dandelion in a lawn, field bindweed in a wheat field or musk thistle in a pasture.

### What is a Weed?

Write a W in the box for the plants that typically are considered weeds and an N for the plants that typically aren't weeds.



# Noxious Weed Ag Mag

- Goes to all 4<sup>th</sup> graders in the state
- 2,000 extra copies available

North Dakota  
Department of  
Agriculture

## ***Future Projects***

---

- Online annual weed board reports
- Weed poster or calendar
- Pilot project with Alltopo to calculate acreages using spray lines and spot spraying points
- NDDA biological field days for next biennium

# ***Agriculture Commissioner's Forum***

---

January 13, 2009

Seven Seas Hotel & Waterpark

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Lunch and refreshments will be served



***Thank you for your support.***

Comments or Concerns?

Call us toll free

1-800-242-7535

