

NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Biennial Report
2019 - 2021



*Serve, advocate, protect and promote
agriculture to benefit everyone.*

DOUG GOEHRING, COMMISSIONER

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A Message from the Commissioner

My Fellow North Dakotans,

North Dakota can take pride in the achievements and contributions of the state's farmers and ranchers, who have maintained their reputation as some of the best producers in the world. Their efforts have made our state the national leader in important commodities, including spring wheat, durum, canola, dry edible beans, sunflower, rye, flaxseed and honey. North Dakota also ranks near the top in dry edible peas, soybeans, lentils, barley, oats, sugarbeets and potatoes. We also rank in the top ten for beef cows and bison.

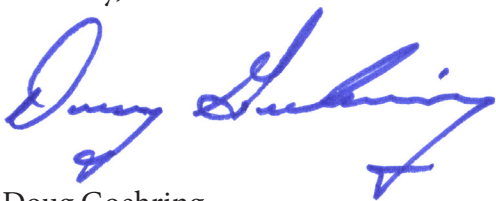
They have done this despite less than ideal conditions, from low prices and high input costs to a global pandemic, bad weather and trade wars. Yet our farmers and ranchers continued to provide safe and abundant food, feed, fiber and fuel for our state, our nation and the world.

The staff of the North Dakota Department of Agriculture is proud to have helped our producers meet these challenges.

The Pesticide and Fertilizer Division obtained federal registrations and exemptions to get producers the pesticides needed to protect crops and livestock. We helped local weed authorities control damaging noxious weeds. The Mediation Service provided low-cost agricultural mediation and financial counseling services. Business, Marketing and Information found new markets, helped develop new products, and assisted new businesses. The state veterinarians helped keep our livestock free of major livestock diseases.

All the accomplishments of the state's producers during this past biennium renew our confidence both in our heritage and in our future. Agriculture will remain the foundation of our state's economy and society, and I am confident that North Dakota agriculture will be in the forefront of our state's promising future.

Sincerely,



Doug Goehring
Agriculture Commissioner

Mission

The North Dakota Department of Agriculture is here to serve, advocate, protect and promote agriculture to benefit everyone. To carry out its mandate, the North Dakota Department of Agriculture is committed to the following responsibilities:

- Serving as an advocate for family farmers and ranchers and for the rural community.
- Providing services that ensure safe, high-quality and marketable agricultural products.
- Developing and expanding markets for agricultural commodities and value-added products.
- Reducing the risk of financial loss to agricultural producers and to buyers and sellers of agricultural commodities.
- Safeguarding livestock and other domestic animals from communicable diseases.
- Ensuring compliance with laws administered by the Department of Agriculture through understandable regulations, information, education and even-handed enforcement.
- Ensuring human safety and a healthy environment through proper use of pesticides.
- Verifying the contents of pesticides, fertilizers, soil conditioners, animal feeds and veterinary medicines.
- Reducing agricultural losses from noxious weeds, predatory animals, insects and diseases.
- Gathering and disseminating information concerning agriculture to the general public.
- Providing fair and timely dispute resolution services to agricultural producers, creditors and others.

ADMINISTRATION

Agriculture Commissioner

Doug Goehring

Deputy Commissioner

Tom Bodine

Assistant to the Commissioner

Jody Reinke

Legal Counsel/Policy Advisor

Dutch Bialke

The agriculture commissioner directs and supervises the staff, operations and programs of the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA). The incumbent commissioner, Doug Goehring, took office in 2009 and was elected in 2010.

The office of commissioner of agriculture and labor was created by the North Dakota Constitutional Convention of 1889. A 1964 constitutional amendment divided the office into two entities – commissioner of agriculture and commissioner of labor – and lengthened the term of office from two years to four. The title of the office was changed to agriculture commissioner by a constitutional amendment in 1996.

Commissioners of Agriculture and Labor

Henry T. Helgesen	1889-1892
Nelson Williams	1893-1894
Andrew H. Laughlin	1895-1896
Henry U. Thomas	1897-1900
Rollin J. Turner	1901-1904
William C. Gilbreath	1905-1914
Robert F. Flint	1915-1916
John N. Hagan	1917-1921
Joseph A. Kitchen	1921-1932
John Husby	1933-1934
Theodore Martell	1935-1936
John N. Hagan	1937-1938
Math Dahl	1939-1964
Arne Dahl	1965-1966

Commissioners of Agriculture

Arne Dahl	1966-1974
Myron Just	1974-1980
H. Kent Jones	1981-1988
Sarah M. Vogel	1989-1997

Agriculture Commissioners

Roger Johnson	1997-2009
Doug Goehring	2009-present

Duties and Responsibilities

Originally, the commissioner's primary responsibilities were the collection and publication of agricultural and labor statistics and enforcement of regulations. The commissioner was also the commissioner of immigration.

The department's responsibilities gradually expanded to include a leadership role in the formulation of policies affecting the state's agricultural industries, the advocacy of the needs and concerns of farmers and ranchers on the state and national levels, the administration of fair and timely mediation services to farmers and ranchers, the promotion and marketing of North Dakota products, and the dissemination of information concerning agricultural issues.

The collection and publication of statistics are now the responsibility of the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

The following responsibilities are set forth in the North Dakota Century Code:

- Promoting improved marketing conditions for North Dakota products, §4.1-01-08
- Regulating dairy and poultry industries, §4.1-05 and §4.1-19.
- Licensing and bonding of livestock auction markets and individuals selling livestock, §4.1-27 and §4.1-83.
- Controlling and eradicating bee diseases and licensing of beekeepers, §4.1-16.
- Developing, supervising and participating in programs to protect plant life from disease and insects, §4.1-23.
- Administering a mediation service to resolve differences between financially distressed farmers and their creditors, §6-09.10.
- Inspecting, certifying and licensing nurseries, nursery dealers and agents, §4.1-22.
- Administering and enforcing state and federal pesticide laws, §4.1-33.
- Licensing and inspection of anhydrous ammonia bulk facilities, §4.1-37.
- Administering noxious weed laws, §4.1-47.
- Administering the Agriculture in the Classroom program, §4.1-01-22.
- Cooperating with federal agencies in controlling animals that cause property damage, §4.1-01-05.
- Administering the State Waterbank program, §4.1-01-15.
- Promoting honey and honey products, §4.1-08.
- Promoting the turkey industry, §4.1-12.
- Administering the cultivated ginseng law, §4.1-17.
- Registering crop protection products with Canadian labels, §4.1-39-03.
- Licensing industrial hemp growers, §4.1-18.
- Registering animal feeds and licensing and regulating animal feed products, §4.1-41.
- Registering and regulating livestock medicines, §4.1-43.
- Registering and regulating pesticide sales, §4.1-34.
- Registering and enforcing laws pertaining to fertilizers and soil conditioners, §4.1-40.
- Administering a state meat and poultry inspection program, §4.1-31.
- Administering a pipeline restoration and reclamation oversight program, §4.1-01-17.
- Overseeing a federal environmental law impact review committee, §4.1-01-18.
- Administering a wind energy restoration and reclamation oversight program, §4.1-01-23.
- Administering a bioscience innovation grant program, §4.1-01-20.
- Administering the agricultural products utilization commission, §4.1-01.1.
- Administering the grain warehousing inspection program, §60.
- Consulting on animal feeding operating and zoning regulations, §11-33-02.1 and §58-03-11.1.
- Administering and overseeing the environmental impact mitigation fund, §4.1-01-21.1.
- Administering international business and trade office, §4.1-01-08.1.

Boards and Commissions

By constitutional and statutory authority, the agriculture commissioner is a member of the following boards and commissions:

- State Industrial Commission
- State Water Commission
- State Board of Tax Equalization
- Agricultural Products Utilization Commission
- ND Dairy Promotion Commission
- ND State Seed Commission
- ND Pesticide Control Board
- ND Crop Protection Product Harmonization and Registration Board
- Northern Crops Council
- Soil Conservation Committee
- State Emergency Board
- State Intermodal Transportation Team
- ND Disaster Emergency Board
- Interstate Compact on Pest Control
- Wetland Mediation Advisory Board
- USDA Food and Agriculture Council
- Honey Promotion Council
- Waterbank Advisory Board
- Crop Insurance Development Board
- Ag in the Classroom Council
- State Board of Animal Health
- Food Export Association of the Midwest USA
- Natural Areas and Acquisition Advisory Committee
- State Board for Agricultural Research and Education
- Center for Agricultural Policy & Trade Studies
- ND Commerce Cabinet
- Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
- USDA-NRCS State Technical Committee
- Ag Business Rail Council
- Agriculture Hall of Fame Committee
- Midwest Shippers Association
- Seed Arbitration Board
- 129,000 Pound Primary Truck Network
- Great Northern Corridor

The 2019-21 Biennium: A Timeline

2019

July 1 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced 12 Project Safe Send locations for unusable pesticide collections in July.

July 1 - The North Dakota State Board of Animal Health and the North Dakota Department of Agriculture's Animal Health Division reminded horse owners to protect their horses from equine herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) after a horse in McKenzie County was confirmed positive for equine herpesvirus myeloencephalopathy (EHM), the neurologic manifestation of the virus.

July 3 - Field days were scheduled at multiple North Dakota sites to collect and redistribute flea beetles that eat leafy spurge.

July 17 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) encouraged farmers to take a survey on possible Dicamba damage.

July 19 - A meeting on growing, harvesting and processing cannabidiol (CBD) hemp was held in Bismarck for interested producers.

July 22 - Pride of Dakota Day was held at the State Fair in Minot with more than 20 North Dakota companies from around the state.

July 26 - The USDA released more details of the \$16 billion package announced earlier in the year that will assist agricultural producers in response to retaliation and trade disruption. The trade aid consisted of the Market Facilitation Program, Food Purchase and Distribution Program and Agricultural Trade Promotion Program.

July 30 - Commissioner Goehring activated the North Dakota Hay Hotline as parts of the state were experiencing abnormally dry or moderate drought conditions.

Aug. 1 - Commissioner Goehring was appointed to the 2019 Sub-Saharan Africa Advisory Committee of the Export-Import Bank of the

United States.

Aug. 1 - A new law went into effect that creates a licensing provision for anhydrous ammonia mobile storage containers. The NDDA will license mobile storage containers for the purposes of downloading anhydrous ammonia into nurse tanks in the field.

Aug. 2 - Commissioner Goehring activated the Harvest Hotline for farmers who need custom combining and combiners looking for a job.

Aug. 6 - The 15th Annual Farmers Market Day at the Capitol was held with more than 20 vendors from across the state.

Aug. 12 - Livestock producers were reminded of anthrax danger after a group of cows in a pasture in east Billings County was confirmed to have the disease.

Aug. 13 - Project Safe Send brought in more than 260 tons of unusable pesticides, an all-time record, during the 2019 collections in July.

Aug. 20 - Commissioner Goehring urged growers across the state to donate extra fruits and vegetables from their harvest to help meet the needs of hungry North Dakotans as part of the Hunger Free ND Garden Project, which marked its 10th year.

Aug. 27 - Commissioner Goehring reminded farmers that assistance is available for blackbird damage to crops through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services program.

Aug. 29 - Applications were being accepted for reimbursement of organic certification costs through the Organic Certification Cost Share Program for fiscal year 2019.

Aug. 29 - Palmer amaranth was confirmed in Grant County in western North Dakota.

Aug. 30 - Free producer grower training sessions were scheduled for produce growers across the state. Growers attending a session satisfied the FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirement that

requires at least one supervisor or responsible party on a farm to complete food safety training recognized as adequate by the Food and Drug Administration.

Sept. 5 - The Farmers and Artisans Market was held at the state Capitol with nearly 50 Pride of Dakota businesses and nearly 20 producers selling, sampling and talking about their products.

Sept. 5 - Commissioner Goehring announced that \$200,000 was available to fund bioscience company development grants.

Sept. 6 - The Pride of Dakota Harvest Showcase returned to the Dickinson West River Ice Center Friday, Sept. 6 and Saturday, Sept. 7.

Sept. 9 - Town hall meetings on the grain inspection program were scheduled for later in September. The meetings were an opportunity for grain elevator managers, operators and others in the grain industry to learn about the transfer of the program, the NDDA inspection process and upcoming changes to the program.

Sept. 11 - Palmer amaranth was confirmed in Emmons County in south central North Dakota.

Sept. 11 - Commissioner Goehring was elected President of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) at their annual meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Sept. 12 - Commissioner Goehring applauded the EPA's announcement that it finalized a repeal of the 2015 Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule.

Sept. 19 - Students across North Dakota dined on food products from their own state during the 18th Annual Agriculture in the Classroom School Lunch Day.

Sept. 25 - Commissioner Goehring applauded the initial U.S.-Japan trade agreement signed by President Trump and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in New York today. The agreement provided market access for certain agricultural and industrial goods, as well as digital trade.

Oct. 4 - Commissioner Goehring applauded the announcement today of an agreement on the

Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) from the EPA and the USDA. The agreement will expand domestic energy production and improve the RFS program by ensuring more than 15 billion gallons of conventional ethanol be blended into the nation's fuel supply beginning in 2020, and that the volume obligation for biomass-based diesel is met while allowing for small refinery relief.

Oct. 7 - Commissioner Goehring spoke at a WOTUS Rule roundtable in Bismarck attended by EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler and hosted by Sen. Kevin Cramer.

Oct. 8 - Commissioner Goehring awarded 24 grants totaling over \$2.7 million to promote the development, cultivation, production and sales of specialty crops in North Dakota.

Oct. 8 - Commissioner Goehring announced that \$500,000 was available to fund bioscience innovation grants.

Oct. 9 - An inclement weather advisory calling for a major winter storm is another hit to livestock producers after dealing with extreme wet conditions and excessive moisture this fall. Commissioner Goehring also reminded producers that the hay hotline was still available.

Oct. 10 - In a joint release, Commissioner Goehring and Gov. Burgum recognized the difficulties producers were facing due to the extensive wet pattern and an early snowstorm and were looking into options for a Secretarial disaster designation among others.

Oct. 16 - Commissioner Goehring reminded the public to respect and avoid unharvested crops and county, township and minimum maintenance roads if muddy or covered in water as the wet weather delayed harvest and taxed the road infrastructure.

Oct. 16 - In a joint release, NDDA and NDSU Extension encouraged producers to contact Extension agents to report damage, losses and conditions in order to assist with consideration for a Secretarial disaster declaration.

Oct. 18 - In a joint release, Commissioner Goehring and Gov. Burgum announced that they

would visit flood-affected areas; meet with officials in Fargo, Grand Forks and Jamestown; and hold a town hall meeting in Fessenden.

Oct. 25 - In a joint release, Commissioner Goehring and Gov. Burgum encouraged those coping with flood-related stress to reach out for help and urged USDA Under Secretary Northey to make assistance available as soon as possible. They also announced that the ND Department of Transportation would extend the deadline for removing hay bales from highway rights of way until Nov. 15.

Oct. 28 - Commissioner Goehring announced that \$30,000 is available to help North Dakota communities and schools plant orchards and gardens in 2020.

Oct. 28 - Commissioner Goehring said that farmers and ranchers may be eligible for certain federal programs even before a secretarial designation is in place, including Farm Service Agency's Emergency Conservation Program (ECP), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). Nineteen counties were also eligible for the Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program Plus (WHIP+).

Oct. 28 - Commissioner Goehring encouraged those dealing with farm and ranch stress to reach out to community support groups, clergy and the North Dakota Department of Human Services.

Nov. 1 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to Grand Forks Nov. 1-3 with more than 125 companies.

Nov. 1 - In a joint release, Commissioner Goehring and Gov. Burgum announced a request had been sent to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue for a secretarial disaster designation to make federal assistance available to agricultural producers struggling with extremely wet harvest conditions. They also urged USDA to release the next round of Market Facilitation Program payments, due out in November, as soon as possible.

Nov. 4 - Commissioner Goehring extended

the date to apply for reimbursement of organic certification costs through the Organic Certification Cost Share Program until Dec. 31, 2019.

Nov. 5 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to Minot Nov. 9-10 with more than 115 companies.

Nov. 8 - In a joint release, Commissioner Goehring and Gov. Burgum thanked U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue for approving the secretarial disaster declaration for 47 of the state's 53 counties.

Nov. 15 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to Jamestown Nov. 15-16 with more than 60 businesses after being rescheduled from Oct. 11-12 due to a major winter storm that affected a significant portion of the state.

Nov. 21 - The NDDA announced it will add a free training session for produce growers in Carrington on Jan. 13, 2020.

Nov. 22 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to Fargo Nov. 22-24 with nearly 150 companies.

Dec. 3 - Commissioner Goehring announced Agricultural Products Utilization Commission (APUC) awards for four projects totaling \$254,258.

Dec. 5 - Commissioner Goehring announced that applications were being accepted for 2020 Specialty Crop Grants.

Dec. 6 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to Bismarck Dec. 6-8 with more than 230 companies.

Dec. 9 - In a joint release, the NDDA and North Dakota Game and Fish Department announced the reopening of the Coyote Catalog, a statewide effort designed to connect coyote hunters and trappers with landowners who are dealing with coyotes in their areas.

Dec. 12 - In a joint release, Commissioner Goehring and Gov. Burgum announced the availability of a program that would reimburse producers for a portion of feed transportation

expenses.

Dec. 13 - Pride of Dakota Showcase attendance was recorded at nearly 53,000 shoppers, a new record, for the six Pride of Dakota Harvest and Holiday Showcases.

Dec. 26 - The North Dakota State Board of Animal Health and the NDDA's Animal Health Division reminded horse owner to protect their horses from equine herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) after a horse in Bottineau County was confirmed positive for equine herpesvirus myeloencephalopathy (EHM), the neurologic manifestation of the virus.

2020

Jan. 6 - It was announced that the deadline for 2020 Specialty Crop Grants was Wednesday, Jan. 8.

Jan. 7 - Commissioner Goehring announced Jamen Windish as the recipient of the 2020 Weed Control Partner Award.

Jan. 7 - Commissioner Goehring encouraged farmers and ranchers to keep the lines of communication open with lenders in the uncertain farm economy. Goehring also said that credit counselors with the North Dakota Mediation Service were available to those who needed them.

Jan. 9 - Commissioner Goehring applauded the announcement of the Council of Environmental Quality's proposed changes to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations.

Jan. 15 - Commissioner Goehring awarded five bioscience innovation grants totaling \$317,322 to foster the growth of the bioscience industry in North Dakota.

Jan. 15 - Commissioner Goehring applauded the signing of the Phase One Trade Agreement with China today. The agreement will eliminate or lower tariffs for certain goods and China will increase overall imports from the U.S. by \$200 billion over the next 2 years, including an annual total of about \$40 billion in agricultural purchases.

The agreement will also have stronger intellectual property protection and technology transfer reforms.

Jan. 16 - Commissioner Goehring applauded the announcement that Congress had ratified the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). The new agreement builds on NAFTA to benefit farmers, ranchers and agribusiness.

Jan. 22 - The Severance Dairy Farm of Dickey received the Commissioner's Award of Dairy Excellence during the 2020 North Dakota Dairy Convention.

Jan. 23 - Commissioner Goehring applauded the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers announcement of the Navigable Waters Protection Rule (NWPR), which defines WOTUS.

Jan. 29 - President Trump signed the USMCA today.

Jan. 30 - The deadline for eligible expenses for the North Dakota Department of Agriculture's Emergency Feed Transportation Assistance Program was extended until Feb. 20, 2020, with applications due Mar. 2, 2020.

Feb. 24 - Commissioner Goehring announced APUC awards for seven projects totaling \$273,000.

Feb. 28 - The 16th annual local foods conference was held Feb. 28-29 in Mandan. The two-day conference attracts growers, processors, marketers and others from across the state.

Feb. 28 - Attendees at the local foods conference learned that the Hunger Free ND Garden Project had recorded volunteer donations of more than 3.1 million pounds of fresh produce to food pantries, soup kitchens, and other charitable community programs since the program started in 2010.

March 2 - NDDA and the North Dakota Agriculture Association announced they were hosting a series of anhydrous ammonia safety training sessions across the state starting on March 9.

March 4 - U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue designated 16 North Dakota counties as

primary natural disaster areas. Emergency support to producers in surrounding counties was also available.

March 6 - Research proposals were being sought for research that addresses the needs of the North Dakota grape, fruit and wine industry.

March 6 - Commissioner Goehring announced the availability of bioscience innovation grants to support biotechnology innovation and commercialization, promote the creation of bioscience jobs in the state, and promote bioscience research and development in North Dakota.

March 6 - The NDDA investigated after it believed that a sanitizing agent used to sterilize and clean equipment was inadvertently introduced to a small portion of milk during production at the Cass-Clay plant in Fargo. Cass-Clay had recalled the milk. NDDA inspectors were doing a more in-depth investigation to confirm that no other products were affected and that corrective measures were in place to ensure a quality product for consumers.

March 11 - Commissioner Goehring awarded grants totaling more than \$27,000 for five projects to plant orchards and gardens in local communities.

March 12 - The Pride of Dakota Spring Capitol Showcase was held at the state Capitol.

March 17 - The USDA was working to assist those in need of seasonal or temporary agriculture labor as routine services were suspended at the consulates in Mexico, South Africa, and Jamaica due to the coronavirus situation. North Dakota typically utilizes nearly 1,800 of these workers.

March 18 - Commissioner Goehring said that auction markets and ag auctions were still crucial but advised taking precautions to mitigate risk at such events in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

March 19 - Commissioner Goehring announced that just as U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue has continued to focus on service to the American people during the health crisis, the NDDA would also continue its inspections and all

other operations to ensure there is no disruption in the food supply chain.

March 23 - Gov. Burgum proclaimed March 22-28, 2020, as North Dakota Agriculture Week, and March 24, 2020, as North Dakota Agriculture Day.

April 1 - NDDA's emergency feed transportation assistance program disbursed funds to eligible producers for a portion of feed transportation expenses incurred between Sept. 30, 2019, and Feb. 20, 2020. The program had 116 applicants and disbursed \$250,000.

April 3 - Commissioner Goehring advised that while agriculture and food have been deemed essential activities by the Department of Homeland Security, careful consideration should be given to agriculture-related activities and events such as youth livestock sales, animal shows and other like activities that are not essential to the process of producing food and feed.

April 6 - A clarification was issued on the April 3 release above stating that agriculture-related activities and events such as youth livestock sales, animal shows and other activities that are not essential to the process of producing food and feed should be canceled or postponed to a later date.

April 6 - Commissioner Goehring stated that beekeepers and their employees are included in the definition of essential industries by the Department of Homeland Security and that these professions are not conducive to social distancing.

April 9 - In a joint release, NDDA and NDSU Extension shared that Gov. Doug Burgum had issued an executive order to suspend the April 1, 2020, expiration of commercial, public and private pesticide applicator certifications for the duration of the declared state of public health emergency.

April 17 - Commissioner Goehring provided letters to critical and essential agriculture businesses for verification purposes in response to requests for being identified as such.

April 21 - Commissioner Goehring announced revisions to the interactive local foods map to help consumers more easily find local foods in North Dakota. The revisions included identifying specific

products such as fruits and vegetables, eggs, beef, poultry, pork, other meats, pickles, jams, jellies, honey, baked goods, and orchards. The changes were in response to a new way of shopping during the health crisis.

April 22 - Commissioner Goehring announced that two grants were awarded totaling \$126,000 to foster the growth of the bioscience industry in North Dakota.

April 22 - Commissioner Goehring issued guidance for ag-related businesses to ensure the continuation of the food supply chain, while maintaining a healthy workforce. The guidance documents issued included best practices to protect against COVID-19 and recommendations for farmers markets, farm deliveries, dairies, processing, manufacturing, agribusiness and agricultural operations and continuity of business plans.

April 24 - Congress passed an amendment to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act that enabled small businesses with 500 or fewer employees to participate in the Small Business Administration's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program.

April 27 - In a joint release, the NDDA and NDSU Extension announced that in-person initial commercial pesticide certification exams would be available in Fargo and Bismarck.

April 28 - Commissioner Goehring awarded grants totaling \$80,000 for industry research and promotion of the grape, fruit and wine industry in North Dakota.

April 30 - North Dakota livestock purchasers were advised that they must make sure any livestock they buy or receive from other states meets North Dakota's import requirements.

May 4 - Commissioner Goehring announced the availability of bioscience innovation grants to support biotechnology innovation and commercialization, promote the creation of bioscience jobs in the state, and promote bioscience research and development in North Dakota.

May 4 - Commissioner Goehring encouraged homeowners to research products before buying and planting nursery stock for their property to ensure the trees and shrubs they choose are hardy for the area.

May 5 - Applications for the Small Business Administration's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) and EIDL Advance programs became available for agricultural businesses with 500 or fewer employees. The programs provided low-interest loans up to \$2 million and grants up to \$10,000.

May 7 - Commissioner Goehring announced the availability of large-project orchard grants. Communities and schools were eligible to apply for grants of \$5,000 - \$20,000.

May 7 - Private, restricted-use pesticide certification became available online.

May 8 - Commissioner Goehring was appointed trustee in the C&F Foods Inc. d/b/a Turtle River Bean Company of Manvel, ND grain insolvency proceedings and offered beans available for bids in the Grand Forks area.

May 12 - Commissioner Doug Goehring announced a new program to provide cost-share assistance to North Dakota meat processing plants. The North Dakota Meat Processing Plant Cost-Share Program helped state-inspected and custom exempt meat processing plants upgrade their facilities and equipment to meet increased demand due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

May 15 - NDDA announced that agricultural producers with losses due to price and supply chain impacts caused by COVID-19 should consider gathering information in preparation for the opening of applications in the United States Department of Agriculture's Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP).

May 18 - Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week was recognized this week, May 17-23. The public was advised to buy firewood from local sources and not to bring firewood in from out of state.

May 18 - Commissioner Doug Goehring

reminded agribusinesses that there are programs to assist if they have experienced a negative economic impact due to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as the Bank of North Dakota's COVID-19 PACE Recovery Program, the BND Ag Disaster Relief Program, and the Small Business Administration's EIDL program.

May 20 - The United States Department of Agriculture released details for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP). CFAP assisted agricultural producers who have suffered a five percent-or-greater price decline from mid-January 2020 to mid-April 2020 or who had losses due to market supply chain disruptions due to COVID-19 and face additional significant market costs.

May 27 - Commissioner Doug Goehring has announced APUC awards for eight projects totaling \$288,187.

June 4 - The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issued a ruling that immediately banned the registrations of Xtendimax, FeXapan and Engenia, products used in over-the-top applications on Dicamba-tolerant soybeans and cotton.

June 4 - Commissioner Goehring issued a statement on other options for weed control in soybeans after the above announcement banning Xtendimax, FeXapan and Engenia.

June 5 - The NDDA moved forward with their 24c Special Local Needs (SLN) label for Xtendimax, FeXapan and Engenia, products used in over-the-top applications on Dicamba-tolerant soybeans since the court's decision affected the federal registration of the products but made no mention of state registrations.

June 9 - NDDA received notification from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that they have ordered the cancellation of the registrations for Xtendimax, FeXapan and Engenia, products used in over-the-top applications on Dicamba-tolerant soybeans. At the direction of the EPA, the state registrations of these products was canceled. However, the EPA provided for the use of any product that had already been purchased prior to

the cancellation.

June 18 - Commissioner Goehring congratulated North Dakota Grain Growers Association President Dennis Haugen on his appointment to the EPA's Farm, Ranch, and Rural Communities Committee (FRRCC) by EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler.

June 18 - Beekeepers moving beehives into the state were reminded to get landowner permission and register their hive locations with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture.

June 24 - Commissioner Goehring awarded grants totaling more than \$65,000 for four large-project orchard and garden grants.

June 25 - The North Dakota Meat Processing Plant Cost-Share Program, a program initiated earlier in the year to provide cost-share assistance to North Dakota meat processing plants, received more funding after the state Emergency Commission unanimously approved an additional \$2.7 million for the program with funding from the coronavirus relief bill.

June 25 - Proposals were sought that support biotechnology innovation and commercialization, promote the creation of bioscience jobs in the state, and promote bioscience research and development in North Dakota in the area of coronavirus research. The state Emergency Commission had approved \$5 million in funding from the coronavirus relief bill for coronavirus research.

June 29 - Field days were scheduled at multiple North Dakota sites to collect and redistribute flea beetles that eat leafy spurge.

July 1 - The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) went into effect today. The agreement includes improvements for food and agriculture that will better serve farmers, ranchers and businesses and will lead to fairer trade and expanded exports.

July 2 - Commissioner Goehring announced that farmers, ranchers, pesticide dealers and applicators, government agencies and homeowners should bring any unusable pesticides

to any of the eight Project Safe Send collections in July.

July 2 - Commissioner Goehring announced that a grant totaling \$56,678 was awarded to foster the growth of the bioscience industry in North Dakota.

July 7 - Field days were finalized at multiple North Dakota sites to collect and redistribute flea beetles that eat leafy spurge.

July 13 - Winners of the 2020 Ag in the Classroom (AITC) Calendar Art Contest were recognized today at a news conference at the State Capitol. Third to fifth grade students were invited to submit original artwork about North Dakota agriculture for the contest to be used in a calendar for agricultural literacy.

July 16 - Commissioner Goehring participated in a roundtable on federal-state regulatory innovation and cutting red tape with other state and federal leaders in Washington today.

July 27 - Commissioner Goehring announced APUC awards for seven projects totaling \$358,755.50.

July 27 - In a joint release, NDDA and the North Dakota State Seed Department said that anyone receiving unsolicited packages containing seeds from China should contact the NDDA to report the incident.

July 27 - Commissioner Goehring announced that grants totaling \$4.4 million were awarded to foster the growth of the bioscience industry in North Dakota in the area of coronavirus research.

Aug. 3 - The NDDA asked state residents who received unsolicited packages containing seeds from China to fill out a survey regarding the seeds and send them in to the NDDA, who was working with USDA to identify and destroy the seeds.

Aug. 3 - In a joint release, the NDDA, NDSU Extension, the Northern Pulse Growers Association and the North Dakota Grain Growers Association reminded farmers to carefully review pre-harvest herbicide applications to ensure compliance with pesticide label directions.

Aug. 5 - The 16th Annual Farmers Market Day at the Capitol was held at the state Capitol.

Aug. 5 - The NDDA released the dates and times of the 2020 Pride of Dakota Harvest and Holiday Showcases.

Aug. 20 - Commissioner Goehring activated the North Dakota Harvest Hotline for farmers who need custom combining and combiners looking for a job.

Aug. 20 - The NDDA offered grants to help charitable food organizations and small grocers make necessary investments in tools to extend the shelf life of perishable foods. The state Emergency Commission approved \$2 million in funding from the coronavirus relief bill for grants to help these organizations.

Aug. 25 - The NDDA reminded producers using herbicides for pre-harvest desiccation to check the label to ensure the product being used is labeled for desiccation of the crop it is being applied to.

Aug. 28 - Commissioner Goehring hosted the nationwide National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) meeting, "Energizing Agriculture for the Future," August 28-September 3, 2020. Goehring was finishing his term as NASDA's 2019-20 president. The meeting, originally scheduled for Medora, ND, was conducted virtually.

Sept. 2 - Commissioner Goehring reminded farmers that assistance is available for blackbird damage to crops through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Wildlife Services program.

Sept. 3 - Livestock producers are reminded of anthrax danger after a case in Morton County was confirmed by the NDSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.

Sept. 4 - Palmer amaranth was confirmed in Stutsman County.

Sept. 9 - Palmer amaranth was confirmed in Barnes and Cass counties.

Sept. 10 - The fall Farmers and Artisans Market was held at the state Capitol.

Sept. 11 - The Pride of Dakota Harvest Showcase

returned to Dickinson Sept. 11-12 with more than 50 booths.

Sept. 17 - Students across North Dakota dined on food products from their own state during the 19th Annual Agriculture in the Classroom School Lunch Day.

Sept. 17 - Commissioner Goehring and representatives from the Velva FFA held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of a community orchard in Velva, ND today.

Sept. 18 - President Trump and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced an expansion of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) with up to \$14 billion in additional funds for agricultural producers who continue to face market disruptions and associated costs due to COVID-19.

Sept. 21 - Proposals were sought that support biotechnology innovation and commercialization, promote the creation of bioscience jobs in the state, and promote bioscience research and development in North Dakota in the area of coronavirus research.

Sept. 23 - NDDA, with support from the North Dakota Department of Human Services and the Indian Affairs Commission, awarded 80 grants totaling \$2 million to help charitable food organizations and small grocers make necessary investments in tools to extend the shelf life of perishable foods.

Sept. 25 - The NDDA Harvest Hotline added custom corn choppers.

Sept. 29 - Commissioner Goehring announced that applications would be accepted for reimbursement of organic certification costs through the Organic Certification Cost Share Program for fiscal year 2020 through Oct. 31.

Oct. 7 - The NDDA scheduled free training sessions for produce growers across the state.

Oct. 8 - Commissioner Goehring announced that grants totaling \$577,800 were awarded to foster the growth of the bioscience industry in North Dakota in the area of coronavirus research.

Oct. 9 - The Pride of Dakota Harvest Showcase was held in Jamestown Oct. 9-10 with more than 75 booths.

Oct. 13 - Commissioner Goehring awarded 27 grants totaling over \$3 million to promote the development, cultivation, production and sales of specialty crops in North Dakota.

Oct. 27 - Commissioner Goehring announced the availability of more large-project orchard grants.

Oct. 28 - The public was reminded that the deadline for reimbursement for organic certification costs was Oct. 31, 2020.

Oct. 28 - The EPA announced the approval of two new five-year Dicamba registrations and extended the registration of an additional Dicamba product for over-the-top (OTT) use on Dicamba-tolerant cotton and soybeans. All of the registrations included new control measures to manage off-site movement.

Nov. 6 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to Grand Forks Nov. 6-8 with nearly 100 companies.

Nov. 16 - Commissioner Goehring announced that the date to apply for reimbursement of organic certification costs through the Organic Certification Cost Share Program for fiscal year 2020 was extended until Dec. 10, 2020.

Nov. 24 - Commissioner Goehring announced APUC awards for 11 projects totaling \$427,225.

Nov. 24 - Commissioner Goehring encouraged communication with neighbors as farmers make planting decisions for next year.

Dec. 2 - Commissioner Goehring announced that applications were being accepted for 2021 Specialty Crop Grants through Jan. 13, 2021.

Dec. 4 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to Bismarck Dec. 4-6 with more than 100 companies.

Dec. 7 - The NDDA and North Dakota Game and Fish Department opened the Coyote Catalog, a statewide effort designed to connect committed coyote hunters and trappers with landowners who are dealing with coyotes in their areas.

2021

Jan. 5 - The NDDA enacted regulations to prevent or slow the movement of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) into North Dakota after the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) moved to terminate federal EAB regulations as of Jan. 14, 2021.

Jan. 7 - The public was reminded that the application deadline for the 2021 Specialty Crop Grants was Wednesday, Jan. 13.

Jan. 8 - The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced that sign-up for the Quality Loss Adjustment (QLA) Program began Jan. 6 and will end March 5, 2021. The QLA would provide assistance to producers who suffered eligible crop quality losses due to natural disasters occurring in 2018 and 2019.

Jan. 29 - Commissioner Goehring awarded grants totaling more than \$71,000 for five large-project orchard and garden grants.

Feb. 3 - The NDDA scheduled free training sessions for produce growers across the state.

Feb. 18 - The Kleingartner Dairy Farm of Gackle has received the Commissioner's Award of Dairy Excellence.

Feb. 22 - Mema's Meats in Berthold was announced as the newest North Dakota company operating under the State Meat and Poultry Inspection Program.

Feb. 25 - Commissioner Goehring announced APUC awards for six projects totaling \$511,298.

March 6 - The NDDA hosted Local Foods Community Conversations virtually from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. CST. The virtual conversations took the place of the annual in-person local foods conference this year.

March 8 - Commissioner Goehring announced that funding is available for research and promotion of honey bees.

March 15 - Commissioner Doug Goehring has announced that applications were again being

accepted for 2021 Specialty Crop Grants due to additional one-time funding from a COVID-19 stimulus package passed by Congress in late 2020.

March 22 - In a joint release, NDDA and the North Dakota Game and Fish Department urged pet stores, aquarium owners and plant enthusiasts to take action after invasive zebra mussels were found in moss ball plants in North Dakota and multiple other states. The NDDA also issued a quarantine on the moss ball plants known as *Aegagropila linnaei* and any other aquatic species found to be infested with *Dreissena polymorpha* (zebra mussel) to prevent the spread of zebra mussels to or within North Dakota. The temporary regulations and its associated rules were effective immediately and the quarantined area includes all states, districts, and territories of the United States. Any person violating the regulations is subject to penalties in accordance with North Dakota Century Code chapter 4.1-23-08.

March 23 - National Ag Day was celebrated today.

March 23 - While in-person Living Ag Classrooms were not held this spring, the commodity groups, agencies and associations that teach students put their presentations into an online resource housed on the NDDA's Agriculture in the Classroom website.

March 25 - The USDA announced a new \$6 billion initiative called Pandemic Assistance for Producers, designed to reach a broader set of producers than previous COVID-19 aid programs. The initiative included existing programs like the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) which will be refined, as statutory authority allows, to better address the needs of producers.

March 31 - The public was reminded that the application deadline for the additional 2021 Specialty Crop Grants was Wednesday, April 7.

April 7 - Private pesticide applicators who hold an April 1, 2020 expiration or an April 1, 2021 expiration date on their certificates were eligible for renewal via an NDSU Extension-delivered training through May 10, 2021.

April 8 - In a joint release, the NDDA, North Dakota Office of the Governor and the North

Dakota State Water Commission announced today that the State Water Commission has reactivated the Drought Disaster Livestock Water Supply Project Assistance Program, as the governor declared a statewide drought disaster for extremely dry conditions across North Dakota.

April 26 - It was announced that the The longtime state veterinarian and director of the Animal Health Division of the North Dakota Department of Agriculture, Dr. Susan Keller, would retire effective June 30, 2021.

April 28 - Commissioner Goehring reactivated the Drought Hotline and interactive map for those who needed hay, those with hay to sell, or with pasture or hayland to rent.

May 5 - Commissioner Goehring encouraged homeowners to research products before buying and planting nursery stock for their property to ensure the stock is hardy for the state.

May 19 - This week was recognized as National Invasive Species Awareness Week and the public was reminded to be aware of invasive species. Each year, harmful invasive weeds, plant pests and diseases cost the U.S. \$40 billion in crop losses, damage to forests and expensive eradication and control efforts.

May 26 - Commissioner Goehring announced APUC awards for five projects totaling \$194,875.

May 27 - Dicamba applicators were reminded to follow the new label requirements for Engenia, XtendiMax and Tavium. The products were re-registered in October 2020 by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) after a federal court ruling in June 2020 vacated the previous 2018 registrations.

June 2 - North Dakota's farmers and ranchers who have sold, or were considering selling, livestock because of drought face the prospect of a higher income tax bill due to the unplanned sales. Special federal income tax rules are available to producers who find it necessary to sell more livestock than they normally would because of drought.

June 2 - The EPA approved a request for a Section 18 emergency exemption for Ultra Blazer®,

enabling North Dakota growers a new tool to combat glyphosate-resistant waterhemp in sugarbeets.

June 3 - The public was asked to watch for an adult female Golden Retriever under quarantine for brucellosis who was removed from its yard in Fargo near the El Zagal golf course around May 9, 2021.

June 8 - Emergency grazing of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres was open in most North Dakota counties. CRP participants in counties that are in a D3 or D4 drought status, or a D2 drought status of 8 weeks or greater, may request to perform emergency grazing during the primary nesting season.

June 17 - Field days were scheduled at multiple North Dakota sites to collect and redistribute flea beetles that eat leafy spurge.

June 23 - Commissioner Goehring requested flexibility on failed acres from USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack and Acting Risk Management Agency (USDA-RMA) Administrator Richard Flournoy due to the drought.

June 23 - Commissioner Goehring appointed Dr. Ethan Andress as the state veterinarian and the animal health division director at the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA).

June 25 - Commissioner Goehring announced that farmers, ranchers, pesticide dealers and applicators, government agencies and homeowners should bring any unusable pesticides to any of the 12 Project Safe Send collections in July.

June 30 - Field days were finalized at multiple North Dakota sites to collect and redistribute flea beetles that eat leafy spurge.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Director

Kenneth Junkert

Financial Management

Lynette Baumiller

Jeannie Jacobs-Kopp

Samantha McGrath

Taylor Wescom

Public Policy

Melanie Gaebe

Human Resources

Shelley Theisen

Emergency Management

Kent Theurer

GIS/GPS

Jim Hansen

Wildlife Services

John Paulson

Administrative Services includes fiscal management, human resources, procurement, emergency and risk management, IT, GIS, the pipeline restoration and reclamation oversight program, the wind energy restoration and reclamation oversight program, and wildlife services.

Fiscal Management

Fiscal management oversees the development and tracking of the department's budget. This includes processing payroll, paying all bills, depositing revenue, reviewing and approving contracts, ensuring compliance with state and federal laws relating to the department's finances, tracking of expenditures and filing required reports to federal agencies, and procuring goods and services for the department.

Policy and Research

The policy and research team works closely with the agricultural community, commodity groups and constituents to provide recommendations, resources and background on federal and state agriculture issues to the commissioner. The team also provides leadership and support to the department divisions, establishes policies and manages all legislative activity.

Human Resources

Human resources (HR) administers activities such as recruitment, compensation, benefits, training, absence management and talent management. This includes communicating HR-related information to employees within the agency and responding to open record requests. HR maintains agency policies and procedures and assists the deputy commissioner with any updates/changes. HR also assists division directors and the deputy commissioner with the job classification process.

Emergency Management

Emergency management supports and enhances emergency communication processes and emergency planning or preparedness activities at NDDA in coordination with other governmental agencies and interested local stakeholder groups as requested. This includes coordinating staff emergency communication system capabilities and supporting department events and functions with weather or other interagency communication. Emergency management facilitates technical experts in NDDA as identified core functions are fortified that the agriculture industry and state of North Dakota depend on

before, during and after disasters or emergencies.

Risk Management

Risk management coordinates safety incident reporting, workers compensation, designated medical provider and incident investigation efforts. This includes implementing proactive safety programs the department participates in including ergonomics, near miss reporting and other North Dakota risk management initiatives to help ensure staff are aware of available tools. Risk management creates a safe and effective workplace for our staff.

Information Technology

Information Technology support in the department leverages hardware, software and information management systems to provide the best possible customer experience while equipping staff to minimize manual time-consuming processes.

The department coordinates with a variety of hardware and software vendors that support the technology staff depend on to support the agriculture industries we serve. This includes North Dakota Information Technology (NDIT), which provides desktop support, network administration, web application support, database management, telecommunications, software training, wireless communications, software management, computers, and other peripherals. The department also coordinates with a handful of other vendors who are experts in their fields to support specialized needs of a variety of programs and hardware used by staff.

Information Technology also has the primary responsibility for implementing the department's Geographic Information System (GIS). This includes the training of partners and staff in the use of global positioning system (GPS) hardware and software to provide location information for a variety of programs. Map products coordinated by GIS specialists enable pesticide applicators to avoid accidentally exposing sensitive sites, such as apiaries, vineyards, fruit orchards and organic fields, to potentially damaging pesticides, allow staff to coordinate visits to processing facilities, and support the work of the Commissioner

though graphic display of the industries that we serve.

Pipeline Restoration and Reclamation Oversight Program

The pipeline restoration and reclamation oversight program connects landowners and tenants experiencing pipeline reclamation and restoration issues with an independent ombudsman. The ombudsmen are the recognized lead facilitators for promoting fairness when resolving pipeline reclamation and restoration issues, concerns and disputes. The program also provides educational outreach to help landowners/tenants consider things such as pipeline pathways, type of pipeline installation, soil impacts, type of vegetation being reestablished, timelines and other issues before signing agreements. Ombudsmen have been assigned 83 total cases during the life of the program.

BUSINESS, MARKETING & INFORMATION

Director

John Schneider

Mediation

Betty Schneider
David Anderson

Public Info / Communications

Michelle Mielke
Colby Lysne

Business Development

Kara Haff

Local Foods

Kristine Kostuck

Development

Bradley Dean

Pride of Dakota

Katie Huizenga

Grant Administrator

Deanna Gierszewski

Administrative / Reception

Julienne Glasser

The Business, Marketing and Information Division includes public policy, the North Dakota Mediation Service, public information, international marketing, the Pride of Dakota program, the Ag in the Classroom program, specialty crop block grants, local foods, the Agricultural Products Utilization Commission and agricultural development. The division promotes the sale of North Dakota agricultural commodities and value-added products in international, national, regional and local markets.

North Dakota Mediation Service

The North Dakota Mediation Service (NDMS) was established to help resolve disputes and to help financially distressed farmers and ranchers.

A North Dakota agricultural borrower may request credit counseling to assist with an agricultural credit issue. The credit counselor works with the family to take an in-depth look at the situation, help evaluate the overall financial picture and look at debt restructuring and refinancing possibilities. The credit counselor will develop options and alternative plans for the operation to present at mediation.

Mediation is a voluntary, confidential process in which a neutral mediator guides the parties involved in a dispute through a thorough examination and discussion of issues. Mediation allows all parties involved in a dispute to speak openly in a confidential manner.

For the 2019-21 biennium, NDMS received 173 mediation requests/notices. Agreement between parties was reached in 65 percent of the cases.

The six-member North Dakota Credit Review Board establishes policy for the NDMS. The board members during the 2019-21 Biennium were:

1. Lana Anderson (Renville) – Governor’s Appointee
2. Gerald Horner (Kidder) – Governor’s Appointee
3. Paul Burtman (Williams) – Attorney General’s Appointee
4. Barry Hanson (Grand Forks) – Attorney General’s Appointee
5. Michael Martin (Dickey) – Agriculture Commissioner’s Appointee
6. Gerald Melvin (Cass) – Agriculture Commissioner’s Appointee

The United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency

requires annual certification of state mediation programs. NDMS was recertified during both years in the 2019-21 biennium. NDMS works closely with the Coalition of Agricultural Mediation Programs (CAMP). CAMP is a network of all USDA Certified Programs, which work together to sustain and support the work of mediation in agricultural and rural disputes. CAMP has been offering mediation services to the agricultural community for 30 years. Currently, 42 certified state programs are in operation. From farm credit issued to disputes over participation in USDA programs, the state mediation programs demonstrate that regardless of the nature of the dispute, mediation can improve communication and repair the relationship between the parties, enable the parties to tailor solutions that work for them, and is generally faster and cheaper than traditional litigation.

Public Information

Public information writes, edits and publishes most department publications, including press releases, informational pamphlets and brochures, newsletters, state laws pertaining to agriculture and the biennial report. Publications are made available in hard copy and on NDDA's website, www.nd.gov/ndda.

Public information also responds to questions and requests for information from the public on agriculture and the department, and maintains department websites and social media accounts.

International Marketing

The division works closely with Food Export Association of the Midwest USA (Food Export – Midwest), a consortium of 13 state agriculture departments, to develop international markets for North Dakota companies that produce food or agricultural products. NDDA promoted such programs as export promotion, customized export assistance and a cost-sharing funding program. North Dakota companies continue to participate in these programs, growing their export markets through the services offered by NDDA and Food Export – Midwest. NDDA also works with the North Dakota Trade Office to expand trade through advocacy, education and trade missions.

Pride of Dakota

With more than 500 member companies, the Pride of Dakota (POD) program is the centerpiece of the division's domestic activities. The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) mentors POD members through marketing seminars and business development trainings, social media opportunities and partnerships with other agencies and organizations. POD members can qualify for financial incentives to attend out-of-state trade shows, and can use the program's point-of-purchase materials to promote their products. The program also offers assistance to retailers working to promote the POD brand.

The Pride of Dakota website – www.prideofdakota.com – lists all Pride of Dakota members with descriptions of their businesses and products, pictures and contact information, and it contains a listing of North Dakota retail locations that carry POD products. The department continues to improve functionality on the front end for viewers and members and on the back end for managing members, events and databases.

The most visible Pride of Dakota activities are the Holiday Showcases, held annually in Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks and Minot. Attendance at the Holiday showcases was 47,349 shoppers in 2019 and 10,318 in 2020. The lower 2020 attendance was due to not holding the Minot and Fargo Holiday showcases in 2020 as a result of the pandemic. There are also two Harvest Showcases, held in Dickinson and Jamestown during September and October, totaling 5,569 shoppers in 2019 and 2,944 in 2020. Other events include the annual Pride of Dakota Day at the North Dakota State Fair and Pride of Dakota Showcases at the Capitol.

Agriculture in the Classroom

As North Dakota's population moves away from farms, ranches and smaller communities and into the larger urban settings, fewer people have direct contact with the state's agricultural sector. In 1985, the Legislature established the Agriculture in the Classroom program (NDCC 4-37-01) to develop educational materials and assist in the

training of teachers in an agriculture curriculum. A six-member board, appointed by the agriculture commissioner, advises the department on the program.

North Dakota K-12 teachers can integrate agricultural information into their classes with “Food, Land & People” (FLP), a nationally developed program that encourages the use of state-specific information. FLP has numerous lessons covering such topics as seeds, raw to processed foods, pollination, soil erosion, cattle byproducts, fabric production and nutrition.

The council published six editions of North Dakota AgMag during the biennium. Each edition was devoted to a different subject – Agricultural Marketing, Dairy, Soil and Water Conservation, North Dakota’s Agricultural History, Corn, Technology in Agriculture and Soybeans.

The Ag in the Classroom grant program provided \$100,000 to organizations to enhance agriculture education throughout the state during the 2019-21 biennium.

Specialty Crop Block Grants

The USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant program is administered by the marketing and information division. Specialty crops are defined as “fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops (including floriculture).”

To be eligible for a grant, the project(s) must solely enhance the competitiveness of U.S. or U.S. territory grown specialty crops in either domestic or foreign markets. Projects must also benefit more than one commercial product (e.g., ABC Company brand), organization, or individual.

Examples of “solely enhancing the competitiveness of specialty crops” can include: education, research, food safety, pest and plant health, marketing and promotion, and production.

A North Dakota priority survey identified these top issues during the 2019-21 biennium: pest and disease control; development of organic and sustainable production practices; developing local and regional food systems; and investing in specialty crop research, including research to focus

on conservation and environmental outcomes.

Local Foods

The division continues to help expand the presence of farmers markets and food choices around the state and to help educate growers and vendors who use these markets. More than 55 farmers markets now operate in the state, reflecting an increasing demand and awareness for locally produced foods.

The department leads many activities to assist with the state’s local foods movement. A few of the highlights include:

- Farmers Market Day at the State Capitol continues to grow and draws a diverse crowd of vendors and shoppers.
- A growing social media presence that strives to market and advertise small farm businesses from across the state.
- Annual publications include the Farmers Markets of North Dakota publication and the Farm to School Producer Guide.
- An online local foods directory map was updated to more visually show the locations of farmers markets, producers that direct market their products, locations of produce donations sites and community orchards in the state. That map may be found online at: <https://www.nd.gov/ndda/NDLFMAP>
- The Hunger Free ND Garden Project encourages fresh produce donations to charitable community organizations. An important partner in this venture is the Great Plains Food Bank. The project has encouraged and recorded over 3.4 million pounds of produce donations since its start in 2010.
- A wide variety of federal grants have and continue to be awarded to local producers and organizations. These grants, including high tunnel, orchard and Farm to School, help make various educational and business projects possible.
- An annual local foods conference brings educational sessions to local growers across the state, such as the Produce Safety Alliance Grower

Turkey Promotion Fund

Revenue

Turkey checkoff	\$28,626.65
Interest	\$43.66
2017-19 carryover funds	<u>\$14,301.55</u>
Total revenue	\$42,971.86

Expenditures

Operating expenses	<u>\$26,853.15</u>
Total expenditures	\$26,853.15
Balance (6-30-21)	\$16,118.71

Training Course.

Organics

North Dakota has more than 200,000 acres of certified organic acres. An Organic Advisory Board advises the Agriculture Commissioner on organic issues. The NDDA has also started an Organic Education and Transition Cost Share Program for North Dakota farmers transitioning to an organic system. North Dakota is the second state in the country to have such a program.

Turkey Promotion

Funded by a producer checkoff, the Turkey Fund (N.D.C.C. §4.1-12) aids in the promotion, marketing and research of turkey products. Processors deduct money from payments to producers and turn the funds over to NDDA for deposit in the turkey fund. Marketing Services administers the Turkey Promotion Fund with the advice of the North Dakota Turkey Federation.

During the 2019-21 biennium, the fund was used to pay National Turkey Federation dues, cover expenses for the North Dakota Turkey Federation to attend the National Convention, and to purchase turkeys for charitable organizations.

Grape, Fruit and Wine Grants

The Grape, Wine and Fruit Promotion Fund is governed by the Grape and Wine Advisory Committee. The Committee consists of two individuals who are grape producers; one

individual who is the producer of a fruit other than grapes, used in vinification; two individuals who own wineries located in the state; and one representative of the North Dakota Grape and Wine Association. The North Dakota Department of Agriculture administers the fund.

The mission of the Grape, Wine and Fruit Promotion Fund is to provide research and promotion in support of the grape and wine industry in North Dakota.

Funding for the Grape, Wine and Fruit Promotion Fund is included in the Agriculture Commissioner's budget. It includes approximately \$80,000 to support grape and wine research projects and marketing in North Dakota.

Agricultural Products Utilization Commission

The Agricultural Products Utilization Commission creates new wealth and employment opportunities through the development of new and expanded uses of North Dakota's agricultural products through a grant program.

Grant funds are limited to companies registered with the North Dakota Secretary of State, higher education agencies, groups and individuals that add value to North Dakota agriculture.

The program offers grants in basic and applied research, nature-based agri-tourism, farm diversification, technical assistance, prototype and technology, and marketing and utilization.

ANIMAL HEALTH

State Veterinarian/Director

Ethan Andress, DVM

Deputy State Veterinarian

Beth Carlson, DVM

Assistant State Veterinarian

Sarah Bailey, DVM, MPH,
DACVPM

Field Investigator

Nathan Boehm

**Avian Influenza Coordinator /
Inspector**

Jeanne David

Administrative Assistant

Tammy Celley

Office Assistants

Peggy Masset
Kathy Hoffman

The state veterinarian and the deputy state veterinarian are appointed by the Agriculture Commissioner, with the consent of the State Board of Animal Health. The state veterinarian is responsible for carrying out policies and orders of the State Board of Animal Health (BOAH). The state veterinarian apprises the Agriculture Commissioner of animal health related issues and concerns.

The state veterinarian is also the director of the Animal Health Division in the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and is responsible for the diagnosis, prevention and control of animal diseases, monitoring new threats, emergency response planning and implementation, and providing public information regarding foreign, emerging and re-emerging animal health concerns.

The deputy state veterinarian oversees the nontraditional livestock, farmed elk, chronic wasting disease surveillance and scrapie eradication programs. The deputy serves as the state's bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis epidemiologist, the transmissible spongiform encephalopathy epidemiologist, and oversees the North Dakota Voluntary John's disease control program. The deputy state veterinarian serves as the acting state veterinarian in his absence.

The assistant state veterinarian oversees the Board of Animal Health's and the Animal Health Division's emergency response planning, assists with the drafting and review of biosecurity plans which are implemented by practicing veterinarians and commercial producers, and coordinates the Reserve Veterinary Corps (RVC) training. The 20-member RVC assists the state veterinarian in preparing for and carrying out emergency responses. The assistant state veterinarian administers the state's National Poultry Improvement Plan, is a liaison to the Department of Emergency Services for animal health emergencies and planning purposes, and is a liaison to the Department of Health regarding zoonotic disease issues such as rabies.

The livestock field investigator conducts inspections of auction markets, non-traditional livestock and farmed elk facilities, modified live vaccine facilities and assists local law enforcement with the investigations of alleged inhumane treatment of animal(s) cases and suspected violations of animal health importation regulations.

State Board of Animal Health

The State Board of Animal Health establishes rules and enforces laws and regulations pertaining to animal agriculture and establishes operating policies for the state veterinarian's office. The board may take necessary action to control, suppress, and eradicate any and all contagious and infectious diseases among any of the domestic animals and nontraditional livestock of the state.

Appointed by the governor, the nine-member board includes representatives from the purebred and commercial beef, dairy, sheep, swine, bison and nontraditional livestock industries, as well as two veterinarians. The board appoints a consulting veterinarian from the staff at North Dakota State University. The state veterinarian provides a report to the board at their quarterly meetings.

Current board members are:

Dr. Gerald Kitto, McClusky: President, Veterinarian

Dr. Morgan Dallman, Golden Valley, Secretary: Veterinarian

Melvin Leland, Sidney, MT: Purebred Cattle

Kristi Doll, New Salem: Dairy

Seth Bacon, Larimore: Swine

Warren Zenker, Gackle: Commercial Beef Cattle

David Pearson, Hettinger: Sheep

Christopher Ryckman, Bismarck: Non-Traditional Livestock

Ryan Homelvig, New Rockford: Bison

Dr. Neil Dyer, Fargo: Consulting Veterinarian

The support staff reviews approximately 8,400 incoming and 15,000 outgoing certificates of veterinary inspection per year. Staff also review disease test charts submitted by diagnostic laboratories for reportable diseases and to determine eligibility for accredited free and certified free herd and flock statuses, issuing

certificates when applicable. North Dakota has 18 accredited tuberculosis-free herds, 11 certified brucellosis-free herds, 46 Chronic Wasting Disease HCP certified herds, and 10 *Brucella ovis* free flocks.

North Dakota is considered brucellosis-free, tuberculosis-free, pseudorabies-free and pullorum-typhoid-free. This disease-free status allows interstate movement and export of animals to other states and countries, with minimal to no additional testing and health certification requirements. Reviewing laboratory reports, field reports, test charts and certificates of veterinary inspection is necessary to maintain North Dakota's status. Due to suspect and positive cases of TB and brucellosis that are still identified in the U.S. as part of our country's routine surveillance, disease investigations can result in the need to test varying numbers of livestock for brucellosis and tuberculosis throughout the biennium. Approximately 2,000 head of cattle were tested during the biennium as a direct result of disease investigations. A significant percentage of the breeding quality heifers in North Dakota are also official calf hood vaccinates (OCV) against brucellosis in an effort to prevent the reintroduction of *Brucella abortus*. The ND Voluntary John's Disease Control Program provides resources to producers and veterinarians to help reduce the incidence of the disease in herds in North Dakota. During the biennium, 193 beef and 4 dairy herds participated in the program.

The Animal Health Division and the state veterinarian assist law enforcement in inhumane treatment of animal cases. About 100 reports were investigated during the past biennium. Staff veterinarians provided expertise when these cases were investigated and/or prosecuted. The state veterinarian also contracts accredited veterinarians to assist law enforcement with investigations.

The Animal Health Division enforces licensing and rules relating to nontraditional livestock, such as deer, indigenous birds and other exotic species. Currently, 65 nontraditional livestock premises are licensed and 47 elk premises are approved.

The division also issued 249 permits to possess, propagate or domesticate pheasants, quail, and chukar to individuals on behalf of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department.

Eleven livestock auction markets were operating within the state during the biennium. Regular inspections are conducted to provide a safe environment for livestock and the public. An auction market veterinarian, who acts as a BOAH agent, inspects animals for disease prior to sale. The BOAH approves the veterinary inspector recommended by the livestock auction market.

The division licenses and inspects modified live vaccine outlets, and provides the continuing education, required by state law, to entities wishing to sell products containing modified live germs, cultures or viruses for treatment or vaccination of domestic animals. In the 2019-21 biennium, 79 facility licenses were issued and 206 personnel received training.

Registration of livestock medicine has been transferred to the Animal Health Division. Currently 1,533 products are registered in North Dakota.

The state veterinarian collaborates with the North Dakota Department of Health on zoonotic disease concerns and with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department on diseases at the domestic animal-wildlife interface. The division works with the federal area-veterinarian-in-charge for North Dakota and South Dakota to conduct activities required under national disease eradication or control programs. The division also works with USDA Wildlife Services Division and with the state Game and Fish Department on feral swine eradication and wildlife disease surveillance.

Through limited and unpredictable federal cooperative agreements, the state has been able to provide funds to help veterinarians and their clients in conducting syndromic surveillance for emerging or re-emerging diseases that might otherwise go undiagnosed.

The division assists the Department of Emergency Services with planning and supporting emergency animal shelters as needed. The division staff assist

with sheltering when local staffing is limited. On behalf of the BOAH, the state veterinarian may engage national sheltering coalitions for their additional expertise and assistance for large-scale sheltering in the event of an emergency.

Animal ID

The national Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) program provides a framework to enable the rapid, efficient traceability of animals during a disease response. ADT allows states to use their own protocols to meet minimum national standards. The Animal Health Division works with the North Dakota Stockmen's Association on premises registration and animal traceability efforts. An animal identification working group, made up of livestock industry representatives provides input on the development of a workable animal disease traceability plan in North Dakota. About 12,000 livestock premises have been registered.

In cooperation with 17 other states and USDA-APHIS, the Animal Health Division has implemented information management software and a computer database to improve program data accessibility and decrease labor requirements for recordkeeping. The USAHERDS platform has eliminated most paper records and is located within the nd.gov system. The Animal Health Division is working to improve efficiency and add functionality to this technology by receiving electronic data immediately from veterinarians through commercial and private applications.

LIVESTOCK INDUSTRIES

Director

Andrea Grondahl, DVM

Dairy

David Boschma

Haylee Beehler

Nathan Kroh

State Meat Inspection

Heather Andersen

Joshua Epperly

Todd Erickson

Ian Hall

Cody Kreft

Cami Metzger

Siri Rasmussen

David Slack

Shawn Steffen

Nicole Tribitt

Whitney Vogel

Vacant

Administrative Assistant

Becky Gietzen

Livestock Services includes duties and functions related to dairy production, meat inspection, and poultry and egg production.

Dairy

The dairy inspection staff visited the state's 49 dairy farms an average of three to four times per year during the biennium, checking for equipment cleanliness and proper use and storage of drugs, and verifying that the water supply meets approved standards. Inspectors also conducted about 150 inspections of distribution facilities and about 150 inspections of farm bulk trucks and samplers.

North Dakota's two fluid milk processing plants, three manufacturing plants, and one transfer station are inspected quarterly. Inspectors ensure that every pasteurizer functions properly on a quarterly basis. Inspectors collect approximately 1,100 samples of raw milk and finished products during a biennium. Samples are tested for bacteria, somatic cells, coliforms and drug residues.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture contracts the Dairy Division to inspect manufacturing grade dairy plants. The division also conducts the Interstate Milk Shippers surveys of 10 listed (certified) producer groups and two plants. IMS certification allows for Grade A raw milk and finished products to be shipped out of state.

The division licenses processors, distributors, testers and bulk haulers of milk and dairy products in North Dakota. Anyone buying milk from producers must be bonded and licensed.

Poultry

The Dairy Division also serves as the Poultry Division. The division inspects small flock egg production operations, allowing the 24 such producers currently in the state to directly market eggs to retailers or other business establishments such as nursing homes, restaurants and grocers.

Meat and Poultry Inspection

The State Meat and Poultry Inspection Program (SMPIP) currently regulates 92 processing plants. Seventeen plants are state inspected or official state establishments at which livestock is slaughtered and/or processed under regulated inspection. Seven of these plants are operating as selected establishments operating under the Cooperative Interstate Shipment (CIS) Program.

Inspectors perform both ante-mortem and post-mortem

examinations of each animal and perform various tasks during processing activities.

The final products from official state establishments carry the state inspection mark and may be sold retail or wholesale only within North Dakota. Certain nontraditional products, such as buffalo or elk, may be sold out of the state if they meet special criteria. The final products from selected establishments carry the USDA inspection mark and may be sold nationwide.

The remaining 75 plants are custom exempt establishments which offer slaughter and/or processing services for a fee. Animals to be slaughtered or the meat to be processed belong to the customer, not the establishment. All of the products derived from the custom operations must be returned to the owner. Custom exempt plants may also carry retail exempt products for sale to the public. The owner/operator of the plant buys boxed meat from an inspected plant and further processes it for retail sale. These products may only be sold at the retail counter within the plant. SMPPIP inspects these plants two to four times annually.

NDDA, in cooperative agreement with the Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS), provides beef grading services to producers, state-inspected and federally-inspected meat processing plants. Two SMPPIP inspectors have been certified as graders.

NDDA and AMS have a cooperative agreement for country of origin labeling. The agreement requires surveillance audits of retail outlets for compliance with provisions in the 2002, 2008 and 2016 Farm Bills.

Covered commodities include: whole and ground lamb, goat, chicken, fish, shellfish, fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables, peanuts, pecans, macadamia nuts and ginseng.

PESTICIDE & FERTILIZER

Director

Eric Delzer

Pesticide

Lukas Wagner
Crystal Zabolotny
Jill Carlson
Kevin Coufal
Andrew Erickson
Jonathan Krei
Carla Ralston
Derek Woehl
Aubrey Sondrol

Fertilizer

Brandy Kiefel
Darrell Haseleu
Brian Kramer

Environmental Scientist

Jerry Sauter

Administrative Assistant

Sara Timmer

The Pesticide & Fertilizer Division is responsible for North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) functions and duties related to regulation of pesticides and fertilizers.

Pesticide Enforcement

The Pesticide Enforcement program randomly inspects pesticide dealers, commercial and private applicators, and repackaging facilities. Pesticide Enforcement staff conducted 688 and 710 inspections in the federal fiscal year of 2020 and 2021 respectively. As a result of these inspections, NDDA issued 56 enforcement actions, including 26 warnings and 30 civil penalties. In addition to inspections, the Pesticide Enforcement program responded to complaints of alleged pesticide misuse. The department continues to use all available strategies, including inspections, complaint investigations and outreach to educate the public on the risk associated with pesticide misuse and to gain compliance with pesticide laws and rules. Staff reached approximately 5,732 people during public and private compliance assistance and outreach events in the federal fiscal years of 2020 and 2021.

Worker Protection Standard

The Worker Protection Standard (WPS) protects workers and pesticide handlers from pesticide exposure in farm, forest, greenhouse, and nursery settings. NDDA personnel provided outreach to help businesses and farms comply with the standard. Inspections were conducted to monitor compliance and provide additional education.

Pesticide Registration

The Pesticide Registration program registered 16,259 pesticide products in the past biennium, including insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, disinfectants, rodenticides and other chemicals intended to kill, repel, and otherwise mitigate pests. As part of the pesticide registration process, the NDDA reviewed product labeling to ensure that it was enforceable, complied with federal requirements, and adequately mitigated risk to human health and the environment.

Sections 18 and 24(c) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) authorize NDDA to ensure that pesticide uses are available to address significant pest problems. The department issued 11 Section 24(c) Special Local Needs (SLN) registrations during the biennium to address pests of local concern.

Adding new SLN registrations to previously issued, active registrations resulted in the NDDA managing 39 SLN registrations during the biennium. One Section 18 emergency exemption was requested and granted during the biennium.

Fertilizer Registration

A total of 7,884 fertilizer products, ranging from home and garden fertilizers to commercial agricultural fertilizers and soil conditioners, were registered in the biennium. North Dakota currently licenses 930 fertilizer distributors and 283 anhydrous ammonia facilities.

During the biennium, 321 fertilizer samples, including 261 ag fertilizers and 60 specialty fertilizer products, were tested to ensure that chemical composition matched label claims. NDDA collected tonnage fees on a total of 5,201,334 tons of fertilizer distributed in the state last biennium.

Fertilizer Enforcement

The Fertilizer Program inspects fertilizer facilities, anhydrous ammonia storage facilities, and anhydrous ammonia nurse tanks. The Department also enforces the federal chemical accident prevention provisions of the EPA's Risk Management Program (RMP) rule for all agricultural anhydrous ammonia facilities in the state. During 2020 and 2021, fertilizer staff conducted 888 total inspections which included 610 nurse tank inspections, 170 anhydrous ammonia storage facility inspections, and 108 RMP inspections.

Project Safe Send

Project Safe Send is a program for collecting old and unwanted pesticides from the public so that they can be disposed of safely and legally. The NDDA hosted 12 Safe Send collection sites in both 2019 and 2020. More than 636,058 pounds of pesticides were collected. More than 612 people disposed of pesticides through Project Safe Send last biennium.

Pesticide Water Quality

NDDA worked with the North Dakota

Department of Health in the biennium to sample 30 river and stream sites for 102 pesticides and pesticide degradates.

As part of its obligations to EPA, NDDA assessed pesticides for their potential to contaminate groundwater and surface water. To date, 126 pesticides have been assessed. As part of this assessment process, 2,4-D, acetochlor, atrazine, halosulfuron, metolachlor and imidacloprid have been identified as pesticides of concern. NDDA continues to monitor surface water for pesticides to ensure that levels do not pose a risk of unreasonable adverse effects to human health or the environment.

Endangered Species Program

North Dakota was the first state to establish an Endangered Species Protection Program (ESPP). As part of the program, NDDA worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to identify pesticide uses that pose a significant risk to threatened and endangered species in North Dakota. The ESPP requires NDDA to supply EPA with data and recommendations relating to pesticides and their potential to impact listed species.

IP Management in Schools Program

The Integrated Pest Management in Schools Program is a non-regulatory program focused on providing primary and secondary schools with information and tools to reduce pesticide risk and exposure to children, educators and staff. The program's goal is increasing school adoption of integrated pest management strategies, including the use of physical, cultural, biological and chemical techniques, for achieving long-term, environmentally-sound pest control and reducing use of pesticides in school settings. The program employs strategies to reduce sources of food, water and shelter for pests in school buildings and grounds. It also involves the prudent and careful use of pesticides and appropriate training of staff members who use pesticide products.

PLANT INDUSTRIES

Director

Samantha Brunner

Plant Protection Officer

Charles Elhard

Plant Protection Specialists

John Mortenson
Adam Pachl
Chelsey Penuel

Noxious Weeds Specialist

Richard Weisz

Plant Industries Assistant

Kim Norton

Plant Industries is responsible for North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) functions and duties related to crop production. These include plant protection, noxious weed control, apiary and hemp.

Noxious Weeds Program

NDDA coordinates the efforts of county and city weed boards, and state and federal land managers to implement weed management programs. Through state appropriations, county and city weed boards offer cost-share funding to landowners for noxious weed control. During the 2019-2021 biennium, counties were reimbursed a total of \$937,023.58 for control of noxious weeds through the Landowner Assistance Program (LAP).

The Targeted Assistance Grant (TAG) program provides cost-share funds to county and city weed boards to meet specified noxious weed control needs. During the 2019-2021 biennium, \$162,984.08 was reimbursed to local weed boards to buy equipment, software and supplies to survey and map noxious weeds, conduct biocontrol activities and other activities.

2019-21 Noxious Weed Control Funding		
	General Funds	Special Funds
Landowner Assistance	\$205,545.27	\$731,478.31
Targeted Assistance	\$ 51,225.54	\$162,984.08

The U.S. Forest Service reimbursed NDDA \$72,087.12 during the 2019-21 biennium. These funds enabled NDDA to survey, map and control noxious and invasive weeds through integrated weed management; rehabilitate degraded lands; purchase, release, redistribute and monitor biological control agents; print and distribute weed identification guides, host weed identification and other workshops; and map biocontrol release sites.

Most counties have weed mapping capabilities using various GPS programs. Counties provided NDDA with nearly 4 million GPS data points during the biennium. Yearly maps are provided to participating weed boards.

NDDA administers a weed seed-free forage (WSFF) program that meets the North American Invasive Species Management (NAISMA)

North Dakota's Noxious Weeds

Absinth wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium* L.)

Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense* L.)

Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria genistifolia* spp. *Dalmatica*)

Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa* Lam.)

Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale* L.)

Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula* L.)

Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans* L.)

Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*)

Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria* L., *Lythrum girgatum* L. and all cultivars)

Russian knapweed (*Centaurea repens* L.)

Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe* spp. *micanthos*)

Saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.)

Yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*)

standards. From July 1, 2019, to the end of the 2019 growing season, 6,236 acres in 9 counties were inspected and 13,999 bales of alfalfa, mixed hay, and wheat, barley, and oat straw were certified. During the 2020 growing season, 6,906 acres in 12 counties were inspected and 15,748 bales of alfalfa, mixed hay, and wheat and barley straw were certified. The 2021 growing season up until June 30, 2021, did not have any inspections.

Plant Protection Program

The Plant Protection Program conducts a pest survey program for exotic plant pests and pests of export significance. Surveys included Karnal bunt, exotic wood borers and bark beetles, emerald ash borer, Japanese beetle, small grain insects and diseases, corn insects and disease, khapra beetle, potato cyst nematode, other plant parasitic nematodes and barberry.

Public education regarding exotic pest threats is

accomplished through distribution of outreach materials, booth displays at trade shows and presentations. Emerald ash borer, gypsy moth and Japanese beetle were the primary exotic threats that were targeted.

Export certification services were provided to exporters to satisfy the plant pest regulations of other states and foreign countries. A memorandum of understanding with USDA-APHIS-PPQ was maintained to allow issuance of federal phytosanitary certificates. More than 9,300 federal phytosanitary certificates were issued during the biennium involving many agronomic commodities, seedstocks and nursery stock. Certificates were issued to 82 different countries.

Export certification documents issued to satisfy phytosanitary requirements of Canada and California included certification of cereal seed exported to Canada (three active compliance agreements - 47 certificates), cereal grain exported to Canada (180 active compliance agreements - 3,260 certificates), and grain corn exported to western states for European Corn Borer quarantine (118 compliance agreements - 467 certificates).

Nursery growers and dealers must be licensed, and all nursery stock that is sold must be from inspected sources and certified to be practically free from damaging pests (N.D.C.C. § 4-21). In 2019, there were 283 nursery licenses issued including 42 grower locations covering 980 acres of field-grown nursery stock. In 2020, there were 237 nursery licenses issued including 34 grower locations covering 987 acres of field-grown nursery stock.

Nursery growers are inspected for insects and diseases, allowing for both intrastate and interstate movement as well as some international sales. The most common causes of refusal of certification were needlecast diseases of spruce, wood borer infestations and failure to maintain adequate weed control or overcrowded conditions resulting in the inability to conduct adequate inspections.

Nursery stock at dealer locations was inspected to detect pest introductions, enforce the black

stem rust (barberry) quarantine and to enforce labeling, viability and hardiness requirements. NDDA nursery inspectors conducted 145 dealer inspections in the 2019-21 biennium with non-hardy labeling violations the most common citation.

Apiary Program

NDDA is responsible for licensing all beekeepers, registering bee colonies and bee yards.

In 2019, NDDA licensed 288 beekeepers and registered 670,963 colonies at 17,603 locations. In 2020, NDDA licensed 300 beekeepers and registered 692,076 colonies at 18,193 registered locations. A major activity of the apiary program is the inspection of migratory bee colonies for diseases, including American foulbrood, European foulbrood, sacbrood and chalkbrood. Inspectors also check for Varroa mites and small hive beetles. A majority of beekeepers are migratory, moving their bees to warmer climates in the winter, where they pollinate many crops, such as almonds, apples and citrus fruits. NDDA also investigates complaints about bees and serves as a liaison between landowners, the general public and beekeepers.

In 2019, NDDA certified 38,377 colonies belonging to 13 beekeepers as part of the California Pre-Inspection Program. This is a voluntary inspection that pre-certifies loads of bees destined for California, allowing them to

bypass the inspection at the CA border. Many trucks get held up at the CA border for various reasons, including long lines, dirt, insect eggs and random insects found on shipments. These delays weaken honey bee colonies, decreasing their value for pollination services. Insect finds also cause loads to be rejected at the border. Rejected loads either need to return home or beekeepers have to pay to have the entire trailer unloaded and all boxes and pallets washed prior to reinspection. In 2018 and 2019, inspections were done alongside CA inspectors and limited to a small window when the CA inspectors were in North Dakota. Beginning in 2020, ND was authorized to conduct the inspections alone. In 2020, NDDA certified 77,804 colonies belonging to 25 beekeepers.

Honey Promotion

The North Dakota Honey Assessments Act (N.D.C.C. § 4.1-08) assesses 10 cents on each licensed honey bee colony with a minimum assessment of \$1 per beekeeper. All proceeds are deposited in the Honey Promotion Fund. The apiary program administers the Honey Promotion Fund with the advice of the North Dakota Beekeepers Association. Beekeepers who do not wish to participate in the program may ask for an assessment refund if they had contributed at least five dollars.

During the 2019-21 biennium, the Honey Fund was used for special promotions and research to benefit the honey industry.

Hemp Program

NDDA is responsible for the hemp program, which licenses all hemp processors and growers, conducts inspections and samples for THC content analysis (N.D.C.C. § 4.1-18.1). In 2019, NDDA licensed 64 hemp growers and 9 processors. North Dakota growers planted 3,940 acres, including 31 varieties in 17 counties. In 2020, NDDA licensed 81 hemp growers and 20 processors. North Dakota growers planted 3,392 acres, including 58 varieties in 17 counties.

Honey Promotion Fund	
<u>Revenue</u>	
Honey promotion fees	\$141,279.08
Interest	\$620.44
Total revenue	\$141,899.52
<u>Expenditures</u>	
Operating expenses	\$2.26
Grant expenses	\$72,609.58
Total expenditures	\$72,611.84
Balance (6-30-21)	\$69,287.68

GRAIN & LIVESTOCK LICENSING

Director

Shaun Quissell

Specialist

Leslie Gasal

Grain Inspectors

Toby Kramer

Andy Markel

Kevin Hendrickson

Jason Berge

Livestock Development

Jason Wirtz

Feed Specialist

Jamie Good

Administrative Assistant

Angela Rittmiller

Grain and Livestock Licensing includes duties and functions related to grain inspection, feed inspection and registration, livestock development and licensing, livestock pollution prevention, and beef age and source verification.

Grain Licensing

The division licenses grain warehouses, grain buyers, grain processors, and grain brokers. To be licensed, an entity must post an adequate bond, file a current financial statement, and file all memoranda used to purchase grain. All entities are inspected at least annually for the financial ability to pay for grain purchased. License costs are based on amount purchased throughout the year and range from \$400-\$1,200 and are valid August 1 - July 31. A current list of all licensees is available on the department's website.

Livestock Licensing

The division licenses livestock dealers and livestock auction markets, who must first post adequate bond, file a current financial statement and pass basic tests of financial responsibility. Random visits are conducted to discover unlicensed dealers at the states licensed auction markets.

Dealer licenses cost \$50 annually and are valid from July 1 to June 30; auction market licenses cost \$200 annually and are valid from April 1 to March 31. Current lists of livestock dealers and auction markets are available on the department's website.

Livestock Pollution Prevention

The Livestock Pollution Prevention Program provides educational, technical and financial assistance to livestock producers for manure containment systems. The program has worked with about 200 livestock producers since its inception. An EPA 319 grant and NRSC grant funds the program.

The North Dakota Verified Livestock Program provides age and source verification services to beef cattle producers to aid in accessing market opportunities for their cattle. The program has provided services to more than 400 cattle producers and has an enrollment of approximately 120,000 calves.

Feed Registration

Approximately 4,000 commercial feeds and 12,000 pet foods are registered in the state. Labels are reviewed for all new products

submitted for registration. In the 2019-21 biennium, 200 feeds and pet food samples were collected and tested. When lab results showed discrepancies between labeling and actual feed content, letters were sent to the manufacturers of these products requesting corrections. During the same period, 394 feed manufacturers and 232 feed retailers were licensed. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration contracted with the NDDA to conduct medicated feed plant inspections, Veterinary Feed Directive and bovine spongiform encephalopathy inspections.

STATE FAIR

Fair Manager

Renaë Korslien

North Dakota law (NDCC 4.1-45-23) requires that an annual report of the North Dakota State Fair Association with a statement of financial condition be filed with the agriculture commissioner, and that the commissioner include the report in whole or in part in the biennial report of the Department of Agriculture.

The secretary of state has advised the Department of Agriculture that reprinting these documents is unnecessary if they are referenced in the department's biennial report because they are published elsewhere at state expense and are readily available.

For a complete report on the state fair and the North Dakota State Fair Association for the 2019-2021 biennium, please refer to the annual reports of the North Dakota State Fair.

Copies of these reports may be obtained from:

The North Dakota State Fair
P.O. Box 1796
Minot, N.D. 58702
(701) 857-7620

Copies of these reports may be borrowed from the North Dakota State Library, 604 E. Boulevard Ave., Liberty Memorial Building, Bismarck, ND 58505-0800; (800) 472-2104; (701) 328-4622.

North Dakota Department of Agriculture

Funding & Expenditures 2019-21

<u>Expenditures by Line Item</u>	Current Appropriation	Expenditures	Remaining Appropriation	%
Salaries and Wages	\$14,232,746.00	\$13,328,707.08	\$904,038.92	6%
Operating Expenses	\$6,916,619.95	\$4,511,403.86	\$2,405,216.09	35%
COVID-19 Operating Expenses	\$500,000.00		\$500,000.00	100%
Capital Assets	\$15,000.00	\$14,095.40	\$904.60	6%
Grants	\$27,264,555.05	\$20,681,987.97	\$6,582,567.08	24%
COVID-19 Specialty Grants	\$5,000,000.00		\$5,000,000.00	100%
Intermodal Facility Grants	\$2,000,000.00		\$2,000,000.00	100%
Grain Insolvency Litigation	100,000.00	\$77,357.82	\$22,642.18	23%
APUC	\$3,760,417.00	\$2,344,773.65	\$1,415,643.35	38%
Board of Animal Health	\$962,118.00	\$425,086.77	\$537,031.23	56%
Wildlife Services	\$1,457,400.00	\$1,457,400.00	\$0.00	0%
Pipeline Oversight Program	\$200,000.00	\$81,771.40	\$118,228.60	59%
Crop Harmonization Board	\$75,000.00	\$68,331.64	\$6,668.36	9%
Total Expenditures	\$62,483,856.00	\$42,990,915.59	\$19,492,940.41	31%
<u>Expenditures by Funding Source</u>				
General Fund	\$10,911,829.00	\$10,667,235.16	\$244,593.84	2%
Federal Funds	\$33,121,215.00	\$23,099,798.60	\$10,021,416.40	30%
Special Funds	\$18,450,812.00	\$9,223,881.83	\$9,226,930.17	50%
Total Expenditures by Source	\$62,483,856.00	\$42,990,915.59	\$19,492,940.41	31%

LEGISLATION

The following is a summary of legislation passed during the biennium that related to the North Dakota Department of Agriculture:

HB 1009 - AN ACT to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the agriculture commissioner; to provide for a transfer; to amend and reenact sections 4.1-01-02, 4.1-01-17, 4.1-83-22, 4.1-83-23, 4.1-83-28, and 54-12-08 of the North Dakota Century Code and section 7 of chapter 34 of the 2019 Session Laws, relating to the salary of the agriculture commissioner, the pipeline restoration and reclamation oversight program, insolvency of livestock dealers, the ability of state agencies to employ attorney positions, and the waterbank program; to provide for a report; to provide for a legislative management study; and to declare an emergency.

HB 1026 - AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 60-02, three new sections to chapter 60-02.1, and a new section to chapter 60-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to financial criteria for grain buyer, grain broker, grain processor, and warehousemen licenses, and licensing and bonding for grain brokers and grain processors; to amend and reenact sections 60-02-01, 60-02-07, 60-02-09, 60-02-11, 60-02-12, 60-02-19.1, 60-02-24, 60-02.1-01, 60-02.1-07, 60-02.1-08, 60-02.1-10, 60-02.1-11, 60-02.1-13, 60-02.1-14, 60-02.1-15, 60-02.1-17, 60-02.1-19, 60-02.1-21, 60-02.1-23, 60-02.1-29, 60-02.1-32, and 60-02.1-41, subsection 2 of section 60-04-01, and sections 60-04-03 and 60-10-16 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to definitions of grain brokers and processors, the duties and powers of the commissioner, confidentiality records, scale ticket contents, credit-sale contracts, reports, annual licenses, fees, and bonds for grain buyers, grain brokers, grain processors, and warehousemen; to repeal sections 60-02.1-06, 60-02.1-07.1, 60-02.1-26, 60-02.1-27, 60-04-09, and 60-10-15; and to provide a penalty.

HB 1045 - AN ACT to create and enact three new sections to chapter 4.1-18.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to prohibited acts and the commissioner's authority to charge fees for industrial hemp testing and to set the tetrahydrocannabinol concentration level; to amend and reenact section 4.1-18.1-01 and subsection 1 of section 4.1-18.1-05 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to industrial hemp; and to declare an emergency.

HB 1046 - AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 4.1-01-11 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the advisory committee on sustainable agriculture.

HB 1158 - AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 2 of section 49-22-09.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the

allocation of moneys paid to mitigate adverse environmental impacts.

HB 1197 - AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 7 of section 4.1-40-03, subsection 1 of section 4.1-40-06, and section 4.1-40-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the definition, licensing, labeling, and inspection fees for specialty fertilizers.

HB 1338 - AN ACT to create and enact a new subsection to section 4.1-33-16 and a new section to chapter 4.1-33 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the waiver of certification requirements during a declared state of emergency and an exemption to certification requirements for antimicrobial pesticides; to amend and reenact section 4.1-33-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the definition of antimicrobial pesticide; and to declare an emergency.

HB 1394 - AN ACT to provide an appropriation for costs related to COVID-19 and other services; to provide an exemption; and to declare an emergency.

HB 1475 - AN ACT to create and enact three new sections to chapter 4.1-01.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to an agriculture diversification and development fund, agriculture diversification and development committee, and agriculture diversification and development fund grants program; to provide an appropriation; to provide a continuing appropriation; and to provide for a transfer.

SB 2018 - AN ACT to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the department of commerce; to provide an appropriation to the department of transportation; to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the transfer of the international business and trade office from the department of commerce to the agriculture commissioner; to amend and reenact sections 54-34.3-13 and 54-60-29 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the rural growth incentive program and the unmanned aircraft systems program fund; to repeal section 54-60-16 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating

to the international business and trade office; to provide a continuing appropriation; to provide for a transfer; to provide for a report; to provide an exemption; to provide a statement of legislative intent; and to provide for a legislative management study.

SB 2049 - AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 19 of section 4.1-25-01 and sections 4.1-25-31, 4.1-25-32, and 4.1-25-33 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the definition of pasteurized milk ordinance and the pasteurized milk ordinance revision.

SB 2050 - AN ACT to amend and reenact section 4.1-31-01.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the federal meat inspection revision.

SB 2053 - AN ACT to amend and reenact section 4.1-01.1-06 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the required uses of the agricultural products utilization fund; and to declare an emergency.

SB 2054 - AN ACT to amend and reenact section 4.1-27-19 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to refusal or revocation of a license to operate a livestock auction market; and to repeal chapter 4.1-88 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to wool dealers.

SB 2245 - AN ACT to provide an appropriation to the agriculture commissioner for an intermodal facility grant program; and to declare an emergency.