

NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Biennial Report
2021-2023



*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, oats, flaxseed and honey. North Dakota also ranks near the top in barley, dry edible peas, soybeans, lentils, sugarbeets and potatoes. We also rank in the top ten for beef cows.

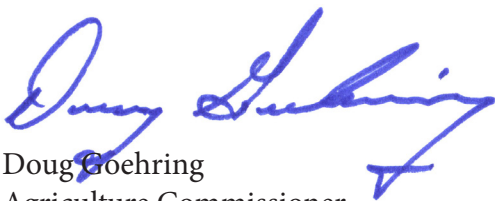
They have done this despite less than ideal conditions, from low prices and high input costs to uncooperative weather and trade wars. Yet our farmers and ranchers continued to provide safe and abundant food, feed, fiber and fuel for our state, our nation and the world.

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,

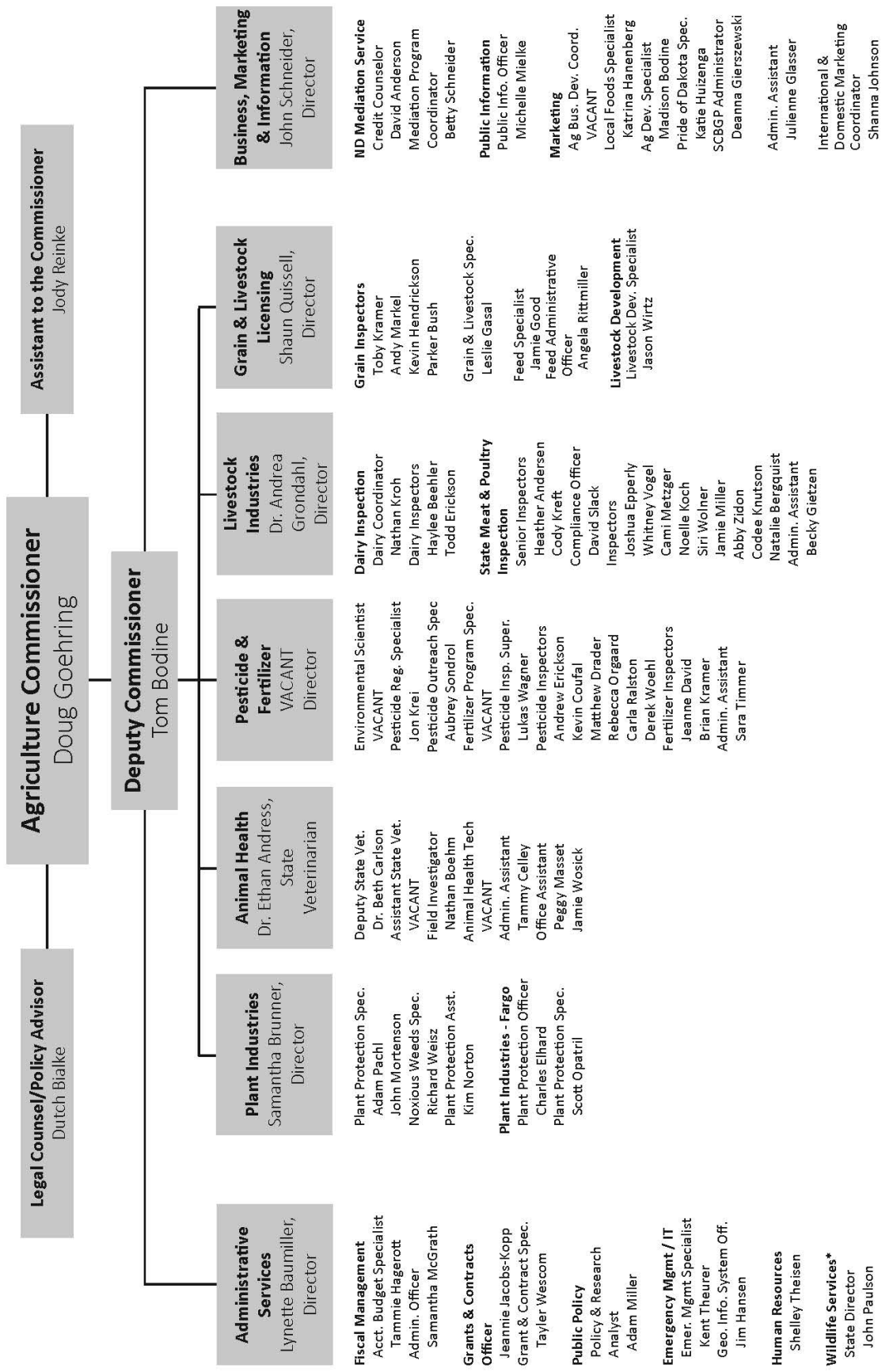


Doug Goehring
Agriculture Commissioner

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.



* Wildlife Services, a division of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, operates in North Dakota under a cooperative agreement with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, and the North Dakota State Water Commission.

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 agriculture commissioner, Doug Goehring, was first appointed to the office in 2009 and has since been successively state-wide elected to the office four times.

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.
- Administering the Postproduction Royalty Oversight Program, §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 2021-23 Biennium: A Timeline

2021

July 7 - The USDA announced that agricultural producers with crop insurance can hay, graze or chop cover crops on prevented plant acres for silage, haylage or baleage at any time and still receive 100% of the prevented planting payment.

July 15 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced that proposals are being 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.

July 19 - It was announced that the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) and the North Dakota Agriculture in the Classroom Council are seeking proposals for developing and conducting educational programs and materials to help young people understand the importance of agriculture in North Dakota and in their own lives.

July 20 - The North Dakota State Board of Animal Health granted a summer grazing exemption at their recent board meeting due to the widespread drought in North Dakota.

July 21 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring requested the early release of emergency haying on acres enrolled in all Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contract types from United States Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack due to the drought. No response has been received.

July 26 - Twenty-five North Dakota companies from around the state displayed, sold, and sampled their products at the 33rd annual KMOT Pride of Dakota Day today at the North Dakota State Fair in Minot.

July 26 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring discussed control measures for

grasshoppers and reminded producers that control measures are best coordinated between producers with neighboring fields, pastures and rangeland for maximum effect.

July 26 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says there are some options to feed livestock, including feedstocks and feedlots. Feedlot owners with room to feed livestock were invited to contact the Hay Hotline.

July 30 (Joint release with North Dakota Office of the Governor and North Dakota State Water Commission) - Gov. Doug Burgum and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced that the State Water Commission has approved two new water supply programs and allocated an additional \$2 million to the Drought Disaster Livestock Water Supply Project Assistance Program to help farmers and ranchers battling North Dakota's worst drought conditions in at least 30 years.

August 4 - North Dakota businesses offered their locally made and grown products during the August Farmers and Artisans Market from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the west parking lot of the State Capitol building off 4th St.

August 5 - North Dakota's state veterinarian says the state's first reported case of anthrax this year is a reminder to livestock producers to take action to protect their animals from the disease, especially in areas with a past history of the disease. The case, in a Kidder County beef herd, was confirmed earlier this week by the North Dakota State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.

August 9 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring has announced North Dakota Agricultural Products Utilization Commission (APUC) awards for eight projects. The awards totaling \$481,683.25 were approved at the APUC quarterly meeting July 28-29 in Medora.

August 10 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring urged growers across the state to donate extra fruits and vegetables from their harvest

this year to help meet the needs of hungry North Dakotans as part of the Hunger Free ND Garden Project, which is marking its 11th year.

August 16 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced the launch of a new online local foods map with a user-friendly search tool designed to help consumers find a specific North Dakota business, farmers market or product.

August 16 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) announced the Soil Health Cover Crop Grant Program, a newly added program made possible through funding provided by the 67th Legislative Assembly. NDDA will provide cost-share assistance to producers via a lottery system.

August 17 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring named J.P. "Dutch" Bialke as legal general counsel and policy advisor at the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA).

August 17 - More than 258,100 pounds of unusable pesticides were collected and shipped out of state in the 2021 Project Safe Send collections.

August 19 - The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) revoked all tolerances and filed their intent to cancel all registrations for food uses of chlorpyrifos.

August 19 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) Emergency Water Supply Program opened for applications. The program reimbursed livestock owners with verifiable water losses from the drought for 50% of eligible costs for temporary water supply, equipment and hauling, up to \$4,500 per individual.

August 23 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring said that applications are now being accepted for reimbursement of organic certification costs through the Organic Certification Cost Share Program for fiscal year 2021.

August 26 (Joint release with the North Dakota Office of the Governor) - Gov. Doug Burgum and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced that the North Dakota Emergency Commission has approved \$2.5 million to

reactivate the Emergency Feed Transportation Assistance Program to help reimburse a portion of hay transportation expenses for eligible livestock producers who have lost feed supplies due to drought.

August 27 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced that nine grants have been awarded totaling \$4.9 million to foster the growth of the bioscience industry in North Dakota.

August 30 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced the availability of a program that will reimburse eligible producers for a portion of feed transportation expenses. The emergency feed transportation assistance program will help producers who have transportation costs associated with moving livestock or feed.

September 7 - Last month, the North Dakota Department of Agriculture was notified of four confirmed cases and one suspect case of West Nile virus in horses, and one infected sheep. Animals resided in Ramsey, McIntosh, Stark, Grand Forks, Barnes and Nelson counties. All animals showed neurologic signs, none were vaccinated and two of the animals died. In addition to annual vaccines, horse owners were urged to take extra steps to protect their horses.

September 10 - The Pride of Dakota Harvest Showcase returned to Dickinson this weekend. The West River Ice Center will be filled with vendor booths and shoppers this Friday and Saturday, Sept. 10-11.

September 10 - A second case of anthrax was reported in beef cattle in Kidder County this year. The case was confirmed by the North Dakota State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory today. The first case, also in cattle in Kidder County, was reported in August.

September 18 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) and the Dakota Zoo teamed up to educate the public about pollinators with Pollinator Day at the Dakota Zoo today. Admission was free from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the first 1,000 people in the door received free train tickets to view the zoo's new pollinator beds.

September 29 - The North Dakota Department

of Agriculture (NDDA) encouraged groups to participate in the Mountain Plains Crunch Off in celebration of Farm to School Month in October. North Dakota is competing with seven other states to see which state can get the most “crunches” into a piece of local produce, per capita.

October 1 - The Pride of Dakota Harvest Showcase returned to Jamestown this weekend. The Jamestown Civic Center was filled with booths and shoppers Friday and Saturday, Oct. 1-2.

October 5 - The North Dakota State Board of Animal Health, in consultation with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture’s animal health division, authorized veterinarians to offer the Medgene Labs vaccine for Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus 2 (RHDV2). While there are no reported cases in North Dakota, RHDV2 has been confirmed in neighboring states.

October 14 - Applications for a state program that will reimburse eligible producers for a portion of feed transportation expenses have been delayed while awaiting details of a similar federal program.

October 19 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring requested an hours-of-service exemption for fertilizer haulers as supplies are short, prices are high, and fertilizer must be hauled from further away.

October 25 - It was announced that the application deadline for reimbursement for organic certification costs was Oct. 31, 2021. Applications were accepted for reimbursement of organic certification costs through the Organic Certification Cost Share Program for fiscal year 2021 through the end of the month.

October 29 - The Pride of Dakota Harvest Showcase was in Grand Forks this weekend. Alerus Center will be filled with booths and shoppers this Friday and Saturday, Oct. 29-30.

November 1 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) received a \$500,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN) to address farm and ranch stress and mental health in North Dakota.

November 4 - Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) was confirmed in Ward County. A producer noticed some suspect plants in a field while combining and samples were submitted for DNA analysis to the National Agricultural Genotyping Center, where it was confirmed as Palmer amaranth.

November 5 - Applications opened for a program that will reimburse eligible producers for a portion of feed transportation expenses. The emergency feed transportation assistance program aided producers who do not qualify for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Emergency Assistance for Livestock Program (ELAP). The state program aided producers who have specific transportation costs associated with moving livestock or feed.

November 13 - The State Fair Center was filled with vendor booths and shoppers when the Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to Minot, Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 13-14.

November 17 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) Soil Health Cover Crop Grant Program opened for applications. The program was made possible through funding provided by the 67th Legislative Assembly. NDDA will provide cost-share assistance to producers via a lottery system.

November 19 - Nearly 150 companies selling Pride of Dakota merchandise took up all available space at the Fargo Scheels Arena during Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase, Friday through Sunday, Nov. 19-21.

November 24 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced North Dakota Agricultural Products Utilization Commission (APUC) awards for six projects. The awards totaling \$462,202 were approved at the APUC quarterly meeting Nov. 18 in Fargo.

November 29 - The deadline for applications for the emergency feed transportation assistance program was extended until Jan. 21, 2022

December 3 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to the Bismarck Event Center, Friday through Sunday, Dec. 3-5.

December 6 - The North Dakota Game and Fish Department and North Dakota Department of Agriculture once again 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.

December 8 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced that applications are now being accepted for 2022 Specialty Crop Grants.

December 17 - Agricultural-related recovery efforts are underway in Kentucky after devastating tornadoes hit the state Dec. 10-11. Commissioner Goehring announced ways to help.

December 21 - It was announced that the longtime director of the Administrative Services Division of the North Dakota Department of Agriculture, Ken Junkert, would be retiring effective Jan. 31, 2022.

2022

January 5 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring named Rick Schmidt as the recipient of the 2022 Weed Control Partner Award.

January 12 - Students at Fargo Public Schools will be dining on North Dakota raised and processed beef tomorrow after a coordinated effort between the Independent Beef Association of North Dakota (I-BAND), the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) and the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) through the state's Farm to School program.

January 20 - The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) announced it is accepting applications from motor carriers for the Safe Driver Apprenticeship Pilot program. Under the program, certain 18-, 19-, and 20-year-old drivers may operate commercial vehicles in interstate commerce. Previously, drivers under 21 years of age could not cross state lines while operating commercial vehicles. The program was signed into law Nov. 15 as part of the infrastructure bill.

January 25 (Joint release with North Dakota

Office of the Governor) - Gov. Doug Burgum and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced emergency measures designed to ease a shortage of truck drivers in the milk distribution industry that has affected schools, businesses and other customers.

January 26 - Late last year, Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring awarded 51 grants totaling over \$7 million to promote the development, cultivation, production and sales of specialty crops in North Dakota. The announcement was delayed due to USDA staffing changes and a postponement of the federal notice.

January 27 - The Tormaschy Dairy Farm of Richardton received the 2021 Commissioner's Award of Dairy Excellence during the 2022 North Dakota Dairy Convention, held recently in Bismarck.

January 28 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring asked the Biden administration to drop its vaccine mandate for truckers coming to the United States from Canada, which began Jan. 22. Truckers had previously been exempted under essential worker status.

January 31 - The confirmation of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in 56 hunter-harvested wild waterfowl as part of the United States Department of Agriculture's ongoing surveillance program in North and South Carolina over the past two weeks is a reminder to poultry owners to increase biosecurity. The strain, a Eurasian H5N1 HPAI, is related to the strain of HPAI that Europe and the Middle East have been fighting in recent months and had not been detected in a wild bird in the United States since 2016.

February 28 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring is leading the development of a task force composed of county weed officers, North Dakota State University research and Extension officials, members from commodity groups, agriculture associations, commodity processing facilities, agribusiness and agronomists in order to best manage noxious weeds across the state.

March 1 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug

Goehring advised the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that the North Dakota pesticide disposal program, Project Safe Send, does not have the resources or funding to accept large quantities of chlorpyrifos for disposal; nor the authority to charge for disposal of the product.

March 3 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture hosted a free food safety course for the state's local food producers. The Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) Grower Training Course was hosted today, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Baymont Inn & Suites in Mandan, to coincide with the annual Local Foods & Pride of Dakota Conference, March 4-5, 2022.

March 4 - The Local Foods and Pride of Dakota Conference was held March 4 and 5, at the Baymont Inn, 2611 Old Red Trail, Mandan, N.D.

March 7 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) and the North Dakota Agriculture Association (NDAA) announced the schedule for a series of anhydrous ammonia safety training sessions they are co-hosting across the state.

March 7 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring has announced North Dakota Agricultural Products Utilization Commission (APUC) awards for nine projects. The awards totaling \$598,090 were approved at the APUC quarterly meeting Feb. 16-17 in Jamestown.

March 14 - North Dakota Department of Agriculture's Emergency Feed Transportation Program disbursed funds this week to eligible producers for a portion of their feed or livestock transportation expenses incurred between April 8, 2021, and Dec. 31, 2021.

March 16 - Spruce Hill Meats in Bowman is the newest North Dakota company operating under the State Meat and Poultry Inspection Program.

March 22 - Governor Doug Burgum has proclaimed March 20-26, 2022, as North Dakota Agriculture Week, and today, March 22, 2022, as North Dakota Agriculture Day.

March 23 - To protect North Dakota's poultry industry from potential exposure to H5 avian

influenza virus, the State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) canceled all shows, public sales, swaps and exhibitions of poultry and other birds within the state.

March 24 - With avian influenza spreading throughout the country and confirmed cases in wild birds and domestic poultry in neighboring states, residents were advised not to attempt to assist, move, rehabilitate or dispatch wild birds and should avoid bringing wildlife home. Poultry owners should practice increased biosecurity to help protect their birds.

March 30 - The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) confirmed the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in a non-commercial, backyard chicken flock in Kidder County, North Dakota. A presumptive positive case was first identified by the North Dakota State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and confirmed by the APHIS National Veterinary Services Laboratories in Ames, Iowa.

March 31 - Earlier this month, the State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) announced that all shows, public sales, swaps and exhibitions of poultry and other birds within the state were canceled as a precaution to reduce the risk of avian influenza exposure to North Dakota birds. It was clarified that the order applies to co-mingling birds from different locations at a single event or sale. Private sales, catalog sales and retail sales are allowed provided that birds meet applicable livestock sale and animal health requirements.

April 12 - The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that they are offering an enhancement to the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-raised Fish Program (ELAP) to help ranchers cover above normal costs of hauling livestock to forage or other grazing acres.

April 26 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture released the Pride of Dakota market and showcase dates for 2022.

April 26 - Proposals were sought for industry

research and promotion of the grape, fruit and wine industry in North Dakota.

April 27 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring encouraged homeowners to research products before buying and planting nursery stock for their property.

May 18 - With warmer weather on the way, it is important for the public 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, according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) strongly encouraged everyone to prevent the movement of plant pests by outlining several things they could do.

May 23 - Governor Doug Burgum proclaimed May 24-30, 2022, as Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week in North Dakota.

June 2 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced that a grant totaling \$60,000 has been awarded for industry research of the grape, fruit and wine industry in North Dakota.

June 3 - In March, the State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) canceled all shows, public sales, swaps and exhibitions of poultry and other birds within the state as a precaution to reduce the risk of avian influenza exposure to North Dakota birds. The topic was revisited at their meeting yesterday. Poultry/bird events will continue to be prohibited until further notice.

June 3 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced Agricultural Diversification and Development (ADD) Fund awards for three projects totaling \$750,000 were approved at the ADD quarterly meeting May 19 in Watford City.

June 8 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced North Dakota Agricultural Products Utilization Commission (APUC) awards for six projects totaling \$261,410 were approved at the APUC quarterly meeting May 19 in Watford City.

June 8 - At a recent State Board of Animal

Health (BOAH) meeting, the board removed the requirement for cows and heifers 12 months of age or older to be Official Calhhood Vaccinates (OCV) for Brucellosis if imported from Montana.

June 16 - Dicamba applicators are reminded that June 30 is the federally mandated cutoff date for post emergent application of dicamba on soybeans.

June 17 - At a recent State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) meeting, the board changed the requirements for bison imported from Canada to align with the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS).

June 17 - At a recent board meeting, the North Dakota State Board of Animal Health granted an official ID exemption for North Dakota heifer calves sold out of state at auction but returned to the state.

June 22 - Field days were scheduled in Billings County to collect and redistribute flea beetles that eat leafy spurge.

July 5 - Field days were finalized at additional multiple North Dakota sites to collect and redistribute flea beetles that eat leafy spurge.

July 19 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) Soil Health Cover Crop Grant Program was opened for applications. The program was made possible through funding provided by the 67th Legislative Assembly. NDDA provides cost-share assistance to producers.

July 21 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring strongly opposes the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) current pattern of severely restricting or banning applications of safely-used critical agricultural chemicals.

July 21 - Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) was confirmed just inside Traill County. The finding consisted of two plants on the side of the road that were very close to an existing infestation just over the county line in Cass County.

July 22 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced that a grant totaling \$20,000 was awarded for marketing and promotion of the

grape, fruit and wine industry in North Dakota.

July 22 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring activated the North Dakota Harvest Hotline.

July 27 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced North Dakota Agricultural Products Utilization Commission (APUC) awards for six projects totaling \$445,318 were approved at the APUC quarterly meeting July 21 in Bottineau.

July 27 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced Agricultural Diversification and Development (ADD) Fund awards for three projects totaling \$599,000 were approved at the ADD quarterly meeting July 20 in Bottineau.

August 2 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring congratulated Maci Wehri on winning the 2022 National Miss Agriculture USA title earlier this summer at the annual competition in Ohio.

August 3 - National Farmers Market Week is August 7-13, 2022, and the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) and partners celebrated with three events.

August 11 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced that funding is available for research and promotion of honey bees.

August 23 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) reminded producers using herbicides for pre-harvest desiccation to be mindful of adjacent crops when making their applications. Pre-harvest desiccation refers to an herbicide application that dries the plant and leaves of a crop before harvest.

August 31 - The North Dakota State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory confirmed the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in a non-commercial, backyard flock in Cass County, North Dakota. The detection triggers the suspension of poultry/bird events across the state. If no new cases emerge in 30 days, the suspension will be automatically lifted.

September 1 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) received a \$100,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture

to improve access to local foods in schools by developing a stronger and more sustainable Farm to School program in the state.

September 1 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring awarded 21 grants totaling over \$3 million to promote the development, cultivation, production and sales of specialty crops in North Dakota.

September 1 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring said that applications were being accepted for reimbursement of organic certification costs through the Organic Certification Cost Share Program for fiscal year 2022.

September 2 - Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) has been confirmed in Hettinger County. The finding consisted of several plants, and it appears the seeds came from a custom harvest crew from the previous year. It was confirmed as Palmer amaranth by the National Agricultural Genotyping Center. The producer reported the suspect plants, which were then removed and destroyed.

September 8 - The North Dakota State Board of Animal Health met and amended the statewide suspension of poultry/bird events. Effective immediately, following the detection of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), comingling events such as poultry and bird shows, sales and swaps are prohibited in the affected county and adjoining counties.

September 21 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring applauded Bismarck State College (BSC) as they embark on a new project to expand career pathways. BSC was recently awarded a \$1.6 million grant by the U.S. Department of Labor to expand educational opportunities in manufacturing and healthcare.

September 22 - The North Dakota State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory has confirmed the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in a non-commercial, backyard flock in Ward County, North Dakota. The detection triggers the suspension of poultry/bird events in Ward and the adjoining counties of Renville,

McHenry, McLean, Mountrail and Burke. Counties still under suspension from the Cass County finding at the end of August include Cass, Traill, Steele, Barnes, Ransom and Richland.

September 26 - The North Dakota State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory has confirmed the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in a commercial turkey and chicken flock in Ransom County, North Dakota. The detection extends the suspension of poultry/bird events in Ransom and the adjoining counties of Barnes, Cass and Richland, which were currently under suspension from a late August finding in Cass County. Adjoining counties newly under suspension due to the Ransom County finding are Sargent, Dickey and LaMoure. Additional counties still under suspension from earlier findings include Traill, Steele, McLean, McHenry, Ward, Mountrail, Renville and Burke.

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

September 30 - The public was reminded that the application deadline for the 2022 Soil Health Cover Crop Grant Program is tomorrow.

October 7 - Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) was confirmed in Kidder, Stark and Williams counties. The findings consisted of a single plant in both Kidder and Williams counties, and two plants in Stark County. The source of these unrelated detections is under investigation. The sites are being scouted and monitored. The findings were confirmed as Palmer amaranth by the National Agricultural Genotyping Center.

October 25 - The application deadline for reimbursement for organic certification costs was extended to Nov. 30, 2022. Applications will be accepted for reimbursement of organic certification costs through the Organic Certification Cost Share Program for fiscal year 2022 through the end of next month.

October 27 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring issued a withdraw from distribution

order to Feed Mix of Harvey for their All Around Horse Pellet 14, with lot code 081022. The All Around Horse Pellet 14 was withdrawn from distribution based on the presence of monensin found during North Dakota Department of Agriculture testing.

October 28-29 - The Pride of Dakota Harvest Showcase returned to Minot, Friday and Saturday, Oct. 28-29.

November 4-5 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to Grand Forks, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 4-5.

November 17 - The application deadline for reimbursement for organic certification costs was Nov. 30, 2022. Applications were accepted for reimbursement of organic certification costs through the Organic Certification Cost Share Program for fiscal year 2022 through the end of the month.

November 18-19 - Nearly 140 companies selling Pride of Dakota merchandise filled the Fargo Scheels Arena during Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 18-19.

November 28 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced North Dakota Agricultural Products Utilization Commission (APUC) awards for nine projects totaling \$1,065,422.75 were approved at the APUC quarterly meeting Nov. 17 in Wahpeton.

November 28 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced Agricultural Diversification and Development (ADD) Fund awards for four projects totaling \$825,000 were approved at the ADD quarterly meeting Nov. 16 in Wahpeton.

December 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). A horse in Burleigh County was confirmed positive for equine herpesvirus myeloencephalopathy (EHM), the neurologic manifestation of the virus.

December 2-3 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to the Bismarck Event Center,

Friday and Saturday, Dec. 2-3.

December 5 - The North Dakota Game and Fish Department and North Dakota Department of Agriculture once again 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.

December 7 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced that applications are now being accepted for 2023 Specialty Crop Grants.

2023

January 3 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring named Jim Hennessy as the recipient of the 2023 Weed Control Partner Award.

January 12 - Potential applicants were reminded that the application deadline for the 2023 Specialty Crop Grants is Wednesday, Jan. 18.

January 18 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring issued the following statement today in response to the Biden administration publishing its final Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) rule. "I am disappointed that this administration is taking a step backward, which will infringe on our state's sovereignty and will federalize almost all of North Dakota's waters," Goehring said. "North Dakota prides itself on the effective management of its waters for its citizens. I will work to protect the unique interests of North Dakota's landowners, farmers, ranchers and other stakeholders in opposing this rule and the regulatory uncertainty it creates."

February 21 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture hosted a free online Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Training, in conjunction with North Dakota State University and the University of Minnesota, on Feb. 21, 2023, from 1 – 4 p.m.

March 1 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture scheduled a free training session for produce growers across the state on Thursday,

March 30, 2023, at the Radisson Hotel Bismarck, 605 E. Broadway Ave., Bismarck, ND.

March 1 - North Dakota partnered with 23 other states in filing a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in North Dakota challenging the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's newly revised definition of the Waters of the United States (WOTUS).

March 2 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced North Dakota Agricultural Products Utilization Commission (APUC) awards for four projects totaling \$700,000 were approved at the APUC quarterly meeting Feb. 16 in Mandan.

March 2 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring has announced Agriculture Diversification and Development (ADD) Fund awards for two projects totaling \$326,000 were approved at the ADD quarterly meeting Feb. 16 in Mandan.

March 2 - This week, an insect larva found in the city of Moorhead, Minnesota, by the city forester and submitted for confirmation by Minnesota Department of Agriculture was determined to be emerald ash borer.

March 7 - Gov. Doug Burgum proclaimed March 2023 as Pride of Dakota Month in North Dakota, and businesses will celebrate with Pride of Dakota Day at the Capitol on Thursday, March 9.

March 17 - The deadline was approaching for produce growers to register for a free training session. The North Dakota Department of Agriculture accepted registrations through March 21, 2023.

March 21 - Gov. Burgum proclaimed March 21, 2023, as North Dakota Agriculture Day. The designation follows the national agriculture day. Agriculture-related groups celebrated today with an event at the state Capitol.

March 24 - The North Dakota State Board of Animal Health met Wednesday and amended the policy for the suspension of poultry/bird events. Effective immediately, following a detection of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI),

comingling events such as poultry and bird shows, sales and swaps will only be prohibited in the affected county, unless the 10 km control zone extends into an adjoining county, in which case, that county will also be restricted. If no new cases emerge in 30 days after a detection, the suspension will be automatically lifted for that area.

March 29 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring said that two recent news stories have suggested or implied that cannabidiol (CBD) products will be pulled from stores should Senate Bill 2096 pass; however, CBD products that meet the intent of the law will continue to be allowed until there is further action by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

April 10 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture released the Pride of Dakota showcase and holiday showcase dates for 2023.

April 12 - A preliminary injunction was granted halting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from implementing or enforcing the newly revised definition of the Waters of the United States (WOTUS) in North Dakota and 23 other states.

April 14 - A feral pig that had recently been reported in Nelson County was determined to be a stray domestic pig after being examined by authorities. Ryan Powers, with USDA Wildlife Services, examined the carcass and made the determination. The pig was destroyed after it reportedly charged a farmer in his yard.

April 18 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture received confirmation of the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in a commercial turkey flock in Dickey County from South Dakota State University.

April 19 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) Soil Health Cover Crop Grant Program announced it will open up for applications next month. NDDA will provide cost-share assistance to producers.

April 21 - Equine herpesvirus myeloencephalopathy (EHM) was confirmed in two McHenry County horses.

April 26 - The North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner sought nominations to submit to the North Dakota Wheat Commission Nominating Committee for the member-at-large position on the North Dakota Wheat Commission.

May 2 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring has issued a Special Local Needs (SLN) registration to Belchim Crop Protection enabling North Dakota sugarbeet growers in select counties to manage certain difficult-to-control weeds. Belchim and an NDSU Extension sugarbeet agronomist requested an SLN registration for Spin-Aid to provide sugarbeet growers with a post-emergence option to control kochia and lambsquarters.

May 9 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring encouraged homeowners to research products before buying and planting nursery stock for their property to ensure they are winter hardy.

May 17 - With warmer weather on the way, 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, according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

May 23 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) Soil Health Cover Crop Grant Program opened for applications. NDDA provided cost-share assistance to producers.

May 23 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced that funding is available for research of honey bees.

May 24 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announced North Dakota Agricultural Products Utilization Commission (APUC) awards for five projects totaling \$426,932 were approved at the APUC quarterly meeting May 18 in Dickinson.

May 24 - North Dakota farmers and pesticide dealers who have chlorpyrifos insecticide products made by two manufacturers can arrange to return the products. Corteva Agriscience and ADAMA US have been given permission by the

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to take back the chemicals.

May 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.

May 25 - The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in the case of Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency. The Supreme Court narrowed federal Clean Water Act jurisdiction to only wetlands that are “indistinguishable” from larger bodies of water “due to a continuous surface connection.”

June 6 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) and the North Dakota Agriculture in the Classroom Council sought proposals for developing and conducting educational programs and materials to help young people understand the importance of agriculture in North Dakota and in their own lives.

June 6 - Proposals were sought for industry research, promotion and marketing of the grape, fruit and wine industry in North Dakota.

June 20 - Field days were finalized at multiple North Dakota sites to collect and redistribute flea beetles that eat leafy spurge.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Director

Lynette Baumiller

Financial Management

Tammie Hagerott
Jeannie Jacobs-Kopp
Samantha McGrath
Tayler Wescom

Public Policy

Adam Miller

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. 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 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 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 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 and GIS

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 field staff using GIS software 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 through 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 84 total cases during the life of the program.

BUSINESS, MARKETING & INFORMATION

Director

John Schneider

Mediation

Betty Schneider
David Anderson

Public Info / Communications

Michelle Mielke

International/Domestic Mktg

Shanna Johnson

Local Foods

Katrina Hanenberg

Agricultural Development

Madison Bodine

Pride of Dakota

Katie Huizenga

Specialty Crop

Deanna Gierszewski

Administrative / Reception

Julienne Glasser

The Business, Marketing and Information Division includes 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 2021-2023 biennium, NDMS received 135 mediation requests/notices.

The six-member North Dakota Credit Review Board establishes policy for the NDMS. The United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency requires annual certification of state mediation programs. NDMS was recertified during both years in the 2021-23 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 over 30 years. Currently, 43 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.ndda.nd.gov.

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.nd.gov – 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 and Fargo in November and December.. There are also three Pride of Dakota Showcases, held in Dickinson, Minot, and Grand Forks during September, October, and the beginning of November., The total attendance for the showcases for 2021 was 37,856 and 40,731 for 2022. 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 four editions of North Dakota AgMag during the biennium. Each edition was devoted to a different subject – Soybeans, Fruits & Vegetables, Beef and Crops.

The Ag in the Classroom grant program provided

\$100,000 to organizations to enhance agriculture education throughout the state during the 2021-23 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 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 “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 2021-23 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 and Artisans Market 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 Farm to School Guide and more.

- 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.ndda.nd.gov/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 3.6 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 Farm to School, help make various educational and business projects possible. We’ve been providing education across the state to both schools and producers on how to get involved in Farm to School.

- An annual local foods conference brings educational sessions to local growers across the state, such as the Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training Course.

Organics

North Dakota has more than 100,000 acres of certified organic acres. An Organic Advisory Board advises the Agriculture Commissioner on organic issues. The NDDA also has an Organic Education and Transition Cost Share Program for North Dakota farmers transitioning to an organic system. North Dakota was 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

Turkey Promotion Fund

Revenue

Turkey checkoff	\$16,833.62
Interest	\$38.46
2019-21 carryover funds	<u>\$16,118.71</u>
Total revenue	\$32,990.79

Expenditures

Operating expenses	<u>\$13,704.85</u>
Total expenditures	\$13,704.85
Balance (6-30-23)	\$19,285.94

advice of the North Dakota Turkey Federation.

During the 2021-23 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 (APUC)

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.

Agriculture Diversification and Development Fund (ADD)

The Agriculture Diversification and Development Fund was established to support new or expanding value-added agriculture businesses that demonstrate financial feasibility, enhance profitability for farmers and ranchers, create jobs and grow North Dakota's economy through a grant program.

The types of projects may include but are not limited to: food production and processing facilities; feed or pet food processing facilities; commodity processing facilities; agriculture product manufacturers; and animal production facilities. Emphasis will be given to those proposals deemed most likely to generate economic returns and support agricultural-based prosperity of a region or sector of the state.

Bioscience Innovation Grants

The bioscience innovation grant program was developed to support biotechnology innovation and commercialization in areas including crop genetics, biofuels, biomaterials, biosensors and biotechnology.

ANIMAL HEALTH

State Veterinarian/Director

Ethan Andress, DVM

Deputy State Veterinarian

Beth Carlson, DVM

Assistant State Veterinarian

Vacant

Field Investigator

Nathan Boehm

Administrative Assistant

Tammy Celley

Office Assistants

Peggy Masset

Jamie Wosick

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

Pavil Danil, Michigan: 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 7,200 incoming and 12,000 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 21 accredited tuberculosis-free herds, 15 certified brucellosis-free herds, 47 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. Suspect and positive cases of TB, brucellosis, avian influenza and other regulatory diseases are still identified in the U.S. as part of our country's routine surveillance, may lead to disease investigations and response activities. In the 2021-23 biennium, the Division was involved in 56 Foreign Animal Disease investigations, most associated with an ongoing outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). Twenty-five cases of HPAI were confirmed and staff worked cooperatively with USDA to manage these. 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 Johne'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 90 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, 59 nontraditional livestock premises are licensed and 43 elk premises are approved.

The division also issued 202 permits to possess, propagate or domesticate pheasants, quail, and chukar to individuals on behalf of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department.

Ten 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 2021-23 biennium, 73 facility licenses were issued and 196 personnel received training.

Registration of livestock medicine has been transferred to the Animal Health Division. Currently 1,067 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 13,000 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. By the end of the 2021-23 biennium, approximately 55% of export certificates of veterinary inspection and 80% of import certificates of veterinary inspection received in the office were electronic, dramatically improving accuracy and efficiency.

LIVESTOCK INDUSTRIES

Director

Andrea Grondahl, DVM

Dairy

Haylee Beehler

Todd Erickson

Nathan Kroh

State Meat Inspection

Heather Andersen

Natalie Bergquist

Joshua Epperly

Todd Erickson

Codee Knutson

Noelle Koch

Cody Kreft

Cami Metzger

Jamie Miller

David Slack

Whitney Vogel

Siri Wolner

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 33 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 80 inspections of distribution facilities and about 95 inspections of farm bulk trucks and samplers.

North Dakota's fluid milk processing plant, three manufacturing plants, a receiving station and a transfer station are inspected quarterly. Inspectors ensure that all equipment is cleaned and sanitized and every pasteurizer functions properly on a quarterly basis. Inspectors collect approximately 950 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 conduct USDA butter plant surveys. The division also conducts the Interstate Milk Shippers surveys of 9 listed (certified) producer groups, a processing plant and a receiving station. 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 28 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 97 processing plants. Nineteen 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 78 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. SMPIP 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.

One SMPIP inspectors has been certified as a grader.

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

Vacant

Pesticide

Lukas Wagner

Rebecca Orgaard

Matthew Drader

Kevin Coufal

Andrew Erickson

Jonathan Krei

Carla Ralston

Derek Woehl

Aubrey Sondrol

Fertilizer

Vacant

Jeanne David

Brian Kramer

Environmental Scientist

Vacant

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 939 and 891 inspections in the federal fiscal year of 2022 and 2023 respectively. As a result of these inspections, NDDA issued 47 enforcement actions, including 22 warnings and 25 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 7479 people during public and private compliance assistance and outreach events in the federal fiscal years of 2022 and 2023.

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 16,925 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 six 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 35 SLN registrations during the biennium. Two Section 18 emergency exemptions were requested and granted during the biennium.

Fertilizer Registration

A total of 7,827 fertilizer products, ranging from home and garden fertilizers to commercial agricultural fertilizers and soil conditioners, were registered in the biennium. North Dakota currently licenses 976 fertilizer distributors and 274 anhydrous ammonia facilities.

During the biennium, 429 fertilizer samples, including 318 ag fertilizers and 79 specialty fertilizer products, were tested to ensure that chemical composition matched label claims. NDDA collected tonnage fees on a total of 4,620,935 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 2021 and 2022, fertilizer staff conducted 835 total inspections which included 594 nurse tank inspections, 149 anhydrous ammonia storage facility inspections, and 92 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 2021 and 2022. More than 444,223 pounds of pesticides were collected. More than 579 people disposed of pesticides through Project Safe Send last biennium.

Pesticide Water Quality

NDDA worked with the North Dakota

Department of Environmental Quality, and United States Geological Survey in the biennium to sample 31 river and stream sites for 102 pesticides and pesticide degradates. Over the biennium, 353 samples were collected.

The primary goals of the pesticide water quality program are to determine the occurrence and concentration of pesticides in North Dakota rivers and streams, identify trends in results to guide regulatory and outreach programs, and to ensure pesticide levels are not present at concentrations that could adversely affect human health, aquatic life, or wildlife dependent on aquatic life.

PLANT INDUSTRIES

Director

Samantha Brunner

Plant Protection Officer

Charles Elhard

Plant Protection Specialists

John Mortenson
Adam Pachl
Scott Opatriel

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 2021-2023 biennium, counties were reimbursed a total of \$904,395.76 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 2021-2023 biennium, \$210,507.39 was reimbursed to local weed boards to buy equipment, software and supplies to survey and map noxious weeds, conduct biocontrol activities and other activities.

2021-23 Noxious Weed Control Funding

	General Funds	Special Funds
Landowner Assistance	\$270,830.44	\$633,565.32
Targeted Assistance	\$ 80,182.46	\$130,324.93

The U.S. Forest Service reimbursed NDDA \$68,949.54 during the 2021-23 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 1.5 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. *micranthos*)

Saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.)

Yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*)

standards. From July 1, 2021, to the end of the 2021 growing season, 5,693 acres in 10 counties were inspected and 15,748 bales of alfalfa, mixed hay, and wheat, barley, and oat straw were certified. During the 2022 growing season, 5,092.5 acres in 10 counties were inspected and 10,026 bales of alfalfa, mixed hay, and wheat and barley straw were certified. The 2023 growing season up until June 30, 2023, had 99.75 acres in 2 counties that were inspected and 2,150 bales of alfalfa, mixed hay, and wheat, barley, and oat straw were certified.

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, spongy 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 6,900 federal phytosanitary certificates were issued during the biennium involving many agronomic commodities, seedstocks and nursery stock.

Certificates were issued to 74 different countries.

Export certification documents issued to satisfy phytosanitary requirements of Canada and California included certification of cereal seed exported to Canada (onethree active compliance agreements - 2 certificates), cereal grain exported to Canada (102 active compliance agreements - 313 certificates), and grain corn exported to western states for European Corn Borer quarantine (61 compliance agreements - 496 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 2021, there were 247 nursery licenses issued including 44 grower locations covering 860 acres of field-grown nursery stock. In 2022, there were 243 nursery licenses issued including 40 grower locations covering 840 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 159 dealer inspections in the 2021-23 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 2021, NDDA licensed 323 beekeepers and registered 742,547 colonies at 18,183 locations. In 2022, NDDA licensed 333 beekeepers and registered 809,321 colonies at 20,378 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. Bee inspectors also assist beekeepers in diagnostics of honey bee pests and diseases by offering inspection services for sick and weak honey bee colonies across the state.

NDDA also investigates complaints about bees and serves as a liaison between landowners, the

general public and beekeepers.

In 2021, NDDA certified 80,949 colonies belonging to 29 beekeepers as part of the California Pre-Inspection Program. In 2022, NDDA certified 87,495 colonies belonging to 29 beekeepers. 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.

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 2021-23 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 2021, NDDA licensed 49 hemp growers and 23 processors. North Dakota growers planted 802 acres. In 2022, NDDA licensed 31 hemp growers and 17 processors. North Dakota growers planted 620 acres.

Honey Promotion Fund	
<u>Revenue</u>	
Honey promotion fees	\$163,513.65
Interest	<u>\$738.30</u>
Total revenue	\$164,251.95
<u>Expenditures</u>	
Operating expenses	\$2.44
Grant expenses	<u>\$69,847.94</u>
Total expenditures	\$69,850.38
Balance (6-30-23)	\$94,401.57

GRAIN & LIVESTOCK LICENSING

Director

Shaun Quissell

Specialist

Leslie Gasal

Grain Inspectors

Toby Kramer

Andy Markel

Kevin Hendrickson

Parker Bush

Livestock Development

Jason Wirtz

Feed Specialist

Jamie Good

Feed Administrative Officer

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 15,500 pet foods are registered in the state. Labels are reviewed for all new products

submitted for registration. In the 2021-23 biennium, 66 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, 493 feed manufacturers and 263 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
Craig Rudland

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 2021-2023 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 2021-23

Appropriation Status Report

For the Month Ending Jun 30, 2023
Percent of Biennium Remaining 0%

Run Date: Jul 31, 2023
4310AA

Business Unit: 60200 Department of Agriculture

Expenditures by Line Item	Original Appropriation	Current Appropriation	Expenditures	Remaining Appropriation	Encumbrances	% Remaining
60210 Salaries and Wages	15,717,126.00	15,732,507.00	14,527,087.97	1,205,419.03		8%
60230 Operating Expenses	6,848,052.00	6,848,052.00	4,368,739.68	2,479,312.32		36%
60231 COVID-19 Operating Expenses		500,000.00	360,920.13	139,079.87		28%
60250 Capital Assets	15,000.00	15,000.00		15,000.00		100%
60260 Grants	14,731,774.00	17,651,774.00	13,066,735.83	4,585,038.17		26%
60262 COVID-19 Specialty Grants		5,000,000.00	2,318,189.24	2,681,810.76		54%
60264 Intermodal Facility Grants	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	0.00		0%
60265 Bioscience Innovation Grant	5,500,000.00	5,500,000.00	5,500,000.00	0.00		0%
60272 APUC	4,460,417.00	4,460,417.00	3,572,083.07	888,333.93		20%
60273 Board Of Animal Health	865,718.00	865,718.00	451,896.24	413,821.76		48%
60276 Wildlife Services	1,457,400.00	1,457,400.00	1,457,400.00	0.00		0%
60277 Pipeline Oversight Program	200,000.00	200,000.00	23,972.73	176,027.27		88%
60278 ND Trade Office	1,600,000.00	1,600,000.00	1,600,000.00	0.00		0%
60279 General Fund Transfers	5,000,000.00	6,700,000.00	6,700,000.00	0.00		0%
60280 Crop Harmonization Board	75,000.00	75,000.00	73,401.09	1,598.91		2%
Total Expenditures	58,470,487.00	68,605,868.00	56,020,425.98	12,585,442.02		18%

Expenditures by Funding Source

General Funds	23,959,712.00	25,670,181.00	25,481,632.69	188,548.31		1%
Federal Funds	14,635,914.00	20,558,537.00	15,476,269.89	5,082,267.11		25%
Special Funds	19,874,861.00	22,377,150.00	15,062,523.40	7,314,626.60		33%
Total Expenditures by Source	58,470,487.00	68,605,868.00	56,020,425.98	12,585,442.02		18%

LEGISLATION

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

HB 1099 - AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 3 of section 4.1-47-04 and section 57-43.1-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to complaints to the proper weed control authority and the refund of tax for fuel used for an industrial purpose.

HB 1101 - AN ACT to amend and reenact sections 36-01-08 and 36-01-33 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the fee collection for the cost of each brucellosis tag, each identification tag, and each health book the commissioner distributes.

HB 1148 - A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to an agriculture infrastructure fund; to provide an appropriation; and to provide for a transfer.

HB 1235 - AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 44-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to term beginning dates for elected state government officials.

HB 1258 - A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the protection of native pollinating insects in the state; to provide a report; to provide an appropriation; and to provide an expiration date.

HB 1276 - AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the agriculture infrastructure grant program; to amend and reenact section 4.1-01.1-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the agriculture diversification and development fund; to provide an appropriation for the agriculture diversification and development fund; and to provide for a transfer.

HB 1302 - AN ACT to amend and reenact sections 4.1-37-03 and 4.1-37-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to anhydrous ammonia facility applications.

HB 1356 - A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 47-10.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to foreign investment in North Dakota; and to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 47-10.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the restriction on acquisition of agricultural lands by aliens.

HB 1379 - AN ACT to amend and reenact sections 6-09.4-10.1 and 21-10-13 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the legacy

sinking and interest fund and the legacy earnings fund; to provide an effective date; and to declare an emergency.

HB 1393 - AN ACT to create and enact chapters 4.1-58, 4.1-59, 4.1-61, and 4.1-62 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to grain and seed warehouses, grain buyers, insolvent grain warehousemen, uniform accounting for public elevators and warehouses, and credit-sale contracts indemnity from title 60; to amend and reenact subsection 4 of section 41-07-10 and section 51-23-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to cross-references to repealed laws; to repeal chapters 60-02, 60-02.1, 60-04, 60-05, and 60-10 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to grain and seed warehouses, grain buyers, insolvent grain warehousemen, uniform accounting for public elevators and warehouses, and credit-sale contracts indemnity; to provide a penalty; and to provide a continuing appropriation.

HB 1437 - AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the creation of regional livestock planning grants; and to provide for an appropriation.

HB 1471 - A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 50-06 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to a food insecurity task force; and to provide for a report to the legislative management.

HB 1515 - AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-25 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the sale of raw milk directly to a consumer.

HB 1519 - AN ACT to provide appropriations to the department of career and technical education and agriculture commissioner for uncrewed aircraft system, autonomous vehicle, or other autonomous technology grants; to provide for a legislative management study; and to provide a report.

HB 1546 - AN ACT to amend and reenact section 54-63.1-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the clean sustainable energy authority's

fertilizer development incentive program; to provide for retroactive application; and to provide an effective date.

SB 2009 - AN ACT to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the agriculture commissioner; to amend and reenact sections 4.1-01-02, 4.1-01-18, 4.1-01-21.1, and 49-22-09.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the salary of the agriculture commissioner, the federal environmental law impact review committee, the environmental impact mitigation fund, and mitigating environmental impacts; to provide for a transfer; to provide an exemption; and to provide for a legislative management study.

SB 2025 - AN ACT to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of various state departments and institutions; and to declare an emergency.

SB 2096 - AN ACT to create and enact section 4.1-18.1-01.1 and nine new sections to chapter 4.1-18.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to administrative rules, hemp commodities or products, powers of the commissioner, and civil enforcement remedies; to amend and reenact sections 4.1-18.1-01 and 4.1-18.1-04.3, section 4.1-59-09 of the North Dakota Century Code, as created by section 2 of House Bill No. 1393, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, and subparagraph a of paragraph 2 of subdivision m of subsection 5 of section 19-03.1-05 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to definitions, prohibited acts by licensees, schedule I controlled substances tetrahydrocannabinols, and bonding requirements for grain buyers; and to provide a penalty.

SB 2100 - AN ACT to amend and reenact sections 4.1-31-01 and 4.1-31-16 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the definition of custom exempt establishments and official establishments and registration and licensure of meat processing businesses.

SB 2134 - A BILL for an Act to create and enact section 4.1-16-08.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the placement or location of a beehive; and to provide a penalty.

SB 2194 - AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to a postproduction royalty oversight program; to amend and reenact subsection 2 of section 38-08-04.5 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the abandoned oil and gas well plugging and site reclamation fund; and to provide a report.

SB 2233 - AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 3 of section 4.1-01.1-07, subsection 6 of section 6-09-15.5, section 6-09-29, subsection 4 of section 6-09-46.2, subsection 5 of section 6-09-49.2, sections 6-09.8-03, 6-09.13-04, 6-09.14-02, 6-09.15-02, 6-09.16-03, and 6-09.18-05, subsection 6 of section 15.1-36-08, section 17-03-02, and subsection 2 of section 54-63.1-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the audit of loan programs administered by the Bank of North Dakota.

SB 2290 - A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the agriculture commissioner for grasslands grazing grants; and to provide an exemption.

SB 2324 - AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 2 of section 4.1-39-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the membership of the crop protection product harmonization and registration board.

SB 2373 - AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the establishment of the livestock-friendly county designation.

SB 2374 - A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to a postproduction royalty oversight program; and to provide a report to the energy development and transmission committee.