

## NDWCA Area IV Minutes

Morton County Hwy. Department, Mandan, ND

Yet to be approved

October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Area Director, Rick Schmidt called the meeting to order at 9:10 am. Introductions. Counties present were: Morton, Emmons, Sheridan, Oliver and Grant. Others present were: Richard Weisz, NDDA, Bill Walker, Nutrien Solutions, Karissa Floerchinger, Corteva Agriscience, Tom Hedrick, Van Diest Supply and Merlin Leithold, NDWCA Executive secretary.

**Additional agenda items:** None

### **Minutes:**

2018 area IV minutes were reviewed. Jim Bahm moved to approve the minutes. Woody Barth seconded the motion. **M/C**

### **Old Business:**

### **Annual Meeting update:**

Merlin gave the annual meeting update. The annual meeting will be held on January 6, 7, 8 & 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the Ramada Inn in Bismarck. There will be a board meeting Monday evening at 5:00 pm. Tuesday morning and part of the afternoon will be the Ag. Commissioner's forum. Around 3:30, we will have our annual business meeting. Tuesday evening will be the beer and brat social and auction. Please bring an auction item or items to be auctioned off. Net proceeds go to the education committee for their years' activities. Wednesday will begin at 8:00 with a welcome from the Mayor of Bismarck followed by speakers. The women's luncheon and program will begin at 12 noon. The noon luncheon will begin at 12:00 as well. At 1:30 we will go into general session. No breakout sessions this year. Wednesday evening, we will have a social at 6:00 sponsored by Corteva, followed by our awards banquet and entertainment. This year's entertainment is Bill Sorenson, former mayor of Bismarck. He does magic and comedy. Nutrien Solutions and Bill Walker is the sponsor for the entertainment. Thursday morning, we will again have the exhibitor breakfast, starting at 6:30, followed by speakers at 8:00 until noon. There will be a board meeting at noon on Thursday to wrap up the activities.

Exhibitor Breaks: We would like everyone to contact their local businesses for their support. For a mere \$25, they could become a sponsor of our breaks. There is a letter printed that you can take to them. Also, there is one on our website, to be downloaded.

Awards: Once again the association will be offering two awards, a Lifetime Achievement Award and the Weed Warrior Award. Fill out the form and mail or e mail to Merlin by December 15<sup>th</sup>. Forms are in the back, or on the website.

During the conference we will again have for sale our new mugs, caps, vests and jackets.

## **County reports:**

### **Emmons County: Given by CJ Pearce**

1512 acres spraying for private lands. 154 miles of highways, 57 miles of farm to market roads, plus county roads.

### **Morton: Given by Cody Schnabel**

The 2019 spraying season was a challenge to say the least. We had very few breakdowns to contend with but the wind and rain seemed to never end. We finished out the season just before the early October snowstorm. After all was said and done, we did get all state highways, county highways, and almost all county and township roads sprayed.

This year we again joined forces with Grant County to host a leafy spurge beetle collection day. This collection day was again a great success. The bug numbers were again excellent from that Lake Tschida site. We are very thankful to Grant County for doing the bug day and inviting us. There is a good chance we will be able to access the site south of Mandan this coming year for a collection day.

Morton County offered a Landowner Assistance Program this year. We offered 800 gallons of Tordon 22K for \$12 per gallon; 40 gallons of Plateau for \$26 per gallon; 800 quarts of Milestone for \$18 per quart; 250 gallons of Curtail for \$11 per gallon. All of these herbicides sold out except Curtail, probably because we sell the Curtail for a fall application and fall only lasted about two days this year.

We received a few landowner complaints about their neighbors with infestations this year. Our weed control officer Cody took care of all of these through phone calls and one letter.

Palmer Amaranth is on the move! We did find it in Morton County within a small alfalfa field. How it got there is still unknown. The Morton County Weed Department intends to assist the landowner in any way we can, in their pursuit to eradicate this problem from this acreage. Several weed officers, including Morton County's weed officer Cody Schnabel, NDSU leaders, and leaders from crop agencies all went on a bus tour in Nebraska. This was in the middle of August. The tour served as a real eye-opener to the group. It really showed how disruptive and expensive this plant could be to a farmer. This also served as an educational experience for weed officers especially in their ability to identify these plants definitively, even from far distances in some cases.

### **Sheridan County: Given by Janice Erdmann**

Sprayed 60 miles of right of way on Hwy 200. 125 acres of spurge sprayed. Sent 4 notice to control letters. Two were local, and two were out of the county. Had trouble with the letters. We took a tour of the county. Have trouble filling board positions.

### **Oliver: Given by Rick Schmidt**

Hired experienced crew to spray the highways instead of the lowest bid. Attended the Grant County bio-biocontrol day. Had more regrowth this year due to the wet weather. We offer a wide variety of products for cost share. Possibly changing or adding new chemicals next season. The main ones are Milestone, Opensight, Curtail, Escort and Tordon.

I started out the year in April spraying guard rails by bridges and the shoulders at the bridges for visibility. Needed to get total vegetation control for the season. Used aquatic roundup@ 2 qts/Ac, liberate@ 2 qts. /100 gal water, arsenal@ 2 qts./Ac and clipper@ 8oz/Ac. Excellent results. Even with the excess moisture, had 99% control this fall.

Finished that project in May, then did 46 miles of vegetation control of shoulders for the road crew, to rebuild a road. Had to do that twice, used Makaze and Liberate, but because a lot of the grass had not come out of dormancy, Makaze being a Roundup, was not effective on some areas. So I redone the spots that were growing, where the chemical didn't work. I also did a large gravel pit for vegetation control, including the spoil pile and the 4 gravel piles. No noxious weeds present, just obnoxious varieties,

The first week of June I began spraying roads in the county for what I was originally hired to do, for noxious weeds. This work continued into October, only 1 day a week many weeks. Either the rain, wind, or a combination. There were only 2 days that I had to shut down early in the day due to excess heat. I tried several different chemical mixes this year to try and get a handle on some of the ditches. Some areas I used Milestone at 6 ounces plus liberate. Most of the areas I used 1 quart of Tordon, 1 pint Platoon (Amine) plus Liberate. One area I used Facet L at 2 quarts plus MSO at 1 quart/acre. I also tried Liberate on some instead of the MSO. Then late summer early fall, I used Tordon at 1 quart, Milestone at 6 ounces and the Liberate. Since I was finding so much Wormwood, I needed something. Bill recommended this mix. Grass injury was minimal, but it took out that woody wormwood. Can't wait until next season to see results. Battling Canada thistle on one of my highways is incredible. Many of us believe it was in the straw that was used after construction. Never had an issue before construction, after for 2 years nearly solid wormwood, followed by Canada thistle, which does get cleaned up by Milestone, but new spots every year. If you color in on a map each spot every year, the ditches would be 75% colored in over the last 4 years. Have found several spots of Musk thistle as well, never found before in the county, and not on the shoulders either, but in the area covered by the straw mulch.

We cost shared 65% of Tordon, Plateau, Milestone and Curtail to 90 landowners.

Did not get all of the county roads, around 1,600 miles sprayed. Close, but needed about 5 or 6 more days. Some roads were flooded out in September, ditches with standing water, so I couldn't touch 30 to 40 miles either this fall. Called it a season. Could possibly still spray thistle, even though it did get to 22. But after the snow, with farmers stress levels quite high, I didn't need public perception to get me in trouble. There will be always next season.

Had our 23<sup>rd</sup> annual bug day at Boy Scouts on the beautiful south shore of Lake Tschida, on July 11. Around 119 people attended. Handed out approximately a little over 750,000 beetles. One of the best years ever. 3,000 beetles in a bag, usually 2 bags per person. A decent amount of spurge again. As always, have to wait until next year to see whether the site maintains itself, or if it disappears. People from counties of Burleigh, Morton, Oliver, Grant, Sioux, Hettinger, Towner, Richland, McLean and Perkins in South Dakota. Weed officers from Burleigh, City of Bismarck and Morton. Thanks to Cody and his staff for coming to help. Also to Morton County Weed Board for helping with the costs. APHIS had a crew of 4, and ND Dept. of Ag was also there. Tess Keller, Grant County Extension attended as did Rick Schmidt, Oliver County Extension. KFYZ TV reported live on site with Facebook plus a news report. Jill Friesz from Grant County News attended as well.

August 12 through the 15, I was fortunate to be able and go on a Palmer Amaranth tour, sponsored by the Soybean Council to North Platte, Nebraska. That was an eye opening experience.

We did have a contract sprayer spraying for landowners as well. He did get the first group of landowners sprayed, but those who signed up later, not too many. Again, weather.

Less than one week later, on Wednesday, August 21, we found Palmer Amaranth in Grant County. That was a game changer. The following Monday, Brian Jenks from the NDSU Research Center in Minot came down to take samples and identify what I already unfortunately knew. He sent in 7 samples. One came back as a cross between Palmer and Waterhemp, the other 6 positive. We pulled 5 garbage bags from the 3 areas. This was in cover crop, where he mixed alfalfa with it. In the cover crop without alfalfa, clean. Then by the farmers' suggestion, we went and looked at his millet field. Found it in there. He seeded 300 acres, different drill, 3 miles from other field. My biggest obstacle, he bought the seed in Elgin. He mentioned that others bought seed off the same semi load. The dealer in Elgin refused to tell me who he sold the seed to. To my surprise, I found out through the NDDA that I can't get that information if he refuses to tell it. I may have a mess next year. The ND Seed Dept. did go in and check the dealer, getting information, but I have yet to find anymore out. I am not done with this.

But I have to thank my extension agent. Tess Osterbauer, even though it was new to her, she wanted to learn, and assist me any way she could. The NDDA, Charles Elhard out of the Fargo office, was great, as was Brian Jenks. Richard was out of the office during that time. We kept it a secret, but the farmer blabbed it to some, who then did so too, etc., etc.

## **Industry:**

### **Karissa Floerchinger– Corteva Agriscience**

Thanks for all your support for using Corteva products. You will still see DOW on the chemical labels for now, until they have all gone through the system.

Green Chemistries: DuraCor and Teraview. Both have low volatility. They carry the Rinskor active chemistry in them. They are comparable to Grazon next.

TerraVue – 2.85 ounces/ac –dry flowable – grazing and ROW.

DuraCor – 1pt/ac – Currently has a grazing label only. May be getting a supplemental label for ROW.

Both chemicals carry non- restricted use labels. Similar labeling to Milestone. Currently, there is a supplemental label allowing Milestone to be used in ROW and for haying.

Corteva will be having more chemicals coming out in the near future. Continue to spray this fall. Canada thistle will take chemical until the plant is black.

On techline.com, a great place to go for information.

Cloverconcept is a possible new chemical on the horizon. Also, Mazeview is going to have a label expansion.

Freelexx – still available to weed board, not to the Ag side.

Enlist – still available to the Ag. Side, not to weed boards

Question on field edges with wormwood, what chemical to use? Freelexx works well and is available to use.

**Break**

**NDDA Update: Richard Weisz, noxious weed specialist:**

Richard’s contact number: 701-328-2250 – Noxious weeds, federal & state funding, enforcement issues

Chelsey Penuel’s: 701-226-4321 - Biocontrol, Weed Seed Free Forage

Jim Hansen’s: 701-425-8454 – Mapping, dataloggers, NDDA online maps

Brochures available for free. New books and pocket guides are now available.

NOGAS were sent out for LAP & TAG. Only a few have come back. Get them in. Without them, cannot pay out funds to counties. LAP – granting period is only 1 year. July 1 of 2019 – June 30 of 2020, July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021. Try and submit quarterly, helps out on the NDDA end. Commissioner weed forum will be January 7, 2020 at the Ramada in Bismarck in conjunction with the NDWCA Conference.

Palmer amaranth was again found in Richland County in 2019. This is the only county that it was found again. The others where it was found in 2018, there were no reports of finding it. However, it was found in Grant, Morton, Sioux and Emmons Counties this year.

**New Business:**

**Lap Formula: Richard Weisz, NDDA**

Richard discussed the formula for determining how LAP dollars are distributed to counties.

Eligibility	USDA-NASS Statistics of Acres of Non-Cropland in Farms	Annual Noxious Weed Survey- Total Infested Acres
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$400,000</li> <li>• Percentage</li> <li>➤ If 40 WB eligible, then each would get \$10,000</li> <li>➤ If 45 WB eligible, then each would get \$8,888.88</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$400,000</li> <li>• Percentage</li> <li>➤ <math>\frac{\text{WB acres}}{\text{Total acres}} \times \\$400,000</math></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$200,000</li> <li>• Percentage</li> <li>➤ <math>\frac{\text{WB acres}}{\text{Total acres}} \times \\$200,000</math></li> </ul>

Richard explained that column 3 was being abused. Several counties are putting big numbers in their survey. What can we do? A lot of good discussion took place.

Consensus in Area IV is to drop column 3 completely.

**Industry Continued:**

**Tom Hedrick – Van Diest Supply**

Thank you for your continued support. We appreciate your business.

We have a warehouse in Pierre, SD. We can have product up here to you in 48 hours. Price reduction in Milestone – qts – 63.75, \$255/gal in 2x2 ½. Freelex is now under agency pricing at \$20/gallon. We do a lot of formulating for Corteva for Ag. Dealers.

Bayer is coming out with Plainview. Not much change on Glysohate. Tariff products have slight increases moving forward into 2020.

**Bill Walker, NDWCA Industry Rep & Nutrien Solutions**

First of all, thank you for your support this past year.

The industry has been again somewhat quiet for now, most all pricing programs and price increase notices start coming out from now until the end of the year, we should have some more information on this at the annual meeting in January.

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

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

Bayer is still working on getting **Invora Herbicide** approval from EPA, Invora would be a pre-mix of Method and Triclopyr (Garlon), they are really targeting this one for the southern states that have range and pasture brush problems (Mesquite) but are looking at the north as well for noxious weeds, while I see this as good for the southern states, we, in the north just need the Method 240 SL labeled for full Range and Pasture grazed sites, Method 240 SL still has the supplemental label that allows for applications to right-a-ways that transect grazed sites with no grazing restrictions for now.

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

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

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



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

Quart Containers \$66.25 per quart

This is in consideration currently.

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

New pricing has taken effect as of October 1, 2019

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

NuFarm still has Payload, Piper, E2 and AquaSweep Herbicides, E2 pricing looks to be stable for now going into 2020 is again is priced by the manufacturer at \$42.00 per gallon.

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

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

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

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

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

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

With all that being said, we are starting to see Glyphosate products take some slight price increases, Bayer/Monsanto has increased pricing on their Roundup brands about \$.50 cents per gallon as of now and they no longer are offering the distributors any bid protection on current bids or future bids.

Finally, all of this will also be determined as to what might happen between the U.S. and China in trade talks as well, if new tariffs hit than much of what is mentioned above may change, we have way to many products or technical materials for the products being made in China and that would have an impact on what really happens in 2020.

Ron mentioned that if you spray any type of chemical in a town, you should post that area, to show people to stay off that area, or if you don't, you could get into trouble.

#### **New Business continued:**

##### **Proposed by-law changes: Bill**

Bill read the proposed by-law changes, why the board is asking to change them, and also discussed the policy manual that the committee will begin to work on in 2020. Discussed what will go into the manual, etc. Good discussion on having a policy manual.

##### **Noxious Weed Development Fund: Merlin & Bill**

Merlin highlighted the need to pursue a fund. Bill also expressed the need for pursuing this.

#### **Elections:**

**1<sup>st</sup> alternate:** 1 year term – Current 1<sup>st</sup> alternate is John Arlein, city of Bismarck. But currently they are not members, so John is ineligible to hold an office. Rick called for nominations for 1<sup>st</sup> alternate. Arlin nominated Laverne Laib, Sheridan County, and asked that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Laverne. Kevin seconded the motion. **M/C**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate:** 1 year term – Currently, we have no one. The by-laws state that we need one. Rick turned the meeting over to Merlin and nominated CJ Pearce from Emmons County and moved that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for CJ. Arlin seconded the motion. **M/C**

##### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:**

Nominations for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Can only be from areas I, II, & III

Merlin stated that Stan Wolf, Cass County Weed Officer, Area II has been nominated.

No other nominations at this time.

Merlin mentioned that a person can also be nominated from the floor at the annual business meeting.

#### **Poster Contest:**

Merlin read the letter from Derrill Fick, education chairman.

This is the copy of the letter Derrill sent to schools.

Attention: School Administrators and 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Instructors

This letter is to invite your 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes to participate with a poster contest sponsored by the North Dakota Weed Control Association. The purpose of this contest is to help educate the youth on the harmful and devastating effects that noxious and invasive weeds have on agricultural lands, private lands, public lands as well as on wildlife. Our goal is to help the youth understand the importance of controlling and stopping the invasions of noxious weeds on these lands.

Within this poster contest students throughout the state will have the opportunity to create a poster showing their knowledge and/or ideas on how these noxious and invasive weeds harm and affect all of us on different levels. This includes not only farmers and ranchers, but wildlife and wildlife habitats.

#### **Instructions:**

-Size of poster must be no larger than 12" X 18"

-Students name and grade, the Teachers name and the name and address of the school must be on the back of the poster

-Send posters to the address below

The winning poster will be printed on a t-shirt to promote youth awareness for noxious and invasive weeds in ND. The winning student will receive a plaque award with a picture of the winning poster on it. The entire class of the winning student will receive a noxious weed prevention presentation along with a t-shirt with winning poster on it.

Our web site is: [www.ndweeds.com](http://www.ndweeds.com) . This site will have many links and information for you.

-Mail to: Ward County Weed Control

Attn: Derrill Fick

P.O. Box 5005

Minot, ND 58702-5005

Posters will need to be received in my office by January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. The judging will be held at the ND Weed Control Association's annual meeting January 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 2020. Thank you for choosing to be part of the NDWCA poster contest,

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me,

Sincerely,

Derrill Fick

NDWCA Education Committee Chairman

**Resolutions:** None

**KFYR Agri-International – Feb 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

Merlin thanked Karissa Floerchinger, and Corteva for sponsoring the booth again this year.

Everyone was in agreement to have a booth again this coming year.

**Traveling Award:** Sponsored by DOW/Corteva, awarded this year again to Sheridan County.

**Other Business: None**

Being no other business, Rick asked for a motion to adjourn.

Cody moved to adjourn the meeting, Arlin seconded the motion. M/C

Meeting adjourned at 12.47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Merlin Leithold

Executive Secretary