

NDWCA Area II Minutes

Conducted by e mail by Ron Manson, Area Director

Yet to be approved

October, 2020

Old Business:

Annual Meeting Update: by Merlin Leithold, ex. secretary

The ND Weed Control Association annual conference is slated for January 11-14, 2021 at the Ramada Inn & Conference Center in Bismarck. (Same place as the past several years). Theme this year is

“Your Land, Your Weed, Your Problem”

The 11, there is a board meeting scheduled for 5:30 pm at the hotel. Tuesday morning the ND Department of Agriculture we will kick things off with the Commissioners Forum. Tuesday afternoon at 3:00 pm we will have our annual business meeting, followed by the annual and very entertaining beer & brat social and auction. Please bring an auction item for this event, as a donation, which proceeds go for youth programs in the state.

Wednesday morning we have tentatively scheduled the mayor from Bismarck for a welcome at 8:00 am. We will have a full line of speakers, but with the way current events have been going with Covid, they are not in the correct places.

This year we will be going back to basics. Teaching all of us how to be a better weed officer and board person. We plan on having various weed officers talk on an area they are highly qualified to do so in. For example, we will have one talk about Leafy spurge biocontrol. Another on spraying techniques. Another on building relationships with their landowners. Another on the correct procedures for forcing a landowner to control his/her weeds.

Bill Walker will give a presentation on surfactants as well. Hope to have some NDSU presentations as well.

At 6:00 pm on Wednesday evening we will have our annual banquet and awards presentation. Entertainment this year are the Little Blue Stems from Elgin. They are a group made up of sisters and a brother, play bluegrass and country, and Christian. These kids are in elementary and high school. They are sponsored again by Nutrien and Bill Walker.

Thursday morning we are not having a breakfast, as the hotel has a free continental breakfast.

The speaker session will begin at 8 and conclude around 11:30.

There will be a board meeting following the morning session.

Now, the unknown portion. At the board meeting on Sept. 29, the board decided to go ahead with the conference,. BUT, they plan to revisit this mid-November or sooner. Since that board meeting, Burleigh County, where the conference is held, moved up a level to red. At that level, it would be impossible to hold a conference. Everyone is hoping that the virus levels begin to stabilize and go lower to a more normal status. Watch for the November newsletter towards the end of November. In there, everything will be clearer. Also, if the conference is not held, the board will do what it can to hold the annual meeting, electronically. STAY TUNED

County reports:

Stutsman: Given by Ron Manson

Stutsman County once again had an eventful spring, summer, and fall controlling weeds in our county. The season started out with a group of new hires, 4 first time applicators and 3 returning for their last season here working for us. Stutsman and Barnes County, along with help from the new Burleigh County Weed Officer, Dylan Ripplinger, held our own one day sprayer school down at Clausen Springs in Barnes County. Since sprayer schools had been cancelled around the state, we felt it necessary for our new hires to participate in a training. The training day had the usual information presented at our sprayer schools: ATV safety, weed ID, hands on spraying on different equipment, and of course calibrating that same equipment. The nicest part of the training this year was we allowed us to also do boat safety and get those present familiar with operating a boat while searching for and spraying purple loosestrife, in which both counties spend numerous days on the rivers, sloughs, and lakes searching and treating purple loosestrife.

Once the spraying crews were up and going, the first things we begin to spray is areas within the city of Jamestown and the county parks around the reservoirs near Jamestown. We spray mostly on UTVs in these areas. This season we used both Mec-amine and some E-2 for lawn type areas and then Milestone in non-turf areas.

We were able to get through all our roads (state, county and township) before the 4th of July, the first time. We used Tordon/Freelexx on most roadways. Once we were thru the first roadside spraying, we then turned out attention to spurge beetles.

The collecting in our county was down in numbers, maybe picked 50-60 releases due to low densities of actual spurge plants in the usual areas around the county. Fortunately, numbers of beetles were high in different areas of the state. So we headed west for numerous days and collected south of Mandan. Don't tell Cody LOL) We collected nearly 300+ releases and brought them back and distributed then around the county.

After beetle season, we got back on the roads for some re-spraying and a lot of tree and cattail spraying in the ditches. I have realized that spraying for trees and cattails in the right of ways brings a lot of praise by others in the county. By doing this, it helps with snow build up and allows mowers to run smoothly. We probably had 10-15 days combined of doing both and like spraying weeds. It's a never-ending battle and will most likely take me 10 years to finish the work I started.

On the second spraying of the roads in the county I used DuraCor, to see what kind of results we will have with this product the next season.

We spent 2 days on the river spraying for purple loosestrife, we were finding one here, one there. Not many large areas found. I hope to do more in the future in searching more water in the county, I did find some additional (2) purple loosestrife in slough areas away from the river.

After most of my staff left for the season, by mid-August, the real fun began. I found Palmer Amaranth the first week of September. I could go on at lengths about the time and effort this weed did take and will take in the future, but I won't, it's easier to call me and talk to me about it. The fall spray was terrible, lots of wind and early freeze. Only got out a handful of times in my favorite time of the year for weed control. I'll be looking to hire some more long-term employees next season that can work late into the fall.

Cass County: Submitted by Stan Wolf

Spraying of road ditches started on June 21, a bit later than previous years. Wind was the biggest issue keeping us from spraying. Leafy spurge and Canada thistle were the main weeds with Canada thistle being more prevalent across the county. We used Tordon/Freelexx at 28 oz/32 oz rate in the early summer. We did see some grass burn with the Tordon/Freelexx rate, we might lower the Freelexx rate for next year. Fall spraying in September and October we switched to Tordon/Overdrive at 12 oz/4 oz rate as temperatures were lower and soybeans were maturing. We have completed our spraying covering over 8500 acres in state, county, and township road ditches. The two contractors are doing a very good job.

I and my summer staff scouted county owner properties and sprayed numerous flood buyout lots and water resource properties and city properties across the county. I had to issue a weed control order and an enforcement order on one property in one of the towns in the county. The sheriff's office assisted by watching the property while I conducted the spray operation. The owner was not a good nor pleasant neighbor.

Palmer amaranth was identified in Cass County, located in the Fargo Industrial park near a seed processing plant. The weeds were collected and destroyed. I was called out to identify several suspicious weeds. At one place I found water hemp in a corn field 10.5 feet tall.

Spotted hemlock was identified in southern Cass County in two grass hay meadows and numerous road ditches. Spotted hemlock is very poisonous to people and livestock. It likes wet feet, usually growing in areas where cattails are or in low lying areas that can be wet. It is not invasive and if livestock are well fed will not eat live plants. If harvested with hay, cattle may ingest and die. DuraCor or a heavy dose of 2,4-D will control live plants. My concern with this weed is with the expansion of tile drainage with water discharge into road ditches the weed may expand its area and possibly be harvested in ditch hay.

Leafy spurge flea beetle collections in the county went well. Beetle populations seemed to be up this year, we distributed 24 releases to the public and several sites we found.

We purchased 20 releases of Canada thistle stem mining weevils and distributed them in several sites in the county on the hopes to establish a stable population.

Last year I tried a new herbicide mix, Tordon/Milestone at 22 oz/5 oz rate in an area loaded with Leafy spurge and Canada thistle. This summer I did not find any Canada thistle and a little Leafy spurge. Very pleased with the result 12 months after application.

So far, we have received 12 applications for Landowner Owner Assistance. We do not qualify for state refunded LAP, we budget for the reimbursement within our own budget.

We have a new board member, Marty Murch.

Winter Show election – yes, depending upon Covid risk rating.

LaMoure County: Given by Al Ulmer

Spring 2020 spraying was a challenge due to the wet conditions. Fall spraying went very well in early September, the wetness of the spring had disappeared and we sprayed in places we couldn't get to the past couple of years; however the windy conditions later in the month made spraying tougher, only a few hours in the morning.

We tried something new this summer and sprayed cattails along the roads, results were mixed, we sprayed in Mid to Late July and I think the cattails were too big, if we try again next year we will try to do it early when they are not so big. We used Aquanet.

We didn't have an insect collection, all the places checked had bugs but not in the number conducive for collection. However checking around the county everywhere we checked there were insects, some places had good numbers while other had lower numbers. What is needed is another mild winter with good snow cover to protect the larvae.

Good news was no new finds of palmer in the county, bad news Canada thistle seems to be everywhere. With the amount of monies in the carryover account the county will not be taxing landowners again this year for weed control, but it didn't hurt 2021 budget we are still funded well, however we won't be eligible for state LAP funds again.

Barnes County: Given by Jamen Windish

2020 has been one of those years... We started off wet and it didn't end til late summer. Despite the weather we got out and sprayed the most acres we ever have. Covering over 6,000 acres in rights of ways. One big challenge this year was the inconsistent haying of road ditches. Some farmers got to theirs early and some late. Interstate was being cut for the first time in September. So, we found ourselves finding freshly cut ditches late in the season.

We scouted and controlled hounds tongue again. We are slowly making progress, but the terrain makes it difficult to be efficient. Purple loosestrife is still a big issue. We are finding random plants popping up. Our big area the plant population has gone down but there still is a significant amount out there. We placed some biocontrol out there in attempts to help control it. We caught over 100 releases of leafy spurge beetles and gave them out to landowners. I want to thank Cody in Morton county for letting us come over a few days and collect it was much appreciated.

Out fall spray was almost nonexistent. What few non windy days we had we got out and made the most of it. We switched from the usual Milestone program in the fall to Duracor and we really liked what we saw.

Not weed related but still relevant we had an employee test positive for Covid-19 this summer. That threw us for a loop being out for 2 weeks and we couldn't be at work and of course it was two nice spray weeks. So, we changed up some in house policies and procedures to help lessen our exposure with each other.

Just when I thought 2020 couldn't get any worse... Ron called me and told me he found Palmer in his county right on the border of Barnes county. So, we went out with NDSU and the ND Ag Dept and looked and identified plants. Only finding a dozen or so I was feeling confident non would be in Barnes county... Well I was wrong the following week I got a call saying they found it in Barnes county. So, the same procedure with NDSU and the AG Dept. But this time we found more than a dozen. There could be upwards of 1 million plants across the operation. So that has occupied a lot of my time fielding calls from landowners and scouting. It has changed the aspects of my job for the foreseeable future.

Dickey County: Given by Terry Weiss

The spring started out with a very wet spring once again. The Right of Ways were full of water and the road conditions were very poor. This continued most of the summer. The tank could only be half full of water, because of the soft road conditions. Could not drive in the ditch except with the Ranger throughout the year.

The Leafy Spurge was all over the place this year once again. Just when you think you are making some headway controlling it you find that Leafy Spurge is here to stay.

The Weed Board advertised for assistant weed officer to help me and to take over the job in the future, help wanted ads were placed in all the surrounding papers, and word of mouth, there was no response.

Dickey County had a large infestation of Thistle of all kinds this year. I think all the years of wet weather has caused this flush of thistle growth.

One of the other factors this season was the WIND. I had difficulties with road conditions, water in the ditches, water over many roads, rain as much 11 inches one day in the Forbes area causing many washed out roads, and the consistent wind.

I spray all the County and Township roads with Tordon, 24D, and Vista XRT. This has been very effective on the shoulder of the road for the County Blade. To get rid of the weeds, and especially the kosha, the Blade does not have big piles of weeds and gravel to deal with.

Because of this effort, to control the weeds, the Dickey County Leader did a very good front page story in the paper with pictures of our building, trucks, and County Blade. Also interviewed Secretary Sand, Blade man for 6 townships Darrell Lematta, and myself. We were able to talk about weed control as well as the value the Blade men are seeing from riding the roads of weeds. We were able to talk about the LAP and TAG programs available for control of weeds.

To my knowledge we had no Palmer Amaranth in Dickey County this year. But like a lot of the rest of eastern North Dakota there was a lot of Preventive Plant with much of the acers planted with a cover crop. The concern is that cover crop seed may be contaminated with Palmer.

I have been looking for an effective way to track the township roads when I am spraying in real time. The County Commissioners suggested that I talk to Climate View about using the program for tracking the roads. We purchased the equipment and subscription to Climate View and I am getting to understand how to use it. Seems like this will work very well to keep track of where I have been though out the season.

I am still using the old Data logger system to report to the State. If we had up dated our data logger the cost would have been more and as far as I know they still do not have real time tracking that will stay on the I-pad for the summer.

Traill County: Given by JILL LAGEIN

Things this summer seemed to go pretty well as far as ditch spraying went. We were able to get most of the acres covered before money ran out. The spot spraying was done on all the county and township roads to needed it to be done. In June we ordered 20 containers of leafy spurge beetles to help ranchers control leafy spurge beetles. We haven't found Palmer yet in Traill county but with the feedlots in the county it might be a matter of time. This was our second year of a two year contract with our sprayer.

Steele County: Given by Angie Johnson

Things are going well so far in Steele County. Weed control on township and county road right-of-ways is responsible by the township in which those roads pass. Steele County reimburses townships up to \$2,000 for the control of noxious weeds. We haven't had many receipts turned in this year, as we are very limited in access to ROW applicators.

At this time, we have not found any Palmer amaranth in Steele County. The waterhemp pressure has increased ten-fold and so I believe we need to be doing education/emphasis on waterhemp, just as much as we have on palmer. Right now, our palmer is waterhemp and growers need to start thinking that mindset. A huge issue I have noticed, is the disgust neighbors have for each other's weed problems. I am getting concerned about it, as neighbors are being cruel and judgmental towards each other, and this is really a time to be supportive and work together. Weeds are everyone's problem so how can we get growers to start thinking in that mindset, versus, "ugh, he's got so many weeds and he doesn't do anything about them! He's a terrible farmer!".

Sargent: Given by Eric Huemiller

My first full season as the new weed control officer went very well, my board voted to have one person working in the department and the spraying process was much easier, with one driver/operator, as for controlling speed and flipping switched.

Made some improvements on our roadside sprayer and also in the process of refabricating a Polaris sprayer in order to have a safer, more versatile spray unit.

Around 20% of the county has a high water table, using Platoon in those areas has kept things under control and Tordon is very effective in the remaining areas.

At the beginning of October, we got a call from the Department of Agriculture, they received a report of suspected Palmer Amaranth that had been growing in a farmer's pasture and believed to be transported through sunflower screenings. Samples have been collected and we should know the species at some point this winter.

Richland County: Given by Steve Ginsburg

The Richland County spray season started in May with a LAP cost share with producers on a 80/20 ratio for pastures in the county approximately 4000 acres. Our contractor sprayed 3200 acres on state and county and twp roads. The county sprayed 50 acres on interchanges and medians on I 29. More yellow toadflax was found in three areas of the county and sprayed immediately. We cost shared 16 releases of spurge and thistle bugs. The county sprayed 200 acres on county and twp rows. Was difficult with an above average acres of soybeans planted. The county also sprayed 222 acres on Forest Service rows. We used our spray truck and Ranger 6x6 operated by the county Weed Officer.

Industry: Karissa Floerchinger– Corteva Agriscience

Hello,

To better serve you, we have redrawn the territory lines in the Western US. The East side of North Dakota and South Dakota will continue to be supported by Pasture and Land Management Specialist, Karissa Floerchinger. Pasture and Land Management Specialist, Claire Volk, now supports the West side of North Dakota and South Dakota. We look forward to working with you to meet the ever-changing challenges that you face.

If you are located in the following **North Dakota** counties, then Claire will now support your Pasture and Land Management efforts: Adams, Billings, Bowman, Burke, Divide, Dunn, Golden Valley, Grant, Hettinger, McKenzie, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Mountrail, Oliver, Renville, Sioux, Slope, Stark, Ward and Williams.

If you are located in the following **South Dakota** counties, then Claire will now support your Pasture and Land Management efforts: Bennett, Butte, Corson, Custer, Dewey, Fall River, Gregory, Haakon, Harding, Jackson, Jones, Lawrence, Lyman, Meade, Mellette, Oglala Lakota (Shannon), Pennington, Perkins, Stanley, Todd, Tripp and Ziebach.

We have a lot of exciting things happening to discuss with you, including the recent launch of [DuraCor®](#) and [TerraVue™](#) herbicides, as well as the anticipated [ProClova™](#) herbicide that is currently with the EPA for registration.

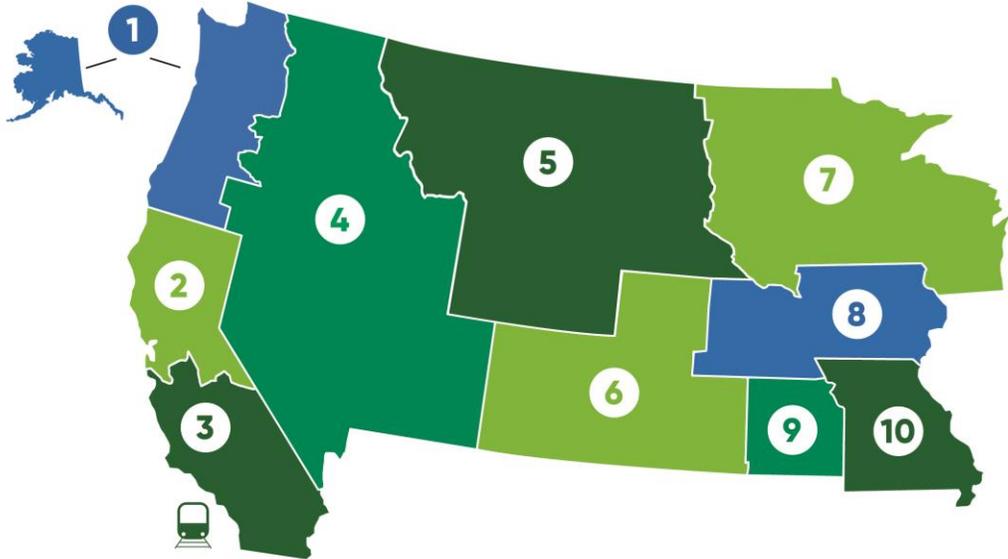


You can contact Claire over the phone at 307-439-9095 and email claire.volk@corteva.com. Feel free to reach out to Claire to meet your new Pasture and Land Management Specialist!



You can still reach Karissa at 406-788-4044 and email karissa.floerchinger@corteva.com. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions!

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October 14th, 2020



Dear Weed & Pest Supervisors & Board Members,

Friends and supporters as you read in the attached briefing, I will no longer be the Corteva Representative for the Pasture and Land Management Division essentially to those counties west of the Missouri River. I have sincerely enjoyed getting to know all of you as business partners and friends. I appreciate you all allowing me to lean on you with questions as I sought understanding over the past four great years. Those to the east I look forward to building upon our established relationship and assisting in the stewardship of Corteva products as you all target noxious and invasive weeds well into the future.

It has been a superb year for weed spraying across the Dakota's. I thank you all for your continued support of Corteva products including but not limited to TerraVue, DuraCor, Milestone, Opensight, GrazonNext HL, Tordon, Vista, Transline, Curtail and Freelexx. As you all know we launched TerraVue and DuraCor this year as the premier residual broadleaf weed control herbicides. They are respectively the next generation of Milestone, Opensight and GrazonNext HL.

In the Dakota's alone TerraVue and DuraCor have been sprayed on over 140,000 acres. As a reminder both products contain Milestone and the new active ingredient Rinskor which broadens the weeds controlled to 140 weeds verses 70 labeled weeds on the Milestone label. Rinskor is a new active ingredient that targets a new site of action on the plant achieving better contact on all species but particularly on wild carrot and wild parsnip species. Same if not better control has been achieved on North Dakota Noxious Weeds including Absinth wormwood, Canada thistle, Diffuse/Russian/Spotted Knapweed, Musk thistle, Palmer amaranth, Purple Loosestrife, and more! Brush control results are promising on Russian Olives when combined with Vastlan.



TerraVue	DuraCor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-2.85 oz/acre use rates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12-20 oz/acre use rates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot treatment rate 5.7 oz. If area is hayed or grazed, not more than 50% of an acre may be treated at that rate. Higher broadcast rate (5.7 oz) allowed for TVC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spot treatments may be applied at 40 fl ozs of DuraCor™ per acre, as long as an application is not made to more than 50% of the treatable acre.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use Sites: rangeland & pasture, natural areas, wildlife habitat and management areas, non-crop areas, utility, roadside 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use Sites: rangeland, permanent grass pastures, Conservation Reserve Program area, wildlife habitat

rights-of-way, including grazed areas in & around these sites	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Dispersible Granular: disperses quickly in water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liquid Suspension Concentrate: shake or stir before using, can freeze
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supplemental Label: *For use on rights-of-ways and utility lines transecting grazed areas.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-restricted herbicide, no haying or grazing restrictions in MT, WY, ND, SD 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tank mix compatibility/low odor/low use rate/can be used up to waters edge 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always follow the label 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supplemental Label: For use on grass harvested for hay intended for distribution or sale OFF the farm or ranch. For distribution and use in MT, WY, ND, SD 	

We must also mention that we will shortly launch ProClova. This product will primarily target pasture acres that have white clover as the primary forage species, providing invasive weed control and white clover safety. ProClova should also have a broader fit for the non-residual acre in our area. Stay tuned for more information as we currently anticipate an approved label in the fourth quarter of 2020.



Crook County Wyo
Leafy Spurge
Sprayed June 23rd 2
16 oz DuraCor + 16
+ 16 oz Freelexx + 1

Available Value-Added Resources:

- To hear from Barnes County Weed Supervisor, Jamen Windish check out this link as it pertains to the article “A Mandatory Practice” : <http://app.engage.corteva.com/e/es?s=777435755&e=97431&elqTrackId=785bbbc2806846c80473e1899f7cba2&elq=10a7692b94cb4bfb955a400b36fc1ec7&elqaid=12086&elqat=1>
- For those of you seeking up-to-date data on DuraCor check out the September 23rd 2020 Techline article “Maintaining balance” by visiting: <https://www.techlinenews.com/articles/maintaining-balance>
- [We have developed a resource to help you all as supervisors when approaching the public with regards to vegetation management practices at **NotifyYourNeighbor.Corteva.US**. One simply goes to the site and requests access of which will be received 48 hours or less.](#)

I want to thank you all for your support! If you have an opportunity to provide weed control and require additional resources, we invite you to reach out to your dedicated Pasture & Land Management Representative for support. We continue to bring new technologies and resources to the field and are proud to help you steward all products in the field. Claire is looking forward to working with you all and would enjoy meeting you, please feel free to reach out to Claire at your convenience. Hope to see you soon!

Van Diest: Tom Hedrick

Good morning everyone! First and foremost I want to thank you for your business support this year. We appreciate the opportunity to serve your county weed control program. Our goal at Van Diest Supply Company is to provide you with timely service, product knowledge, and application information. Starting with supplier updates”.

Corteva – Milestone will remain flat in price for 2021.

\$ 265 / gallon in 2.5's and \$ 66.25 for quarts.

Vastlan (Choline Triclopyr) took a 3% increase to \$ 89.60 / gallon.

Freelex (Choline 2,4 -D) is agency priced at \$ 20.50 / gallon.

Opensight (Milestone + MSM) is agency priced at \$ 86 / pound.

Tordon 22 K and Graslan L - little change in price expected.

The two new products TerraVue / Duracor looked very good this year.

They are premixes of Milestone + Rinskor that provide additional broadleaf control with accelerated activity and efficacy on many weeds. TerraVue WDG is labeled for ROW, rangeland, permanent pastures, CRP, and other sites. Agency priced currently at \$ 94 / pound with use rates up to 2.85 oz / acre.

Duracor liquid is labeled for rangeland, permanent grass pastures, CRP, wildlife management areas.

Agency priced currently at \$ 85 / gallon with use rate up to 20 oz / acre. Prices for both of these products could change by early new year. If you haven't tried these products, I would certainly recommend that you do.

Bayer – Method herbicide should be in good supply for 2021.

Agency priced at \$ 322.56 / gallon. No increase in price.

For bareground, Plainview herbicide is a three way mix of Arsenal +

Method + Esplanade. Provides excellent control of annual perennial weeds and grasses, including woody plants, brush, and trees.

Esplanade 200 SC will be agency priced through December at \$ 1189.12, in 2.5's. Price will increase to \$ 1218.56 January 1st.

Quarts will be \$ 327.04 through December, and \$ 335.36 after that.

New from Bayer is Rejuvra herbicide. This herbicide will control annual weeds and grasses in established rangeland, pasture, CRP, parks, open spaces and wildlife areas. Applied preemergent before germination, Rejuvra will release beneficial plants and grasses for an extended period of time, allowing native plants to flourish. Use rate is 5 ounces / acre , agency priced at \$ 994.56 / gallon. So the 5 ounce rate will run \$ 38.85 / acre.

Hopefully we can get together at the January conference . Thanks again for your support. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Happy fall hunting and be safe out there.

Bill Walker, NDWCA Industry Rep & Nutrien Solutions

As we face a year of trials and uncertainty, so far, the pesticide industry has held up fairly well through it all, we have seen some products get tight and even some out of production until this next year and even then, no guarantees how well production will resume, we have to remember that much of the technical materials used to make the products were coming from offshore countries like China so some materials have become short.

Dicamba is still highlighted and we should continue to watch where we are using this product and now, researchers are seeing more and more tolerance to dicamba from certain weed types, the pigweeds are showing more tolerance which in turn will have an effect on Palmer Amaranth control in some areas, dicamba products are still on the market and being sold, it is just the “NEW” dicamba products that were being marketed for the dicamba resistant beans and other crops that have been pulled from sales for now, some states have also made the dicamba products still for sale a “Restricted Use Product” thus requiring licensing to buy and apply.

Glyphosate issues are still on going, everything is still in the courts and basically by mid-2020 Bayer had in place a proposed settlement to address most of the pending cases estimated to be about 100,000 cases at this time, spurred on by a pair of multi-million dollar judgements against the company in California courtrooms.

Bayer:

Has recently introduced a new product called **Rejuvra Herbicide** – it is labeled for annual grass control in range, pasture and wildlife areas, use up to 5 ounces per acre with no grazing restrictions, can use up to 7 ounces per acre rates but will have grazing restrictions on rates over 5 ounces, can be used on established perennial grasses, helps to increase pollinator habitat, wildlife habitat, forage production, helps to target the seed bank of annual grasses, seeing multi-year control (up to 3 years or so) with a single application, Cheatgrass, Foxtails, Downy Brome, Medusahead and Ventenata are just a few on the label, cost will be around \$42.75 per acre plus for the chemical not including application, is packaged in 2.5 gallon containers only at this time, 2.5 gallons will treat approximately 64 acres at the 5 ounce per acre rate.

Bayer has now released pricing information for the coming year, looks like we will see a slight price increase on Esplanade 200 SC Herbicide and Esplanade EZ Herbicide (about 2.5% increase), Method 240 SL pricing will remain the same as 2020 for 2021 at \$322.56 per gallon and still is only available in 2.5 gallon containers, most all other products (Escort XP, Telar XP, Plainview SC Herbicide, Oust XP and others have remained stable pricing from 2020 to 2021 so far.

Glyphosates (the Roundup Brands manufactured by Bayer), we have seen some slight price increases so far, pricing could/will be dictated by how much technical material is coming from offshore, not only on the Roundup brands but all glyphosate products.

CORTEVA:

Has announced that we will see some price increases on some products, **Freelexx, Opensight, TerraVue, Vastlan, Vista XRT, Garlon 4 Ultra, Capstone Herbicide, Pathfinder II, Pathway Herbicide** among others, increases will range from 1% on up to about 5.6% on some products.

Milestone Herbicide will remain stable from what they have said so far, government program in the western states is still in effect and pricing is the same at this time.

Tordon 22K Herbicide is stable at this time but still might be looked at for some price increases later.

CORTEVA is currently looking at a couple of new products that might come available sometime in 2021, these would be targeted at range, pasture and right-a-ways, stay tuned for updates on these as we get them.

CORTEVA is currently making some changes to its staff and the territories they do cover, their plan now is to split North Dakota and South Dakota into two different company representatives with one covering the east and one covering the west, looks like the Missouri river might be the dividing line for this split, my personal concerns is when this happens, of possibly getting differing ideas, creating some confusion between the sides and direction.

BASF:

Has not come forward with any possible price increases so far, they will normally put these out sometime in November/December but we are not expecting any real large increases on the BASF products, we did see a fairly large increase on Overdrive this year (2020) but again this is a dicamba type product and your use should be limited to necessary sites or types of weeds, Plateau supplies seemed stable for the year and pricing was stable, Arsenal Herbicide did see some supply disruptions but were temporary.

NuFarm:

In talking with NuFarm they think pricing structure will stay fairly stable, at this time they think phenoxy products like the 2,4-D products look stable, as reported earlier in the year, NuFarm has exited some of it's glyphosate business in the Vegetation Management markets, AquaNeat, Razor PRO and other VM glyphosates are no longer available and the supply chains have pretty much been exhausted of these, they have taken over the Payload and Piper Herbicide marketing for Valent, E-2 Herbicide looks stable so far for pricing (no information as of this date).

Surfactants and Additives:

From what we see so far these are taking a very nominal increase in pricing, 2% to 3% at this time, oil/petroleum pricing does have some effect on these when petroleum based and, with the current petroleum pricing, upticks in pricing on surfactants that use petroleum have been almost zero, also, most of these products are made in the USA so the problems faced with many pesticide products and technical material coming from offshore countries are not faced with the manufacturing of these products, the only real factor effecting these would be COVID-19 and that is only if plants are shut down because of that situation.

Other products at this time seem to be somewhat stable but we will make no predictions on what might happen.

We have to remember, much of our technical material or even the finished products are/were made in China, tariffs placed on China products have been as much as 25% and are still in effect, with the current world situation I believe, nobody can really tell what might happen for 2021, in a survey on COVID-19 and did it effect this business, 43% said yes it did, another 43% said yes it did but they adapted, if the country is slowed once again to COVID-19 problems then all bets are off.

It's still early and the next couple of months up until the first of the year will really tell what might happen in 2021, hopefully by our annual meeting in January we will have a much clearer picture.

NDDA Update: Richard Weisz, noxious weed specialist:

2020 NDDA Noxious Weeds Updates

- **NDDA Noxious Weeds Program Contacts:**
 - **Richard Weisz**, Noxious Weeds Specialist (Bismarck)
 - Noxious weeds, federal and state funding, enforcement issues
 - (701) 328-2250
 - **Chelsey Penuel**, Plant Protection Specialist (Fargo)
 - Biocontrol, WSFF
 - (701) 226-4321
 - **Jim Hansen**, GIS/GPS Specialist (Coleharbor)
 - Mapping, dataloggers, NDDA online maps
 - (701) 425-8454
- **Outreach:**
 - Books and pocket guides are available. Please let Richard know if you need more outreach material, and we will ship it out to you.
- **Funding:**
 - 20-21 LAP Notice of Grant Awards (NOGA) have been sent to all eligible counties.
 - Currently, 28 LAP NOGAs out of 41 have been fully executed.
 - Please sign and return as soon as you're able.
 - Let Richard know if you need me to resend.
 - **TAG and LAP funds:**
 - Target Assistance Grant (TAG) Program: \$281,000
 - \$95,872 spent
 - \$185,128 available
 - Landowner Assistance Program (LAP) Grant: \$1,000,000.00
 - \$464,607.36 spent
 - \$535,392.64 available
 - **Ideas for using TAG funds:**
 - GPS equipment - dataloggers, etc.
 - Spray equipment - new or repairs

- PPE
 - Weed scouting, monitoring, or mapping
 - Re-vegetation
 - Safety or calibration training
 - Computer hardware or software
 - Educational items or newsletters

- **LAP:**
 - Going forward, LAP is being allocated every year instead of every two years.
 - Reason: allows for more counties to meet the 3-mill eligibility mark.
 - LAP grant periods are:
 - July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020
 - July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.
 - LAP Reallocation.
 - Will occur towards the end of this fiscal year.
 - Use formula to reallocate.
 - Formula no longer includes noxious weeds acres, but submission of noxious weed survey is required or county may not be eligible for LAP funding.

- **USFS Grants:**
 - 2018 – Cooperative Weed Management
 - 2019 – Continued Cooperative Weed Management
 - 2020 – Invasive Plant Cost-Share Grant
 - Funding is available so please reach out if you have any questions or interest.

- **2021 Agriculture Commissioner’s Noxious Weed Forum:**
 - **January 12, 2021** at the Bismarck Ramada
 - Free and open to the public
 - As of now, we are still planning on having the Forum in person, however this will be re-evaluated if needed.

- **GPS & Dataloggers:**
 - Get your GPS data submitted.
 - Call Jim if you have:
 - Questions on submitting data or computer software or hardware
 - Printed Map

- **Palmer amaranth:**
 - Confirmed counties in 2020:
 - New Counties:

- Cass, Barnes, Stutsman
 - New sites in confirmed counties:
 - Benson, Richland
- Upon revisiting sites from 2018 to 2019 Palmer plants were only found at the 2018 Richland County site and the 2019 Grant County location.
- Please keep an eye out while spraying.
- Please work with landowners and NDSU Extension for suspect plants.
 - Report suspect plants to the NDDA.
- Do outreach to Landowners in your county, especially cattle producers that may procure feed from outside areas where weeds that do not occur in North Dakota exist

NDDA Biocontrol Update

Leafy spurge biocontrol: The NDDA assisted and put out press for 5 leafy spurge flea beetle collection and distribution field days in Benson, Billings, Grant, Morton and Stark counties. In addition to public collection events, weed boards and state agencies moved many more flea beetles throughout the state, and the NDDA was able to move approximately 10 releases of leafy spurge flea beetles to McHenry County in effort to help control the large infestations of leafy spurge in the area. Both weather and the Covid-19 pandemic complicated or led to the cancelation of public collection events, however, some county weed control boards were able to use staff to collect flea beetles for local landowners in need.

Montana Biocontrol Project was able to supply the NDDA with 10 releases of leafy spurge stem borer. In addition, the NDDA purchased 10 releases of leafy spurge tip gall midge. All releases were distributed in McHenry County.

Canada thistle biocontrol: Six of the seven Canada thistle rust fungus established in 2019, were monitored in June and July for evidence of establishment. No evidence was detected during monitoring. Native populations of the rust fungus were monitored at the Cass county site, and samples were collected for viewing under microscopes.

In September, the NDDA released additional inoculum at the Cass and Emmons counties sites established in 2019. Additional inoculum was sent to Stutsman and Ward counties for release at sites established in 2019.

The NDDA joined the USDA APHIS to monitor 2019 release site in Morton County in July. No evidence was detected.

Purple loosestrife biocontrol: The NDDA purchased 2 releases of purple loosestrife defoliating beetles that were released in May in Barnes County.

NDDA WSFF Update

During the 2020 growing season, the NDDA Weed Seed Free Forage (WSFF) program contracted with 6 individuals to perform WSFF inspections throughout the state and 4 county weed control boards to perform WSFF inspections within their jurisdiction. Thus far (numbers not final), fields were inspected in 12 counties; counties included Billings, Cass, Dunn, Lamoure, McKenzie, Mountrail, Sargent, Slope, Stark, Towner, Ward and Williams. Inspections occurred from April 20, 2020 through September 10, 2020. Over 6,906 acres inspected and 11,148 bales of alfalfa, mixed hay, and wheat, barley, and durum straw were certified.

Elections:

2nd Vice President: Ron nominated Dylan Ripplinger from Burleigh County, Area IV

Al nominated Stan Wolf, Cass County, Area II

No other nominations

Valley City Winter Show: Majority in favor of having a booth.