



# NORTH DAKOTA WEED CONTROL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

VOL. 31 NO. 3

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October, 2021

## 2021 Board of Directors:

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| President: Travis Jepson | (701)590-4306                          |
| 1st VP: Jim Hennessy     | (701)629-1858                          |
| 2nd VP: Stan Wolf        | (701)730-6786                          |
| Area I: Roger Gunderson  | (701)662-7330                          |
| Area II: Ron Manson      | (701)320-4512                          |
| Area III: Derrill Fick   | (701)720-2436                          |
| Area IV: Rick Schmidt    | (701)794-8748                          |
| Area V: Joan Lorge       | (701)523-6675                          |
| Industry: Bill Walker    | (605)642-3800                          |
| Gov.: Kent Luttschwager  | (701)774-2780                          |
| Past Pres: Cody Schnabel | (701)391-8006                          |
| Ex. Sec. Merlin Leithold | (c) (701)527-6544<br>(h) (701)584-3204 |

## Upcoming Meetings :

**The 2022 Annual Conference set for January 4-7**

**Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center, Bismarck**

**Your association has caps, a couple of jackets and vests, and padfolios, cups and a few other items for sale.**

**Contact Merlin, Cody or Derrill for more information**

**\*\*NEWSLETTER\*\***

## **The Paper Edition May End Soon!!**

The board has asked that if you want to continue to receive the newsletter, you need to sign up for it by e mail. The cost is continuing to rise, and we need to make adjustments. It will continue through 2022, but no guarantees after that. Also we send out various items between newsletters on e mail. By getting the paper copy, you are missing out on a lot of important things.

**Also, as weed boards get new members throughout the year, please let us know, so we can update our list. We find where former members continue to receive the newsletter, and new members do not. Unless we are notified, we have no idea the comings and goings of board members.**

## **Presidents Message**

Greetings,

I can't believe it's already fall. It's been a long hot summer but we made it through. I hope everybody had a productive year fighting the states noxious weeds. I'd like to thank all of you for your efforts in that battle. So far this fall looks like we are going to be able to get some more productive days of spraying in which is much needed.

I'm really excited this morning to be able to go out to a location in my county where they are doing some spraying with a drone. They are doing some work on some leafy spurge and it sound like they are going to try to do about 225 acres. It is amazing to think about where technologies are changing and bringing about new ways to combat the weed problems that we have. I plan on taking pictures and videos and asking lots of questions. It should be interesting to see how it works and how efficient it is.

I would like to thank everyone for their continued vigilance in looking out for Palmer Amaranth. Don't forget if you see a weed that may be palmer or any weed that looks suspicious please contact your local weed officer or NDSU extension agent to properly identify it. The sooner positive identifications are made the quicker action can be taken to stop the spread and the potential damage that it can cause.

Don't forget that area meetings are coming up the second to last week of October. It is important that you are able to attend because the 2021 Commissioners Weed Forum will be held in conjunction with the area meetings.

Travis Jepson  
2021 NDWCA President

## **Executive Secretary Corner**

### **Area meetings will take place in 2022!!!**

The ND AG Commissioners 2021 Weed Forum will take place along with the area meetings. Below is a message from the NDDA.

"The 2021 weed forum was canceled due to COVID-19. Area meetings will substitute for the Commissioner's weed Forum meeting. Your attendance is highly recommended."

Richard Weisz, noxious weed specialist.

See back cover for meeting schedule for each area.

Also, registration forms will be available at the area meetings for pickup, and will be in the November newsletter as well.

See you all at the area meetings, Merlin

# Industry Update:

by **Bill Walker, NDWCA Industry Director & Nutrien Solutions Representative**

Once again, we are focused on product, product shortages, drastic price increases and all just continuing on through this year (2021) and well into next year as well (2022). We have seen many product shortages so far this year in our industry (as well as others) and according to manufacturers, we are not at that end yet.

**Glyphosate products** will continue to be a major shortage problem, this will affect the agriculture community much worse than our side but will affect us all the same, larger users especially those spraying cattails with aquatic glyphosates will see product supply issues and all will see drastic price increases when product does come available, glyphosate prices since the first of the year have so far risen between 28% to as much as 40% and are expected to continue the rise in costs right into 2022 (sometime). Generic glyphosate products have been extremely hard to get and supply this year as well and will continue to be even well into 2022.

**2,4-D products** are showing larger price increases as well, amines have risen about 30% in costs from the beginning of this year and esters have taken even greater cost increases, supply of 2,4-D esters has gotten tighter as the year as gone, and again, this is expected to last well into 2022 and will affect the ag markets larger than ours but will affect ours as well.

**Manufacturers** have had difficulty in securing raw materials to formulate products and with many of the raw materials coming out of China we will continue to see that, China is under its carbon neutralization plan and each province in China has a target on energy consumption and carbon emissions, many of the provinces are either shut down or only running at 50 to 60% capacity for production because they have reached or exceeded the YTD targets, this again, is affecting raw materials coming from China to produce and manufacture products in this country (USA).

We are already seeing price increases on other products not mentioned above, manufacturers have been taking unprecedented mid-season price increases due to many different issues as well, these all vary from COVID issues (yet) to the most recent hurricane event in Louisiana damaging needed plants and slowing barging and raising raw materials costs, etc., etc...

**BASF** – has taken price increases across the board already this year, normally these are taken January 1 of the next year, increases include Plateau 1.6%, Arsenal 1%, Overdrive 4%, and we will most likely see increases again after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year.

**Bayer** - has taken price increases effective October 1, 2021 (normally these are January 1, 2022), Esplanade 200 SC about 4%, Plainview SC about 1%, Method 240 SL (no change at this time) and other products from 2% to 5% plus and they cite jugs, labeling, packaging, shipping, labor rates, active ingredients of the products as reasons early and again, we may possibly see January 1 increases.

**Bayer** - glyphosates (the Roundup Brands), have all taken regular price increases with the next to be taken September 24, 2021 and is expected to be 28% to 35% depending upon glyphosate product, these are on products we would use, ag market has already taken substantial increases earlier in September.

**CORTEVA** - did announce price increases verbally so far and expected increases are from about 2% to 5% on many products at this time, we have seen spot outages from CORTEVA this year on Tordon 22K, Vastlan, Freelexx, GrazonNext HL and others to a lesser degree and many products now are on allocation to the distributors until sometime in 2022.

CORTEVA has also announced that they are exiting the Rodeo Herbicide (aquatic glyphosate) business, will no longer make and supply this product at this time.

**NuFarm** – has already been raising prices on 2,4-D products and we are expecting possibly another raise by the end of the year, amines, and esters, they had exited the AquaNeat Herbicide (aquatic glyphosate) market but now have re-entered this market with AquaNeat Herbicide again, but supply is short and spotty.

**Many other manufacturers, SEPRO** (many aquatic products), **UPL** (many aquatic products), **Alligare** (many alternative/generic products) have all taken mid-season price increases as well and, we may well see increases later from these manufacturers after the first of the year.

The moral of this story – be prepared in 2022 to have to spend some extra dollars on the chemicals/products needed to perform and complete your work, your cost share programs, and if farming as well. Also be prepared for possible shortages on certain products “again” and possibly even more products early on.

Our industry has not seen this for many years, if we all plan a little ahead, make some adjustments, consider some possible alternatives in our weed management programs and, have some understanding that we are all doing what we can, we can all get through this and hopefully move on to better times in the near future.

## Education Report by Derrill Fick, 2021 NDWCA Education Chairman

We are working on developing trainings during the off season (winter) for weed board members, county commissioners and weed officers along with a new weed officer training manual for new weed officers. We will continue to hold our regular spray-schools which are held in the spring. Also, we are developing a multiday educational leadership training to be held in the late summer.

We are also talking about having an educational booth at many different associations' annual meetings. This will give benefit to these attendees by informing them with educational and informational material about the identity of the noxious and invasive weeds that we are trying to control and why we are trying to control them. Such associations we are hoping to be involved with are the Association of Counties, The Stockman Association, Big Iron, Sportsman shows, Home and Garden shows, West Dakota Reclamation meetings as well as other Ag. Shows, just to name a few, all to be funded through Education Committee funds.

We have started sending out to all the schools across the state the poster contest rules and information. You can judge the posters at our annual meeting in January.

## NDDA Report by Chelsey Penuel, Plant Protection Specialist

Contact Chelsey at 701-226-4321 or e mail her @ [cpenuel@nd.gov](mailto:cpenuel@nd.gov)

### Weed Seed Free Forage summary

Almost 5,700 acres inspected in 10 counties. Bale counts still coming in for many inspections, although numbers are trending low due to drought.

### Biocontrol 2021 Field Day summary

In late May and early June, we monitored sites in Ward County for *Mecinus janthinus* (yellow toadflax stem weevil). We successfully collected some insects for release by aspirating emerged adults and moving stems with non-emerged adults. The release was made at site nearby. We also released *Rhinusa pilosa* (yellow toadflax stem gall weevil) in Billings County. Researchers in Montana hand reared the release and requested it be placed away from *Mecinus janthinus* sites.

This spring, we scouted for *Puccinia punctiformis* (Canada thistle rust fungus) at known native sites and some 2019/2020 release sites. Found evidence (only 1 plant) of the native rust at the known native site, but none of the release sites showed evidence of establishment. In late summer and early fall, we did make some 2021 releases but fewer than previous years due to the drought.

This summer, we released *Hylobius transversovittatus* (purple loosestrife weevil) in Barnes County and *Galerucella* beetles in Barnes and Morton Counties. We helped some organic farmers obtain some releases of *Aceria malherbaew* (field bindweed mites).

There were also 5 well attended flea beetle public collection days for *Aphthona* spp. (leafy spurge flea beetles) hosted by Billings, Benson and Grant Counties.

## NDDA Report, Richard Weisz, NDDA Noxious Weed Specialist

Contact Richard at (701) 328-2250 or email him @ [rweisz@nd.gov](mailto:rweisz@nd.gov)

- LAP/TAG:** The legislature gave an additional \$50,000 for LAP this fiscal year.
- New LAP and TAG NOGAs have gone out for the 2021-2023 biennium
- If there are questions regarding your NOGAs or allocation amount, please let me know
- County Weed Board Visits:** Still ongoing - goal is to visit weed officers to understand the way their program is run
- Jim Hanson has been coming along to learn GIS/GPS usage in each county in the state
- Palmer Amaranth:** 3 counties this year (Cass, Grant and Sioux Counties)
- Found in sunflower screenings - Investigation is ongoing
- USFS Funding:** If anyone has proposals they'd like to submit, please let me know. This would help clinch more Dollars on our next USFS grant is we can show the participation.
- New Law Books in:** Contact me to get some

## Area Meetings Scheduled

Area II - Monday, October 18th - Gladstone Inn - 111 2nd St. NE, Jamestown - 9:00am **CDT**

Area I - Tuesday, October 19th - Ramsey County Courthouse - 524 4th Ave NE, Devils Lake - 9:00amCDT

Area III - Wednesday, October 20th - Ward County Weed Control - 200 72nd St SE, Minot - 9:00 CDT

Area IV - Thursday, October 21st - Morton County Courthouse - 210 2nd Ave NW, Mandan - 9:00 CDT

Area V - Friday, October 22nd - Slope County Courthouse - 206 South Main St, Amidon - **9:00 MDT**

At the area meetings you will hear reports from every county in your area. Please bring a written copy for the secretary or e mail him your county report as well.

You will hear reports from Bill Walker giving the state of the industry report. You will hear from the NDDA. Since this year we are combing the January, 2021 commissioners forum with this years meetings, you may hear an extensive report from them.

You will also hear from industry reps and others that are at the meeting because they care about what you as counties do throughout the year. These folks spend a week out of their schedule to come to these meetings. Sometimes the attendance is sparce, at best. Lets fill up the meeting rooms this year!!

You will be electing directors and alternates from Areas II & III. You will also be able to nominate someone from Areas I, IV & V for 2nd vice president of the association.

Plus, you will be able to pick up your registration forms for the upcoming conference and also hear who is on the schedule to speak at the conference. PLUS, you get out of your county and you can SOCIALIZE again!!

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