

North Dakota Weed Control Association

October 2024
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Months March, June,
October & December

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President: Cliff Ferebee

(701) 590-3401

1st VP: Jim Bahm

(701) 471-9423

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(701) 370-8927

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(701) 662-7330

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(701) 845-0240

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(701) 794-8748

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(701) 523-6675

Industry: Bill Walker

(605) 642-3800

Gov.: Levi Jacobson

(701) 391-9782

NDDA: Samantha McGrath

(701) 328-2250

Past Pres. Stan Wolf

(701) 730-6786

Executive Secretary: Merlin
Leithold

(701) 527-6544



President's Report

Greetings everyone.

I'd like to thank the committee that organized the WEED MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM held at the North Dakota 4-H camp in Washburn. It was an ideal place for us to meet. The open space allowed us to view drones in action. Josh Dipippo, Spotters Ag, demonstrated the use of his drones and also informed us of the many sizes available and what they can do.

Also want to thank Jamen for preparing all the meals. He did an excellent job. Everyone enjoyed the meals and the time to share ideas.

Doug Goehring, Agriculture Commissioner, spoke on the importance of noxious weed control programs.

Other topics discussed were Ventenata, buckbrush control, and Saltecedar on the Missouri & Yellowstone.

We also discussed life cycles of grasshoppers and the monarch butterfly.

The variety of evening activities were enjoyed by all.

We are planning to have the symposium every 2 years.

Our Regional meeting will be held the 3rd week in October. The weather did not cooperate last year so we had a low attendance. We are hoping weed officers, weed board members, and any others interested in weed control will plan to attend. We are thinking possibly having only one meeting a year instead of the five regional meetings. Be prepared to give your thoughts on this idea.

Plans are underway for the State Convention February 3-6 in Bismarck at the Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center. If you have any ideas for the convention, let your directors know about them.

Hope you have all had a good weed control season.

Cliff Ferebee

NDWCA President

cmferebe@ndsupernet.com

Website: <https://ndweeds.com/> Email: ndwca@westriv.com

AREA 1

Wells County for this. Sounds like their spraying is going fairly well and they use state regulations. for Gravel pits. Also called Walsh County and roughly the same. Heard from Cavalier County some time back and they use state regulations Ramsey County spraying is progressing fairly well and we also use state regulations on gravel pits.

Roger Gunderson

Area I Director

gunde1978@mdico.net



AREA 2

The summer has flown by hasn't it!? From wind and rain to heat this has been a very challenging year for us in this area of the state. Despite the challenges it always seems like a person can get caught up with a week or two of good weather. This fall we have started to get back on track. There has not been a lot of excitement in the weed world over east here. Our palmer situation continues to improve. We have noticed a bit more of purple loosestrife popping up. Toadflax seemed to bloom later than normal around here. I hope everyone had a great summer and everyone stayed safe!

Jamen Windish

Area II Director

jwindish@barnescounty.us



AREA 3

Greetings,

Fall is in the air (as soon as we can get below 90 degrees)? Williams County has had a fairly successful season, no injuries or equipment damage to this point. We are on track to match the acreage from last year which was a goal I had in mind. That doesn't mean that we are necessarily treating the same weeds as last year, we are expanding on treatments from last year. With 744 miles of County easement, we have a lot of ground to cover. All major County roads have been covered twice and, best estimate, 90% of Township roads are covered/treated. We had 75 landowners participate in cost share with the County so far this year, up from 68 total last year. Venue has been extremely popular with the small acreage landowners. We were fortunate to be able to have a full crew for most of the season with several returning from previous years. As the season winds down here, we are focusing on some fall re-green of the perennials and mapping areas of interest for next season. Ward County sprayed gravel pits and private pastures with contracted helicopter, two employees other than Derrill spray the state, county and township r-o-w's. They had over 197 participants in their cost share program. They also sprayed the Souris River for Purple Loosestrife. Hope to see everyone at the annual meeting this winter.

Respectfully,

Tom Leo



AREA 4

No Area 4 report submitted

Rick Schmidt

Area IV Director

rick.schmidt@ndsu.edu



AREA 5

We had another interesting year for 2024. Some areas were in a drought situation and some areas had normal to above normal precipitation. Which effected some efforts for weed control.

Ventenata was again looked for in our area this summer. We know that it is found just across the state line in South Dakota and also in Montana. So far, we have not found it but we feel that it is just a matter of time before we do. Thank you to Bill and Jarod for your time and expertise on this issue.

The Area 5 meeting will take place in Amidon on October 25th at 9:00 AM local time (MT). (We hope for better weather this year!) Hope to see you there.

Joan Lorge

Area V Director

jolorge@nd.gov



EDUCATION REPORT

Greetings everyone!

The Weed Symposium was held at the Washburn 4-H Camp in August. The event was well attended but could be better. I encourage more of us to take advantage of the opportunity to increase our knowledge! Sometimes it is difficult to find new and interesting topics for presentations, this year there were many. From pollinators to drug enforcement and even some hands on drone flying! The recreation time is very valuable for people to connect and share information, or just let off some steam from the season at hand. There are many people to thank, Jamen and his crew for keeping everyone well fed! The members of the committee for procuring and helping to control weeds at the camp. The 4-H camp for generously giving us access to the entire facility. The many sponsors for always supporting these educational functions. The NDWCA for their continued support in slowing the spread of Noxious Weeds. This type of event would not be possible without each and every one of you! The Symposium is now being held every other year so the next one will be in 2026, that means you have plenty of time to plan! As always, if any of you find some topics that you would like to see covered or have any ideas for new presentations, please let us know so we can look into getting those booked. Thanks everyone and we hope you are able to finish the season strong! We will also be sending out the poster contest information very soon.

Education Co Chairman Derrill Fick & Tom Leo

SECRETARY REPORT

Greetings from your association. For those of you who had the time and attended the symposium held in Washburn in August, it was very informative. We will be doing a couple of those topics at the conference in February in Bismarck.

Your association has been busy having informative booths at different trade shows throughout the year and will continue to do so over the winter. For those that stopped by and said hi, thank-you.

Later on this month we will be having the fall area meetings. Please read my article about the area meetings and elsewhere you will find the schedule. Find your meeting site and make plans to attend.

We do not have a registration form for the annual conference in this newsletter. The reason being, the conference will be held February 3-6, 2025 in Bismarck. So it's early to have meal pricing in place. Also, there will be NO November newsletter. It will be sent out the first week of December. And as usual, it will have the registration form and the speaker lists.

At the area meetings we will announce a tentative speaker list and we will also announce our entertainment for the banquet. It is so big, that we will hold off on that announcement until the area meetings! It will be worth the cost of the meal just to hear the entertainment, the meal will be a bonus to all of you.

I hope to see you later this month, if not definitely in February.

Merlin Leithold

NDWCA Executive Secretary



NDWCA INDUSTRY REPORT

As this year has progressed it seemed that most of the manufacturers have caught up with supply demands, product time getting to the distributors has decreased, making supply better and delivery time to the end users better in the later part of the 2024 season.

2,4-D products are still seeing some slight increase in pricing and is expected to trend throughout the rest of this year, esters are the first to see increases and taking higher increases, amine products are following, and we are seeing some slight increases on these at this time as well.

Some are saying this is attributed to larger demand of these products as some users, are replacing the use of dicamba products in fallow and set aside acres with 2,4-D products now (trying to reduce dicamba complaint issues).

***CORTEVA** – Should be announcing their pricing to distribution on their products around October 1, 2024 for the remainder of 2024 and most of 2025, these will be available at the October area meetings.

Again, **Curtail Herbicide (final reminder)** - has been discontinued and no longer will be available, also the companies that were making a generic Curtail product (Alligare, Albaugh) have also discontinued their products and there is none available from them as well, consider using HighNoon Herbicide or possibly E-2 Herbicide as a replacement or some other product.

****ENVU (formally Bayer)**

ENVU – Has had no changes from the March 2024 report - they have had no price changes and supplies this year seem to be fairly stable, current pricing for ENVU products should be good until January 1, 2025 when ENVU will normally make their price increases.

TruRange Herbicide Update – EPA is looking again at this product for registration and is currently contacting some of the people that have written letters on the support of this product usage, at this time it seems to be moving forward, ENVU is working with EPA on labeling and usage, this product would be for use for control of noxious and general weed control on grazed sites, rangeland, or permanent pasture, will have **(NO haying labeling)** and will most likely come as a restricted use product, we are close to possibly getting this product for use by next spring (2025).

***NuFarm** – has not at this time announced their 2025 pricing, this is expected soon and should be in place by the October meetings, NuFarm is basic in 2,4-D type products so we could see some increases on these products produced by them as well as other manufacturers of these products.

NuFarm does make **E-2 Herbicide** which could possibly be a decent replacement for Curtail Herbicide, has very good non-crop labeling, CRP, Farmsteads, Pasture and Rangelands, current pricing of \$59.25 per gallon, puts it right in where the Curtail pricing was as well, use rates 3 to 4 pints per acre rates will get most broadleaf weeds.

***NACHINO America – Venue Herbicide Updates.**

There is some supply of Venue Herbicide available for the 2024 season yet, come 2025 everything should be switched over to Pimlico, Pimlico will be the 2x strength product and use rates will be lower than the Venue product.

Venue Herbicide is still \$145.00 per quart while supplies last, pricing will change once the Pimlico Herbicide is available (again, stronger version of Venue Herbicide, lower use rates).

Venue or Pimlico needs to be coupled with a 2,4-D Ester, or Freelexx Herbicide at 1 quart per acre and MSO Surfactant at 1% by volume or 1 gallon per 100 gallons water or *Liberate Surfactant at 1 quart per 100 gallons water.

GOVERNMENT REPORT

October 2024

Well, our two weeks of summer sure went by in a hurry this year and we are now into fall. For the most part our summer staff has gone back to school, and we are finishing up some odds and ends as far as noxious weed control goes. Below is a partial summary of what has been completed to this point.

Summary of 2024 Noxious Weed Control efforts on US Fish and Wildlife Lands

Report pending.

Summary of 2024 Noxious Weed Control efforts on ND Game and Fish Department lands

As of October 1st, a total of 2,914.7 acres of noxious weeds have been chemically treated. Some fall treatments are still occurring. Treated leafy spurge, Canada thistle, yellow toad flax, absinth wormwood, houndstongue, and Saltcedar.

Collected and moved bio control flea beetles for leafy spurge on many different Wildlife Management Areas (WMA). Also worked with the Department of Ag on releasing Red Headed Leafy Spurge Borers on WMAs for a second year.

Continued efforts to monitor and treat Saltcedar along the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers in the NW corner of the state.

In addition, grazed several hundred acres addressing weed and invasive species concerns.

US Army Corps of Engineers

Report pending.

Levi Jacobson

Government Representative

lcjacobson@nd.gov



NDSU UPDATE

NDSU Noxious Weed Research Specialist update:

Talia joined North Dakota State University (NDSU) as an Assistant Professor of Noxious and Invasive Weeds in September 2024. Originally from Melbourne, Australia, she earned her Ph.D. in noxious weed management and grassland restoration from Federation University Australia. Following her doctorate, Talia undertook a postdoctoral research position at Texas A&M University, where she explored the factors driving the expansion of Cheatgrass in the Great Basin Desert. At NDSU, her research focuses on developing novel management strategies to combat widespread, noxious weeds in degraded grassland and rangeland ecosystems throughout North Dakota.

Talia Humphries

Assistant Professor

Invasive and Noxious Weeds Management

Department of Plant Sciences

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

p: 701-231-5508 / www.ndsu.edu





Noxious Weeds Update from North Dakota Department of Agriculture

66% of the total allocation for LAP has been spent; of the 41 qualified, 17 counties have fully spent their allocation.

25% of the total allocation for TAG has been spent; of the 59 county/city qualified, 9 counties fully spent their allocation.

US Forest Service Funding is available; reach out for a funding request. 50/50 cost-share available, must meet certain criteria (usually used in 10% forested or riparian areas), and applications accepted throughout the year based on funds.

Samantha McGrath

Phone: (701) 328-2250

Email: srmcgrath@nd.gov

A quick recap of this summer's biocontrol work. North Dakota Department of Agriculture facilitated the purchase and release of 170 release of Leafy Spurge Flea Beetle this summer. NDDA Staff traveled to Missoula Montana and returned with 76 releases of the Red Headed Stem Borer. NDDA staff also assisted with 3 public collection days this summer. Moving forward, NDDA still has a fair amount of funding available for the purchase of agents. If you are thinking about purchasing agents for next year it would be advisable to get on the waitlists of the companies selling the agents.

Any questions or ideas around biocontrol feel free to reach out to John at 701-226-8804.

jmortonson@nd.gov



UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

Area II - October 21st, Hwy Dept. Building - Valley City

Area I - October 22nd, Ramsey County Courthouse - Devils Lake

Area III - October 23rd, Ward County Weed Building - Minot

Area IV - October 24th, Morton County Hwy Dept. Building - Mandan

Area V - October 25th, Slope County Courthouse- Amidon

2025 Annual Conference February 3rd -6th 2025 @ Bismarck Hotel

Board of Director Meetings : February 3rd, 2025 @ 5:00 pm CT@ Bismarck Hotel @Bismarck

Hope to see everybody in
February for another
successful Annual
Conference

Watch for registration in
the December Newsletter

2025 NDWCA

Conference

February 3rd-6th

Bismarck Hotel



SPONSORSHIP OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The ND Weed Control Association, during its annual meeting and conference, which will be held February 3rd -6th, 2025 at the Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center in Bismarck, ND. We have several coffee and refreshment breaks, which offer endless coffee, pop and bottled water throughout. During these breaks, the majority of the members browse through our many booths set up by our sponsors. These breaks are quite expensive so we now have different levels that individuals, businesses, organizations or weed boards can contribute to.

The ND Weed Control Association's board of directors would like to see more businesses involved with our annual meeting, a way that you can is by being a sponsor. We would like to thank you in advance for your sponsorship.

We will be now be accepting card payments. Users add 3% fee to any contribution if paying by card, except American Express which is 5%. Prices below are for cash/check. Your name will be listed in our conference booklet under the Level of which amount you are contributing to.

***Bronze Level-** \$100-\$500 in cash contributions.

***Silver Level-**\$501-\$800 in cash contributions.

***Gold Level-**\$801-\$1,100 in cash contributions.

***Platinum Level-**\$1,101-\$1,500 in cash contributions.

***Diamond Level -**\$1,501- and above in cash contributions.

All level sponsors will be recognized, to show our appreciation, during our banquet on Thursday evening, each level will be recognized separately. Break Sponsor's will have a break named on your behalf in the conference booklet and will also be mentioned before the break by that session's moderator. Your name and logo will be on a sign at the entrance of the break room.

Full Break Sponsor-which is \$565.

Half Break Sponsor-which is \$285

Booth Sponsors, those advertising in our conference booklet, social and entertainment sponsors and membership dues will have those contributions included in the various levels listed above.

Annual Membership Due:

Full Membership Voting- \$285.00

Associate Membership Non-Voting-\$185.00

You may send your information along with a check, made out to the ND Weed Control Association to NDWCA, 6135 Hwy 49 Elgin, ND 58533. We will send you a receipt, if requested.

Thank you for considering on becoming a part of our annual conference.

Cliff Ferebee

NDWCA 2024 President

 (701)590-3401

 cmferebe@ndsupernet.com

6135 Hwy 49, Elgin, ND 58533

Merlin Leithold

Executive Secretary

 (701)527-6544

 ndwca@westriv.com

NDWCA 2025 Registration Form

Please make checks payable to:
North Dakota Weed Control Association
6135 Hwy 49
Elgin, ND 58533

Telephone (701)527-6544 (cell) or e mail ndwca@westriv.com

I (we) wish to reserve exhibit space at the ND Weed Control Association Annual Meeting to be held at the Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center, Bismarck, ND February 3-6, 2025, in conjunction with the NDDA Weed Forum on February 4th. Booth set up is either on Feb 3rd, in the evening, or early morning on Feb.4th

COMPANY NAME: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

E-mail: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

BOOTH SIZE: SINGLE Table 8 X 10 ___ \$490.00 Electricity (yes or no) _____

SIGNED: _____

With each booth space, you get one full registration to the annual meeting. Become a member. Join the NDWCA today! Annual associate dues are \$185/annually, Full membership dues with voting rights \$285/annually.

Please return this completed form and payment no later than January 05, 2025.

Sponsorship of Breaks. Advertised in the conference booklet, and logo on display by the break room door. Full Break Sponsor \$ 565.00 – Half Break Sponsor - \$285.00

We now accept credit cards. Please add a 3% card users' fee to the above charges if paying by card. For American Express cards please add a 5% fee. If paying by card, contact Merlin Leithold.

WE ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND, BUT WOULD LIKE TO OFFER OUR SUPPORT WITH \$_____.

Thank You for your support!

Merlin Leithold, NDWCA Executive Secretary ndwca@westriv.com

Roger Gunderson, 2025 Vendor Committee Chairman gunde1978@midco.net

PROGRAM BOOKLET

The North Dakota Weed Control Association prints a program booklet for the Annual Meeting and Conference. Each year companies are solicited to include an informational ad in the booklet for our weed control members' future reference. The Annual Meeting will be held on February 3-6, 2025 at the Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center, Bismarck, ND in conjunction with the NDDA Weed Forum held February 4th.

ADVERTISING AGREEMENT

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

() One Page 5 1/2" by 8 1/2" \$120.00

() One Half Page 5 1/2" by 4 1/2" \$ 85.00

Amount Enclosed: _____ **Must be paid in full by January 5, 2025.**

We now accept credit cards. Please add a 3% card users' fee to the above charges if paying by card. If using American Express please add 5%. If paying by card, contact Merlin Leithold.

Please send your advertising proof or copy by January 05, 2025

Mail to: e mail – ndwca@westriv.com

Or by mail: North Dakota Weed Control Association
6135 Hwy 49
Elgin, ND 58533

Thank You!

Merlin Leithold, NDWCA Executive Secretary

Roger Gunderson, 2025 Vendor Committee Chairman

Fall Area Meetings

As you can see on the next page of the newsletter, your association again will be having their fall area meetings October 21st – 25th.

On the agenda is a topic that has been tossed around for several years. Whether to continue having the area meetings, mainly due to lack of attendance.

Here are the 4 topics that will be discussed:

Keep as it currently is: 5 fall area meetings

Have only 2 fall meetings: 1 centrally localized in the eastern part of the state and one centrally localized in the western part of the state.

Have only 1 fall meeting, either Bismarck or Minot, or possibly rotate between the 2 cities.

Totally eliminate the fall area meetings, and move them to the annual conference with 5 breakout sessions.

These are very important topics to discuss at the area meetings. I would encourage all of you to try and attend your area meeting. At the very least, one or two from each county and city board need to attend.

Like I said on top, lack of attendance is the key. I can see that scheduling conflicts occur. Bought someone should be able to attend from each board, whether it be the weed officer or a board member representing your board.

ND Century Code states that when the ND Ag. Commissioner calls a meeting you are required to attend. It is in the law. That would apply when the department has the commissioner's forum to start out the conference. Area meetings do not fall into that requirement, but in a way they probably should. The NDDA sends one and some years two members of their staff to the area meetings to bring updates from the department and to be there to answer your questions in a more informal small setting.

Same holds true for industry representatives. We normally see 2 to 3 chemical companies at each meeting and 2 to 3 chemical distributors as well. It costs them time and money to attend, which the board of directors really appreciate them for coming. But when on 3 to 4 counties attend a meeting, 6 to 8 people that is a slap in the face to all of these folks.

Each county and city is asked to give a report of their summer activities. Personally I think that this is the most important part of the area meeting. Counties and cities learning from each other, as from chemicals and mixes that work for them or in some cases that do not work, to sometimes helping problem solve a dilemma one county faces.

The association used to have an area meeting in the spring AND in the fall. The spring meeting was dropped, which came out of that decision sprayer schools. Most of the spring meetings focused on that anyway.

So I encourage all of you to weigh the 4 topics and PLEASE come to your area meeting and voice your opinion. Maybe you have a better idea. We are open to hear your ideas.

Area Meeting Schedule

ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 9:00 AM LOCAL TIME

Area II – October 21st, Hwy Dept. Building – Valley City

Contact Jamen Windish, area director – 701-845-0240

Area I – October 22nd, Ramsey County Courthouse – Devils Lake

Contact Roger Gunderson, area director – 701-351-1447

Area III – October 23rd, Ward County Weed Building – Minot

Contact Tom Leo, area director – 701-609-0615

Area IV – October 24th, Morton County Hwy Dept. Building – Mandan

Contact Rick Schmidt, area director – 701-207-0010

Area V – October 25th, Slope County Courthouse- Amidon

Contact Joan Lorge, area director – 701-523-6675

This is a generalized list. There will be specific agendas available at each meeting.

Area Meeting Agenda's for all Areas.

Area Director calls the meeting to order

Call for additional agenda items

Minutes from 2023 reviewed and approved

OLD BUSINESS:

Annual Meeting update February 3-6, 2025, Bismarck Hotel in Bismarck

Business sponsors for breaks

Auction Items

Awards

County/Agency/Industry/Government/NDDA Reports

NEW BUSINESS

Gravel Pit Inspections

NDWCA By Laws changes

National Travel account

Area Meetings

Keep the same – 5 fall meetings

Have only 2 meetings – 1 in the eastern half and one in the western half

Have only 1 fall meeting – Held in either Bismarck or Minot or possible rotate

Totally eliminate the fall area meetings and move to the annual conference as breakout sessions

Elections

2nd Vice President nominations – must be from Area's II, III or V

Area Director – this only applies to areas I, IV & V

Area I – Roger is eligible for 1 more 2 year term

Area IV – Rick has completed his eligibility of 6 years

Area V – Joan is eligible for 1 more 2 year term

Poster Contest

Resolutions

Other?

Meetings adjourned