

North Dakota Weed Control Association Newsletter

June 2025
Volume 35, Issue 2

Newsletter Publishing
Months March, June,
October & November

2025 Board of Directors

President: Jim Bahm
(701) 471-9423

1st VP: Josh Short
(701) 370-8927

2nd VP: Travis Jepson
(701) 590-4306

Area I: Roger Gunderson
(701) 662-7330

Area II: Jamen Windish
(701) 845-0240

Area III: Tom Leo
(701) 609-0615

Area IV: CJ Pearce
(701) 329-9090

Area V: Joan Lorge
(701) 523-6675

Industry: Bill Walker
(605) 642-3800

Gov: Levi Jacobson
(701) 391-9782

NDDA: Samantha McGrath
(701) 328-2250

Past Pres. Cliff Ferebee
(701) 590-3401

Executive Secretary: Merlin
Leithold
(701) 527-6544



President's Report

Greetings weed warrior

This is a busy time of year, remember Safety first. Be aware of your surrounding. Hope all the spray schools went well for everyone. Also remember on complaints, keep the dialect open between parties. There is always a solution. Have a great spray season.

Till next time

Jim Bahm

NDWCA President
jrbahm@gmail.com

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

AREA 1

Ramsey County started spraying on May 28. Two new spray personnel to train in this year. Our cost share starts June 6, will be lots of E-2 going out as people have already been asking about it.

Roger Gunderson

Area I Director

gunde1978@mdico.net



AREA 2

Hello everyone!! Hope spring is treating you well! We got off to a slow start, but things are in full swing now. We started off dry but got a fair amount of rain that set us back a few weeks. Then it got to almost 100 degrees for a week and the next below freezing. But we are looking good now. The spurge in the SE part of the state has sure seemed to have liked this weather. We see it in places that we haven't before. We found some beetles a few weeks ago so that will be here before we know it. As always be safe out there and call if you have any questions.

Jamen Windish

Area II Director

jwindish@barnescounty.us



AREA 3

Most everyone in area three tried to get started in mid-May, then it rained for four days. The rain was certainly welcome to the west where draught has been persistent so nobody was complaining. Weeds seemed to be slow to emerge but didn't take long to get ahead of the crews. Everyone is now working diligently to make the most of any good weather we are getting. A good portion of area three is still in some level of draught so we will try to enjoy the rain days but, would someone please turn off the wind?!

Tom Leo

Area 3 Director

TomL@co.williams.nd.us



AREA 4

Burleigh County: Darin (Control Officer) and he was looking forward to the start of the season, as he has got the contracts fulfilled for the upcoming season, while getting ready to go, and starting to sell chemicals for the land owners. Installing the Spraysync systems this year. **Emmons/Logan County:** All the equipment has been gone through and got ready for the season, have not started selling any chemicals to land owners yet, though I am hopeful that this year we will get more product out for land owners to take care of their own land. Hoping to start spraying in the next couple of weeks and hit it hard as some weeds are up early thanks to the little bit of moisture received and record temps after. **Grant County:** Merlin (Control Officer) was gearing up for the upcoming season, getting things in order to accommodate the demands and see what the weather will bring this spraying season. **Kidder County:** Kevin (Control Officer) was looking forward to a better spray season than last year with weather, starting to get things in order to be ready when the weather cooperates. We spoke about challenges for the upcoming seasons going forward and employee retention and interest is getting difficult. **McLean County:** Vance (Control Officer) **McIntosh county:** Glen (Control Officer) New to the position, was getting ready for the spraying season, and was hopeful to having a good spraying season. **Morton County:** Cody (Control Officer) Is going to be busy this year with his Purple Loosestrife project this year, as well as getting ready for the upcoming Right of Way spraying. Cody has also taken up the position of the Morton county Parks Director, so will be a very busy season. **Oliver County:** Rick (Control Officer) Was looking forward to the upcoming season and getting started, stated his county's Chemical distribution was up from last year for land owners picking up chemical. Talked about his Buck Brush Burn project, was put on hold due to the dry nature and heavy winds, but over all was optimistic about the upcoming season. **Sheridan County:** Melissa (Weed Board Chair) New to the position, and working on filling out seats on the weed board. They hired four employees to go out and spray for the counties needs, they have not appointed a person to the position of Weed Control Officer. They were gearing up for the upcoming season of spraying, and looking forward to it. **Sioux County:** Victor (Control Officer) Just getting started for the year, has one employee that helps him spray, and plans on taking care the state high-ways first running through the county, then tackling the rest of his county roads weather permitting on how much can get accomplished for the season.

CJ Pearce

Area IV Director

worldofcjcraft@live.com



AREA 5

Happy June everyone!

I would like to Wish Diane Almendinger a HAPPY RETIREMENT! She has retired after many years as the Dunn County Weed Control Officer. She also served as the Stark County Weed Control Officer for a time. Being a two county Control Officer. As of writing this, we went from record highs to freezing temperatures and snow. The moisture was a blessing. We went from the Weeds aren't growing to Oh My we're Behind!

Talking to the Control Officers about hiring seasonal employees has been interesting. A couple of the Counties have full crews and some have a hard time hiring people. It's hard to compete with the oil field in some cases. We also talked about the weeds this spring, leafy spurge, hoary cress, and houndstongue are doing well this spring especially since the rain. It's fun talking to the Counties and see what is working for them on what weeds, and to see if they are seeing the same thing that you are.

The attendance at the Spring Sprayer School in Dickinson seemed to be great this year. A lot of information was presented, and I hope everyone learned something.

Before we know it, it will be flea beetle season, please take time to attend an event and help.

Here's hoping everyone gets some good weather to get your work done this spring and summer.

Please remember to be careful out there!

Joan Lorge

Area V Director

jolorge@nd.gov



EDUCATION REPORT

Spring Sprayer schools were held around the state from May 27-29. There were lots of topics presented ranging from first-aid to PPE. Most locations were well attended. It is worth the time to come to these events to get industry updates, as well as, current happenings from our State Departments. Education is never ending in this profession, the more information we gather, the more effective we can be. Hope to see everyone at the annual meeting in January!

Education Co Chairman Derrill Fick & Tom Leo

SECRETARY REPORT

Greetings.

We are officially into the summer spray season. Hopefully all of your ditches are weed free (Don't we all wish). Your board of directors is meeting on June 24th in Bismarck, for the spring board meeting. If you have anything you would like discussed, please contact either me or your area director. If you have something, and you would like to discuss it in person, contact me so I can place it on the agenda.

In February, some of you gave me ideas on speakers and topics. If you have an idea, let me know, as the planning committee will meet after the board meeting in June to start setting an agenda for next year.

In this newsletter, you will also find that two counties have set their Leafy spurge beetle collection dates. If you are planning on having a collection day and are opening it up to anyone in the state or beyond, let me know and I can put it out on our list serve.

Merlin Leithold

NDWCA Executive Secretary



NDWCA INDUSTRY REPORT

While earlier in the year it was somewhat quiet, that's not the case over the last few months. We have seen almost every manufacturer of Pesticide products start to take price increases, some are still due to the 2,4-D lawsuit but, most of late have been attributed to the tariffs or should I say tariff wars currently going on.

2,4-D products, ester and amine formulations and most all products that contain 2,4-D products have taken drastic price increases over the past 6 months, if I just look at from January 1, 2025 up until now, they have increased about 25% in cost, that does not include the increases that were taken between September of 2024 up until the end of the 2024 year.

Expect to see your distributors/suppliers having now to follow suit with price increases and expect 2,4-D amine's to be in the \$21.00 to \$24.00 ranges and 2,4-D esters (6 lb.) esters in the \$36.00 to \$40.00 ranges, these are not expected to drop anytime soon.

Glyphosate products have taken about a 12% increase since March 2025, this might be a in season increase but a vast number of these products also come from offshore so tariffs are also effecting these products, expectations are, these may increase more as the season progresses as well.

By the companies.

ENVU - had announced that they would be taking a 2% price increase on June 1, 2025 on all products across the board, before that time came ENVU announced that they are rescinding the 2% increase, but increases could possibly come at a later date, currently all pricing has remained at the February 1, 2025 pricing, products include Method 240 SL, Rejuvra, Esplanade 200 SC, Escort XP, Telar XP, Oust and OustExtra XP, Plainview SC.

CORTEVA – Earlier in the year CORTEVA had stated that they would try to hold on pricing, as of May 29, 2025 they decided they needed to take price increases, this does affect most all CORTEVA products you are using, these increases range from 3% up to 6% plus on some products, here is the new stewardship pricing on some of the main products being used.

All nonmanufacturer price set products did get the increase as of June 2, 2025, all manufacturer price set products will take the increases stated below on June 16, 2025, there will be no exceptions according to CORTEVA and your distributor/Supplier will have to follow the new stewardship pricing as of June 16, 2025.

Milestone Herbicide 2.5 gal. cont., \$325.00 per gallon, 1 quart cont., \$81.25 per quart (**non-government pricing**) up 1.3%.

Milestone Herbicide 2.5 gal. cont., \$294.00 per gal., 1 quart cont., \$73.5 per quart (**Special government agency pricing**) up 1.3%

Freelexx Herbicide 2.5, 30 and 250 gal. cont., \$35.00 per gallon, up 6.7%

HighNoon Herbicide 1 & 2.5 gal. cont., \$98.00 per gallon, 250 gal. tote, \$96.00 per gallon, up 4.3%

Opensight Herbicide 1.25 and 10 lb. cont., \$105.50 per pound, up 1.3%

Other products such as Tordon 22K Herbicide up 3%, Grazon PD3 Herbicide up 4.1%, Grazon Next HL Herbicide up 4.2%, Transline Herbicide up 3.1%, Garlon 3A up 3.7%, Garlon 4 Ultra up 4.1%, Vista XRT up 3.4% and again, all other CORTEVA products have price increases.

Alligare – took price increases on May 1, 2025, they averaged 10% overall on all of their products that would include, Diuron products, Panoramic 2SL (generic Plateau), Whetstone, Alligare 2,4-D amine and Ester (higher than 10% increases), Imazapyr products, triclopyr products and picloram products.

BASF – has currently had no price increases on their products, these would include Plateau Herbicide, Arsenal Herbicide and other Imazapyr products, Frequency, Detail and other products, that is not to say they could follow suit of all other manufacturers later this season.

NuFarm – has been taking price increases on their products containing 2,4-D's or their 2,4-D's since last fall with the bigger increases coming after January 1, 2025, E-2 Herbicide is currently \$64.05 per gallon which is one of the bigger used products from them, AquaNeat Herbicide (aquatic labeled glyphosate) has increased 7% since the first of the year (in line with other glyphosate product increases).

NDWCA INDUSTRY REPORT CONTINUED

Companies such as **Albaugh** (large in glyphosate production), **Drexel Chemical Company**, **SePro** (large in aquatic products, averaged 2% across the board on all products), and almost all other manufacturers, have all also taken price increases due to the tariff uncertainty at this time (looks like COVID 2.0 all over again).

Surfactants and adjuvant products – have remained somewhat steady as this season has progressed, price increases could come as tariffs could affect some packaging materials for these products, some of the same issues facing the above products, not all packaging is manufactured here in the US, some does come from offshore suppliers.

Respectfully Submitted
William “Bill” Walker
NDWCA Industry Representative
william.walker@nutrien.com



GOVERNMENT REPORT

No Report this Newsletter

Levi Jacobson
Government Representative
lcjacobson@nd.gov



NEW NORTH DAKOTA CORTEVA REP

Lee has 20 years of agribusiness experience, holding several roles in sales, operations, and management. He was most recently with a local cooperative where he oversaw six retail locations. Lee has lived in South Dakota his entire life and holds a degree from South Dakota State University, where he majored in Animal Science and Ag Business. He grew up on a small farm and continues to raise livestock with his family.

Lee, his wife, Heidi, and their two children, Matthew and Molly reside in Conde, SD. In his free time, Lee enjoys the outdoors, hunting, and riding horses with his family.

Lee Sanderson
Territory Manager - Dakotas
Pasture & Land Management
Corteva Agriscience
605-982-8834
Lee.Sanderson@corteva.com



Early Blooming Musk Thistle

Photo submitted by Sammy Lynch
McKenzie County Weed Board
Lead Sprayer



Outgoing Gavel Award

2024 President Cliff Ferebee was given the Outgoing Gavel Award by 2025 President Jim Bahm during the 2025 Annual Conference. Cliff is currently on the Weed Board in Dunn County. He served as the Association's 35th President in 2024. Under his guidance the Association held a Weed Symposium in Washburn in August of 2024.

Pictured Above (Cliff Ferebee & Jim Bahm)



Weed Warrior Award

Katie Dillman from Billings County became the 14th recipient of this award. It goes to a person active in weed control, and nominated to receive the award those who work closely with the nominee. Katie has been the weed officer in Billings County for a number of years. Katie runs a very active spray program, which is very well perceived by local land owners. Katie has served numerous positions on the board including Weed Association President.

Pictured Above (Jim Bahm & Katie Dillman)

Lifetime Achievement Award

Stan became the 16th Recipient of this Award

Stan recently retired as Weed Officer in Cass County.



Pictured Above (Stan Wolf & Jim Bahm)

Stan started working for Cass County Weed Control as Weed Control Officer, reorganizing the program and hiring contract sprayers to conduct the road ditch spraying. Stan and a summer employee scouted and controlled weeds on the numerous county owned flood buyout properties, water resource district drains, dam structures, and other public properties. Stan worked with the cities of Fargo and West Fargo and the Cass County Commission to develop a Weed Management Plan worksheet for newly-platted properties in the county. The Weed Management Plan was an informational sheet to make developers aware of their responsibilities to manage noxious weeds on their property. Stan was also one of the first weed officers to utilize a drone for scouting. Stan worked for Cass County Weed Control for 20 years before retiring.

During the 20 years that he was the county weed officer, Stan was very active with the ND Weed Control Association as well. Stan was President of the association twice, in 2010 and again in 2023. In between those, he also served a term as area director.

Stan served on the education committee numerous years. He was very active with the youth poster contest, going to many schools to help award the winner, the T shirts and plaque. One year he had surgery on his foot, so he was wearing a protective boot, but he still went to the winning school. To his surprise, the school was holding a fake your injury day as a part of spirit week, so they all thought that Stan was wearing the boot as part of their day to fit in. Stan would do anything to relate to the kids.

Stan also served on other committees within the association as well. He represented the association on the selection committee to fill the NDSU position vacated by the retiring Dr Rod Lym. This past year, he was again on that same committee as they selected Dr Talia Humphries. He also attended various research meetings on behalf of the association. Last year, he was leading the charge to get EPA to approve the TruRange label. Stan was very instrumental in getting our congressional delegation to go to EPA with our letter fighting for us.

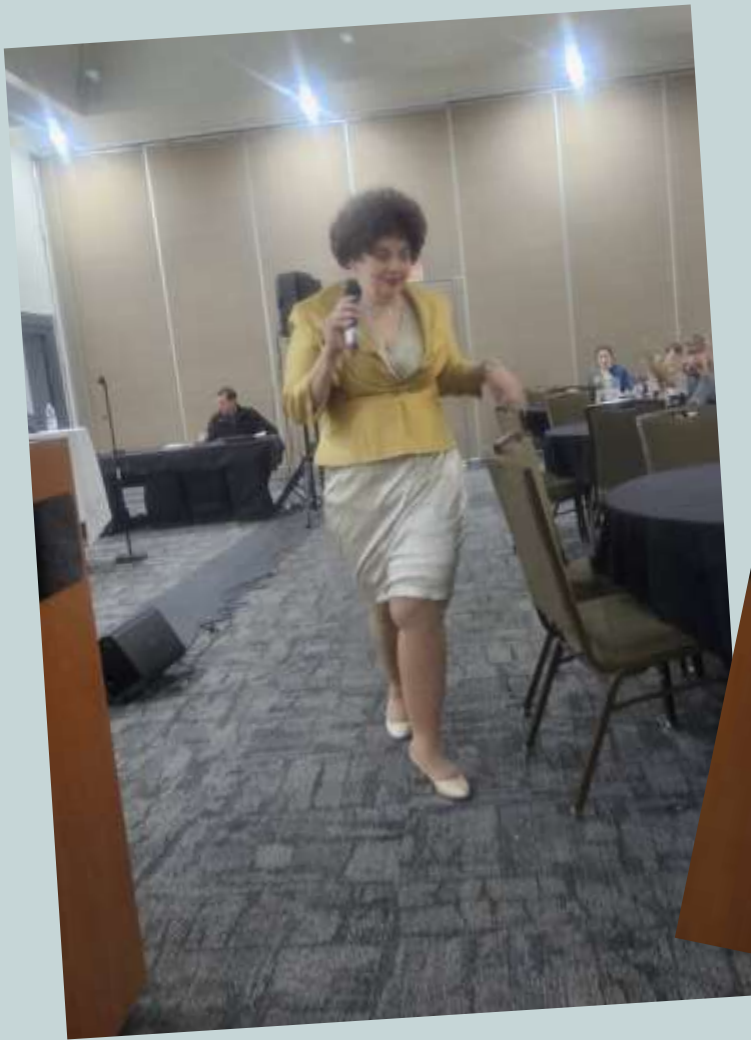


Pictured Above (Rick Schmidt & Jim Bahm)

Outgoing Director Award

Rick served three two-year terms for Director from Area 4. He was no longer able to serve another term, due to the Association Term Limits. Rick is very active in the association including filling the role of being our auctioneer at the Social/Auction night.

Conference Photos





Noxious Weeds Update from North Dakota Department of Agriculture

Samantha McGrath

Phone: (701) 328-2250

Email: srmcgrath@nd.gov

We are coming to the end of the State of North Dakota biennium. Please be aware of the following deadlines & update:

TAG:

We need reimbursement request vouchers plus all supporting documents (receipts/proof of payment) for **any purchases** for the TAG program made between the dates of July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025 received by our office by **July 9, 2025**.

LAP:

We need completed LAP vouchers for Landowner Cost Share between March - June 30, 2025 to be submitted and received by our office by **July 9, 2025**.

USFS Funding:

If you have received one of these grants, the same deadlines as with the LAP and TAG apply here; all purchases made *prior to* June 30, 2025, will need to be received by our office by July 9, 2025 for reimbursement.

Office Move:

We are moving out of our office at the Northbrook Shopping Center and to the State Capitol Grounds. If you plan to visit the office over the next few months, please reach out to us in advance so we can direct you to our location.

Please continue to use the mailing address below:

North Dakota Department of Agriculture

ATTN: Noxious Weeds
600 E Blvd Ave Dept 602
Bismarck, ND 58505

Biocontrol Update

As we roll into summer now is the time to start checking your biocontrol supplies. Whether it be from mice damage or if you are low on supplies, let us know. We have extra nets and distribution supplies available for biocontrol collections. As of June 6th, we are still a little early to start scouting for leafy spurge bugs, but with the upcoming forecast we will be there soon. If you need any assistance with scouting sites, feel free to reach out and let us know. If you are planning a public collection day, let John know and we can assist with getting the word out, staffing days to help with collections or simply supply you with the necessary supplies for a successful collection. NDDA still has funds available to grant to counties for the purpose of purchasing agents from outside sources.



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

jmortenson@nd.gov

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

Board of Director Meetings : June 24, 2025 @ 10:00 am CT @

Bismarck Hotel @ Bismarck

Billings County Leafy Spurge Flea Beetle Collection @ Franks Creek Road Belfield on June 26th & July 2nd at 10 am MST (More Information on flyer sent separately)

Grant/Morton County Leafy Spurge Flea Beetle Collection @ Boys Scouts Camp @ Lake Tschida on July 1st @ 10 am MST (More Information will be sent separately)

2026 Annual Conference January 5-8 2026@ Bismarck Hotel @ Bismarck

Thank you to all for
another successful
Annual Conference