



NORTH DAKOTA WEED CONTROL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

VOL. 27 NO. 2

website: www.ndweeds.homestead.com

e-mail ndwca@westriv.com

June, 2017

2017 Board of Directors:

President: Kevin Schmidt	(701)663-2024
1st VP: Katie Clyde	(701)218-0113
2nd VP: Jamen Windish	(701)845-0240
Area I: Brent Nelson	(701)331-0464
Area II: Stan Wolf	(701)730-6786
Area III: Terry Volk	(701)228-2555
Area IV: Gary Hartman	(701)222-6763
Area V: Joan Lorge	(701)523-6675
Industry: Bill Walker	(605)642-3800
Gov.: David Hirsch	(701)527-7820
Past Pres: Derrill Fick	(701)720-2436
Ex. Sec. Merlin Leithold	(c) (701)527-6544 (h) (701)584-3204

Upcoming Meetings

March BOD Meeting - June 27th, Ramada Inn,
Bismarck - 10:00 am.

Annual Meeting and Commissioner Forum
January 8-11, 2018 Ramada Inn, Bismarck

****NEWSLETTER****

In order to cut costs with rising printing costs and higher postage prices, we asked for your email addresses to send you the newsletter via email. For those who have not yet signed up, we are asking you to send an email to ndwca@westriv.com and you will be put on the list. We want to continue the paper edition to those without e mail, for this year. It's a year by year decision.

Also, as weed boards get new members, 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.

Your association has jackets and vests and caps for sale. Order one for your entire board. See the website for pricing and size information, then send you order form and payment to Merlin and he will get your ordered processed for you.

Presidents Message

Greetings everyone,

I received a text from Merlin the other day that I needed to put together a president's report by Wednesday. My first thought was that would be a rainy day project, but with no rain in the future by Wednesday I'm writing this on Memorial Day. And if anyone reading this has served this great nation, thank you for your service.

Some business that has happened since my last report: The resolutions we presented to the Ag Department, the section 18 request, Bill is working on it, also waiting on Bayer to see if it gets an actual label this season, the Houndstongue request for adding it to the noxious weed list, is not in process, and may not happen. The education committee was given the go ahead to get some banners made to display at the area meetings and other functions. Jamen Windish took the rains and completed the task after many e-mails and changes. They turned out great and I'm sure you will be impressed. Thanks Jamen. We have a meeting scheduled for the end of June, so if you have any concerns or something to bring to the board, contact Merlin or myself.

In closing I'm sure everyone has started with spraying. I've done some myself, but not lately. The winds we've been having lately aren't allowing that to happen. And here as dry and poor the pastures look the weeds are the soon to be the only green out there.

Keep your spray on target.

Kevin Schmidt

NDWCA 2017 President

If your county is interested I a banner or several for your own displays, in banks, FSA, Courthouse, farm implements, etc., contact Jamen Windish at (701)845-0240, or e mail him @ jwindish@barnescounty.us

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!

Area Meetings for 2017 Scheduled

October 23rd—Minot
October 24th—Devils Lake
October 25th—Valley City
October 26th—Mandan
October 27th—Amidon

Education Committee Report

by Derrill Fick, committee chair

First off, I need to thank Jamen Windish for working so hard on getting the banners made for the Association. It took a lot of picture transfers, wording, interaction with the education committee and design to get them created. In the end, there are seven banners made for each area in the state. These banners may be used by any county that wants to promote the association and noxious weed control. The area directors or someone from the state board has these banners so get ahold of one of them if you would like to use them.

We used some of these banners at the Earth Day celebration. We had very good interaction with the people and had some local students wearing the weed costumes to help promote the awareness of noxious weed control. We are still going to convince Katie Clyde to wear a weed costume, hopefully next year?

Our latest project was the sprayer schools. We had a fantastic turn out this year for these schools. All totaled we had 153 attendees. This is one of our better attendances so hopefully we can continue this trend. I need to thank the following people for their sponsorship of the schools: Karissa Floerchinger from DOW, Bill Walker from CPS, and Scott Ohnoutka from Bayer along with the Weed Boards of Cavalier County, Stark County, Dunn County and Ward County. A thank you to the North Dakota Agriculture Department Noxious Weeds and Pesticide Inspections for their updates. The R-O-W recertification administered by Andrew Thostenson and Mike Liane of NDSU Pesticide Training was and always is a big hit because of the interpretation of the label for each chemical. We had weed ID administered by NDSU Research, thank you to Brian Jenks of the North Central Research Center, Ryan Buetow of the Dickinson Research Center and Gregg Endres of the Carrington Research Center. Then of course we had the calibration exercises led by Bill Walker of CPS. These calibration exercises are a necessity when it comes to knowing how your spraying equipment operates and at the correct rates.

Again thank you to all who participated in these sprayer schools, they are designed to help train the newly hired sprayers and to also give refreshers to the people that have been spraying for years.

ND Department of Ag. Report

The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) would like everyone to be aware of Palmer amaranth. This aggressive pigweed species is native to the southwestern U.S. and has the potential to be devastating to agriculture in our area. Palmer amaranth is difficult to distinguish from other pigweed species as a young plant. Some key characteristics on young plants to keep in mind are: Long petioles, Lack of hair on stem and leaf surfaces, Singular hair in the leaf tip notch on first few true leaves (not always present)

If a plant is suspected to be Palmer amaranth, please contact NDDA and NDSU Extension to get confirmation. Remember that the earlier an invasive weed is identified, the more likely we will be to control or possibly eradicate.

For more information on identification of palmer amaranth, and state and local noxious weeds, please visit our website at www.nd.gov/ndda/program/noxious-weeds.

Also, the deadline for Landowner Assistance Program (LAP) and Targeted Assistance Grant (TAG) program funding is fast approaching. All spending for the second half of the biennium (July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017) must be submitted for reimbursement by July 7, 2017. Vouchers submitted after July 7th may not be reimbursed. If you have any questions about the LAP or TAG programs, please contact Chelsey Penuel at 701-226-4321 or cpenuel@nd.gov.

Hello All,

I'd first like to make every aware of visits from the U.S. Forest Service again this year. Research Entomologist, Dr. Sharlene Sing, and Entomologist Weed Biocontrol Specialist, Carol Randall, will be hosting yellow toadflax biocontrol sessions in the region again.

- Monday, June 12, 2017, 9:30 am at the Northern Hills Ranger District, Spearfish, SD 57783

Address: 2014 N. Main Street, Spearfish, SD 57783

- Wednesday, June 14, 10:00 am at the Samuel H. Ordway, Jr. Memorial Preserve, Leola, SD.

Directions: From the intersection of Highways 10 and 45 in Leola, travel about 8 miles west on Highway 10. There is a blue water tower on the north side of the road. The Ordway property is on the south side of the road. The blue water tower marks the northeast corner. The self-guided trail area is one mile west of the blue water tower on the south side of Highway 10. Look for the kiosk and sign at the trailhead on the south side of the road.

These sessions will have similar information that each presented at the January 2016 Commissioner's Weed Forum in Mandan, ND. If you would like to attend one of these sessions, please RSVP to Carol Randall at crandall@fs.fed.us. If anyone would like more information about yellow toadflax biocontrol in North Dakota, the bio-agent, *Mecinus janthinus*, or has information about troublesome yellow toadflax infestations in your county that could benefit from the use of biological control, please contact Lane Kozel at ldkozel@nd.gov.

2017 Iowa Invasive Species Conference

Bill Walker, Leon Pederson, Ron Mason, and Katie Clyde attended the 2017 Iowa Invasive Species Conference March 28th and 29th 2017 at Honey Creek Resort State Park, located on Rathburn Lake near Moravia Iowa. The convention began with a plant identification workshop, which pertained to problematic weeds and trees located in Iowa and surrounding states. After the morning workshop, breakout sessions began in three different rooms with a new speaker every twenty minutes. There was a vast variety of topics covered including Using Animals to Find / Control Invasive Plants, Prioritization Strategies and Other tools for Early Detection and Rapid Response, Invasive Aquatic Animals, Biology and Management of Invasive Plants, Managing Invasives in Prairies, Local Invasive Species Programs / Community Engagement, Biology and Management of Perennial Invasive Plants, Emerald Ash Borer: Management Strategies, Outreach and Education, Biology and Management of Woody Invasive Plants, Forest Pest Challenges and Management Strategies, and Innovation Methods to Manage Invasive Plants. The breakout sessions were great, because you were able to switch rooms and attend multiple speakers regarding several different topics.

The presentations on how to get the public more involved were very interesting and some of the ideas are things our association could consider trying in the future. One thing that caught my attention was that they dwelt with several organizations to provide funding for projects. Some projects were funded by one organization, others were funded through multiple organizations. Each group involved in a project benefitted from it in some way including the organization(s) that funded it.

The convention had multiple presentations on goat grazing, which I personally assumed was targeted towards grazing leafy spurge or knapweeds. They actually used the goats to reduce canopy cover of invasive trees, brush, and forbs. Some of the targeted plants were Bluegrass, red clover, white clover, Canada goldenrod, stiff goldenrod, honeysuckle, aspen, and willow. Each location was grazed several times in a span of 1-7 years and were also incorporated with other management techniques including mowing, spraying, and prescribed fire. The cost to have one of these companies bring in goats and graze an acre of land ranged in price from \$450.00 to \$650.00 for one grazing.

Overall the 2017 Iowa Invasive Species Conference was very educational and provided multiple avenues for better involving the public in managing and controlling noxious and invasive species. It was also a great opportunity to meet new people and create relationships with organizations that aren't as well established in North Dakota. If this convention is held in future years, I hope other members of the NDWCA are able to attend, it was a great learning experience and I appreciated being given this opportunity.

Katie Clyde, Billings County Weed Control Officer

June Weed of the Month

Palmer Amaranth



For those of you receiving the newsletter in paper, please go on the association website at www.ndweeds.homestead.com to view the weed in color.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S CORNER

It's already June. Before you know it, the 2018 conference will be here. Your conference planning committee will be meeting on June 27, immediately following the board meeting in Bismarck. If anyone has an idea, for a speaker, or topic, let Jamen or myself or any board member know. All ideas are good ideas. According to Derrill, there were good turnouts for the sprayer schools. I know Dickinson had a large turnout. The food was great as well. I have found that when you are planning an event, if you have a good meal, the people will come back next year. Have a good summer spraying season.

Legislative Report

By Merlin Leithold

The legislative session has come and gone. The Ag Dept. noxious weed funds came through the session un-cut. Later on, the department will be getting out to us their cost share funding amounts for the new biennium.

It was a quiet session for us. That is a good thing. There was plenty of drama going on, glad we didn't have to be a part of it.

I would like to thank all of you and the board of directors for allowing and trusting in me to be your lobbyist again this past session.

North Dakota Weed Control Association
6135 Hwy 49
Elgin, ND 58533

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