

NORTH DAKOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Biennial Report  
2017 - 2019



*Serve, advocate, protect and promote  
agriculture to benefit everyone.*

DOUG GOEHRING, COMMISSIONER

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# *A Message from the Commissioner*

My Fellow North Dakotans,

North Dakota can take pride in the achievements and contributions of the state's 26,100 farmers and ranchers, who have maintained their reputation as some of the best producers in the world. Their efforts have made our state the national leader in important commodities, including spring wheat, durum, oats, canola, dry edible beans, dry edible peas, flax and honey. North Dakota also ranks near the top in sunflowers, soybeans, lentils, barley, sugarbeets and potatoes. We also rank in the top ten for beef cows and bison.

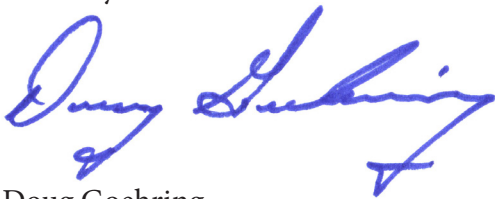
They have done this despite less than ideal conditions, from low prices and high input costs to bad weather and trade wars. Yet our farmers and ranchers continued to provide safe and abundant food, feed, fiber and fuel for our state, our nation and the world.

The staff of the North Dakota Department of Agriculture is proud to have helped our producers meet these challenges.

The Pesticide and Fertilizer Division obtained federal registrations and exemptions to get producers the pesticides needed to protect crops and livestock. We helped local weed authorities control damaging pests like leafy spurge and Canada thistle. The Mediation Service provided low-cost agricultural mediation and financial counseling services. Business, Marketing and Information found new markets, helped develop new products, and assisted new businesses. The state veterinarians helped keep our livestock free of major livestock diseases.

All the accomplishments of the state's producers during this past biennium renew our confidence both in our heritage and in our future. Agriculture will remain the foundation of our state's economy and society, and I am confident that North Dakota agriculture will be in the forefront of our state's promising future.

Sincerely,

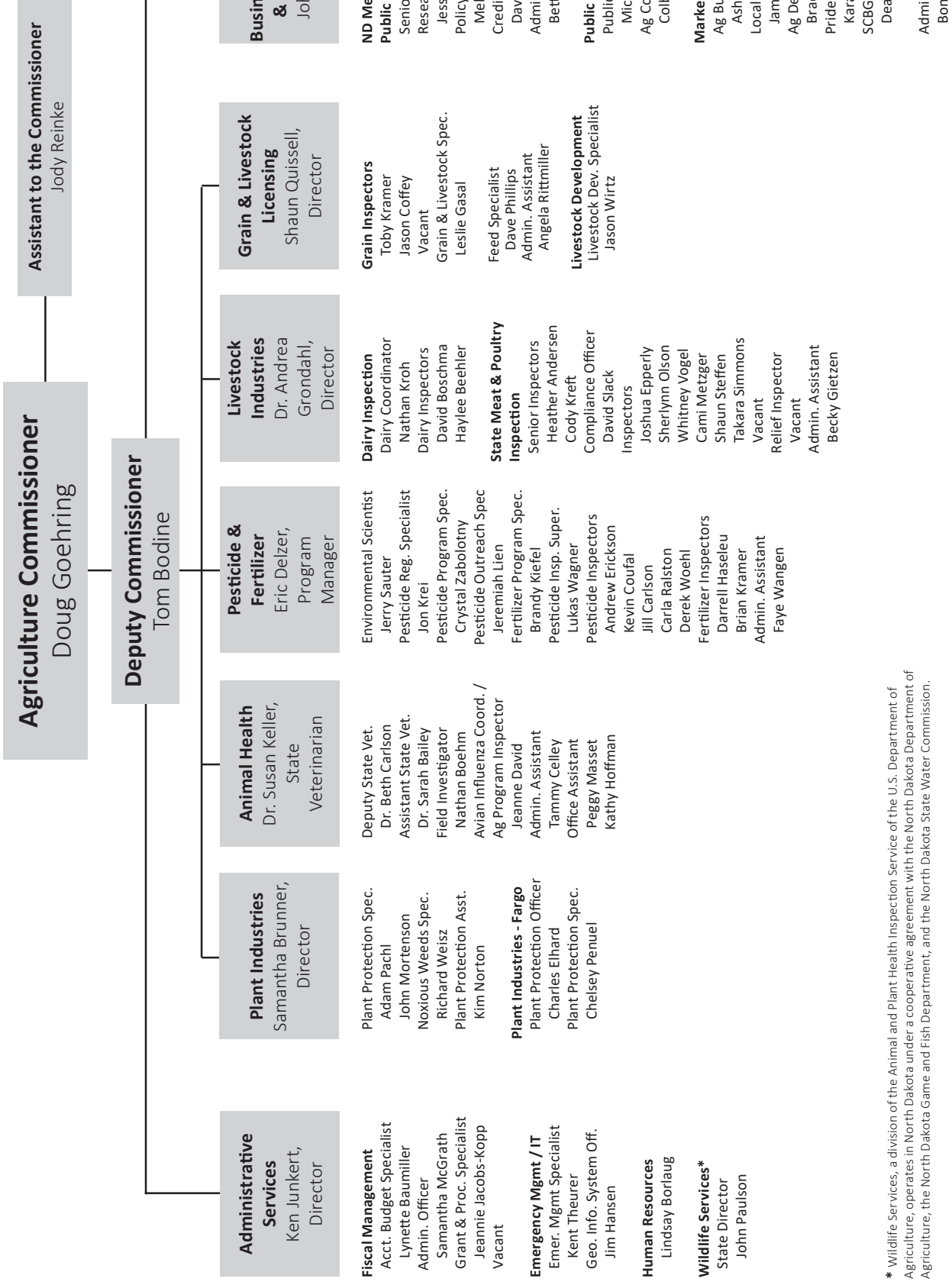


Doug Goehring  
Agriculture Commissioner

# Mission

The North Dakota Department of Agriculture is here to serve, advocate, protect and promote agriculture to benefit everyone. To carry out its mandate, the North Dakota Department of Agriculture is committed to the following responsibilities:

- Serving as an advocate for family farmers and ranchers and for the rural community.
- Providing services that ensure safe, high-quality and marketable agricultural products.
- Developing and expanding markets for agricultural commodities and value-added products.
- Reducing the risk of financial loss to agricultural producers and to buyers and sellers of agricultural commodities.
- Safeguarding livestock and other domestic animals from communicable diseases.
- Ensuring compliance with laws administered by the Department of Agriculture through understandable regulations, information, education and even-handed enforcement.
- Ensuring human safety and a healthy environment through proper use of pesticides.
- Verifying the contents of pesticides, fertilizers, soil conditioners, animal feeds and veterinary medicines.
- Reducing agricultural losses from noxious weeds, predatory animals, insects and diseases.
- Gathering and disseminating information concerning agriculture to the general public.
- Providing fair and timely dispute resolution services to agricultural producers, creditors and others.



\* Wildlife Services, a division of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, operates in North Dakota under a cooperative agreement with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, and the North Dakota State Water Commission.



# ADMINISTRATION

## **Agriculture Commissioner**

Doug Goehring

## **Deputy Commissioner**

Tom Bodine

## **Assistant to the Commissioner**

Jody Reinke

The agriculture commissioner directs and supervises the staff, operations and programs of the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA). The incumbent commissioner, Doug Goehring, took office in 2009 and was elected in 2010.

The office of commissioner of agriculture and labor was created by the North Dakota Constitutional Convention of 1889. A 1964 constitutional amendment divided the office into two entities – commissioner of agriculture and commissioner of labor – and lengthened the term of office from two years to four. The title of the office was changed to agriculture commissioner by a constitutional amendment in 1996.

### **Commissioners of Agriculture and Labor**

Henry T. Helgesen	1889-1892
Nelson Williams	1893-1894
Andrew H. Laughlin	1895-1896
Henry U. Thomas	1897-1900
Rollin J. Turner	1901-1904
William C. Gilbreath	1905-1914
Robert F. Flint	1915-1916
John N. Hagan	1917-1921
Joseph A. Kitchen	1921-1932
John Husby	1933-1934
Theodore Martell	1935-1936
John N. Hagan	1937-1938
Math Dahl	1939-1964
Arne Dahl	1965-1966

### **Commissioners of Agriculture**

Arne Dahl	1966-1974
Myron Just	1974-1980
H. Kent Jones	1981-1988
Sarah M. Vogel	1989-1997

### **Agriculture Commissioners**

Roger Johnson	1997-2009
Doug Goehring	2009-present

## Duties and Responsibilities

Originally, the commissioner's primary responsibilities were the collection and publication of agricultural and labor statistics and enforcement of regulations. The commissioner was also the commissioner of immigration.

The department's responsibilities gradually expanded to include a leadership role in the formulation of policies affecting the state's agricultural industries, the advocacy of the needs and concerns of farmers and ranchers on the state and national levels, the administration of fair and timely mediation services to farmers and ranchers, the promotion and marketing of North Dakota products, and the dissemination of information concerning agricultural issues.

The collection and publication of statistics are now the responsibility of the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

The following responsibilities are set forth in the North Dakota Century Code:

- Promoting improved marketing conditions for North Dakota products, §4.1-01-08
- Regulating dairy and poultry industries, §4.1-05 and §4.1-19.
- Licensing and bonding of livestock auction markets and individuals selling livestock, §4.1-27 and §4.1-83.
- Controlling and eradicating bee diseases and licensing of beekeepers, §4.1-16.
- Developing, supervising and participating in programs to protect plant life from disease and insects, §4.1-23.
- Administering a mediation service to resolve differences between financially distressed farmers and their creditors, §6-09.10.
- Inspecting, certifying and licensing nurseries, nursery dealers and agents, §4.1-22.
- Administering and enforcing state and federal pesticide laws, §4.1-33.
- Licensing and inspection of anhydrous ammonia bulk facilities, §4.1-37.
- Administering noxious weed laws, §4.1-47.
- Administering the Agriculture in the Classroom program, §4.1-01-22.
- Cooperating with federal agencies in controlling animals that cause property damage, §4.1-01-05.
- Administering the State Waterbank program, §4.1-01-15.
- Promoting honey and honey products, §4.1-08.
- Promoting the turkey industry, §4.1-12.
- Administering the cultivated ginseng law, §4.1-17.
- Registering crop protection products with Canadian labels, §4.1-39-03.
- Licensing industrial hemp growers, §4.1-18.
- Registering animal feeds and licensing and regulating animal feed products, §4.1-41.
- Registering and regulating livestock medicines, §4.1-43.
- Registering and regulating pesticide sales, §4.1-34.
- Registering and enforcing laws pertaining to fertilizers and soil conditioners, §4.1-40.
- Administering a state meat and poultry inspection program, §4.1-31.
- Administering a pipeline restoration and reclamation oversight program, §4.1-01-17.
- Overseeing a federal environmental law impact review committee, §4.1-01-18.
- Administering a wind energy restoration and reclamation oversight program, §4.1-01-23.
- Administering a bioscience innovation grant program, §4.1-01-20.
- Administering the agricultural products utilization commission, §4.1-01.1.
- Administering the grain warehousing inspection program, §60.
- Consulting on animal feeding operating and zoning regulations, §11-33-02.1 and §58-03-11.1.
- Administering and overseeing the environmental impact mitigation fund, §4.1-01-21.1.

## Boards and Commissions

By constitutional and statutory authority, the agriculture commissioner is a member of the following boards and commissions:

- State Industrial Commission
- State Water Commission
- State Board of Tax Equalization
- Agricultural Products Utilization Commission
- ND Dairy Promotion Commission
- ND State Seed Commission
- ND Pesticide Control Board
- ND Crop Protection Product Harmonization and Registration Board
- Northern Crops Council
- Soil Conservation Committee
- State Emergency Board
- State Intermodal Transportation Team
- ND Disaster Emergency Board
- Interstate Compact on Pest Control
- Wetland Mediation Advisory Board
- USDA Food and Agriculture Council
- Honey Promotion Council
- Waterbank Advisory Board
- Crop Insurance Development Board
- Ag in the Classroom Council
- State Board of Animal Health
- Food Export Association of the Midwest USA
- Natural Areas and Acquisition Advisory Committee
- State Board for Agricultural Research and Education
- Center for Agricultural Policy & Trade Studies
- ND Commerce Cabinet
- Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
- USDA-NRCS State Technical Committee
- Ag Business Rail Council
- Agriculture Hall of Fame Committee
- Midwest Shippers Association
- Seed Arbitration Board
- 129,000 Pound Primary Truck Network
- Great Northern Corridor



# The 2017-19 Biennium: A Timeline

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## 2017

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July 6 - In a joint release, Governor Doug Burgum and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring commended livestock producers for their stewardship and resilience during the previous tough winter conditions and widespread drought.

July 7 - Commissioner Doug Goehring hosted a drought meeting in Belfield, N.D. to give farmers and ranchers an opportunity to discuss their concerns about the current drought situation in North Dakota and the options available.

July 7 - Commissioner Goehring sent a request to USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue asking for the release of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres for early haying in a 150-mile radius of drought-impacted areas starting July 15 to help North Dakota ranchers due to the extreme severity of the ongoing drought conditions in the state.

July 11 - Commissioner Goehring applauded USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue for releasing additional resources for North Dakota livestock producers. Perdue authorized emergency haying on CRP acres and a 12-month exemption to the FSA farm loan requirement that borrowers maintain physical control of their livestock during the term of the loan.

July 14 - Commissioner Goehring sent a request to USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue asking for CRP acres in type CP23, wetland restoration, to be considered for emergency haying.

July 14 - In a joint release, the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA), North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension Service and North Dakota Stockmen's Association announce resources for livestock producers dealing with drought.

July 17 - Commissioner Goehring announced that applications are being accepted for reimbursement of organic certification costs through the Organic

Certification Cost Share Program for 2017.

July 19 - Commissioner Goehring urges producers to practice fire safety in the field in light of the drought and recent grass fires in the state.

July 20 - Commissioner Goehring applauded USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue for releasing more CRP acres for emergency haying and grazing. Additional practices authorized included: CP8A, CP23, CP23A, CP27, CP28, CP37 and CP41.

July 24 - Pride of Dakota celebrates its 29th year at the North Dakota State Fair with a Pride of Dakota vendor showcase, lunch, and a Pride of Dakota Snack Contest and Summer Sausage Contest.

July 26 - NDDA and three pilot producers in NDDA's industrial hemp pilot program announced industrial hemp field days August 2-4.

July 26 - NDDA and the North Dakota Ag in the Classroom Council announce the availability of \$100,000 for proposals to develop and conduct educational programs and materials to help young people understand the importance of agriculture in North Dakota and in their own lives.

Aug. 1 - In a joint release, NDDA and NDSU North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station partner to take hay donations and offer a hay lottery to eligible producers.

Aug. 8 - In a joint release, NDDA, the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and the Montana Department of Agriculture announce the hay lottery has been expanded to drought-affected producers in the tri-state area.

Aug. 9 - The 13th annual North Dakota Farmers Market Day at the Capitol is held.

Aug. 9 - Farmers are encouraged to take a survey on possible dicamba damage.

Aug. 18 - Commissioner Goehring announces that the hay lottery is in need of trucking donations.

Aug. 21 - Commissioner Goehring reminds growers and applicators who suspect dicamba injury to complete a survey on NDDA's website to

help quantify the number of potential reports and acres impacted.

Aug. 21 - At a sweet corn plot in the process of being harvested and donated to feed the hungry, Commissioner Goehring asks gardeners across the state to donate extra fruits and vegetables from their harvest to help meet the needs of hungry North Dakotans.

Aug. 22 - Commissioner Goehring announces that \$76,100 is available for research proposals for the North Dakota grape and wine industry.

Aug. 22 - In a joint release, Gov. Doug Burgum and Commissioner Goehring announce the availability of an emergency hay transportation program. The \$1.5 million grant program will help reimburse a portion of hay transportation expenses to eligible producers impacted by the drought.

Aug. 28 - Livestock producers are reminded that the application deadline for the hay lottery organized by the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) and North Dakota State University (NDSU) N.D. Agricultural Experiment Station is Thursday, Aug. 31.

Sept. 5 - The emergency hay transportation program starts accepting applications.

Sept. 6 - Drawings were conducted for the North Dakota producers in the hay lottery and winners were announced.

Sept. 12 - Producers are asked to take care when filling out application for hay transportation assistance program.

Sept. 12 - Commissioner Goehring is elected Vice President of the Food Export-Midwest Board of Directors during the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) annual meeting.

Sept. 12 - Commissioner Goehring approves \$92,200 in grants to develop and conduct Agriculture in the Classroom programs through June 2019.

Sept. 12 - Commissioner Goehring encourages livestock producers searching for hay to access

NDDA's Drought Hotline interactive map.

Sept. 13 - Commissioner Goehring urges North Dakota cattle producers to enroll their herds in the North Dakota Verified Livestock program.

Sept. 14 - The annual Pride of Dakota Day at the Capitol is held with nearly 50 North Dakota businesses.

Sept. 22 - North Dakota State Veterinarian Dr. Susan Keller says the state's first reported case of anthrax this year is a reminder to livestock producers to take action to protect their animals from the disease, especially in areas with a past history of the disease.

Sept. 28 - More than 43,500 students from 211 North Dakota schools dined on food products from their own state today during the 16th Annual Pride of Dakota School Lunch Day.

Sept. 29 - In a joint release, the North Dakota Department of Agriculture's Animal Health Division and the North Dakota Department of Health remind citizens to educate themselves about rabies.

Oct. 3 - Commissioner Doug Goehring asks North Dakota landowners for their help by allowing pollinator surveys to be conducted on their land. Surveys will provide data which may prevent future threatened and endangered species listings in North Dakota.

Oct. 10 - Potential applicants are reminded that the application deadline for the 2017 Grape and Wine Grants is Friday.

Oct. 12 - Producers are reminded that the application deadline for the North Dakota Department of Agriculture's Emergency Hay Transportation Assistance Program (EHTAP) is Nov. 3. It is announced that the transportation of straw used for feed is now eligible.

Oct. 16 - NDDA announces the results of the dicamba survey. There were 215 survey responses, with 207 indicating damage. Additional restrictions are planned for North Dakota and should be ready by early November.

Oct. 18 - Potential applicants are reminded that

the application deadline for organic certification costs is Oct. 31, 2017.

Oct. 21-22 - The Pride of Dakota Harvest Showcase is held in the Jamestown Civic Center with nearly 100 North Dakota businesses.

Oct. 23 - Commissioner Goehring awarded 29 grants totaling over \$2.2 million to promote the development, cultivation, production and sales of specialty crops in North Dakota.

Oct. 23 - The deadline for eligible expenses for the North Dakota Department of Agriculture's Emergency Hay Transportation Assistance Program was extended until Nov. 6, 2017, and the deadline for applications was extended until Nov. 13, 2017.

Oct. 26 - Participants are sought for NDDA's 2018 industrial hemp pilot program.

Oct. 30 - The public is reminded not to move firewood in order to prevent the spread of pests both within the state, and to prevent pests from accidentally entering the state.

Nov. 7 - Producers are reminded that the deadline to submit eligible expenses for NDDA's Emergency Hay Transportation Assistance Program is Monday, Nov. 13.

Nov. 9 - Commissioner Goehring clarifies that both personal and commercial transportation is eligible for the hay transportation assistance program.

Nov. 11-12 - The Holiday Showcase returns to the State Fairgrounds in Minot with more than 100 North Dakota businesses.

Nov. 13 - Commissioner Goehring seeks nominations for a new seven-member industrial hemp advisory board.

Nov. 13 - The deadline for eligible expenses for the NDDA's Emergency Hay Transportation Assistance Program was again extended to Nov. 17, 2017. The application deadline was also extended until Nov. 17, 2017.

Nov. 17-19 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returns to Fargo's Scheels Arena.

Nov. 20 - Commissioner Goehring announces

that \$52,500 is available to help North Dakota communities and schools plant orchards and gardens in 2018.

Nov. 28 - NDDA announces the 2018 North Dakota-specific protocols for in-crop use of Dicamba on soybeans. The affected formulations are XtendiMax by Monsanto; Engenia by BASF; and FeXapan by DuPont.

Nov. 29 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) and the North Dakota Agricultural Association (NDAA) honored three pesticide and anhydrous ammonia dealers and applicators during NDAA's recent annual meeting in Fargo.

Dec. 1-3 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returns to the Bismarck Event Center with more than 200 Pride of Dakota companies.

Dec. 4 - The Coyote Catalog, a statewide effort designed to connect coyote hunters and trappers with landowners who are dealing with coyotes in their areas, opens for the winter.

Dec. 4 - A previously announced North Dakota-specific requirement regarding the in-crop use of Dicamba on soybeans has been removed. NDDA will not have to be given notification before Dicamba can be applied.

Dec. 11 - It was announced that NDDA's Drought Hotline interactive map will be deactivated on Dec. 29, 2017. In total, the map had participants from 33 states and two Canadian provinces and was viewed nearly 11,000 times.

Dec. 13 - NDDA's Emergency Hay Transportation Assistance Program that reimburses eligible producers for a portion of hay transportation expenses incurred between June 1, 2017, and Nov. 17, 2017, wrapped up. In total, 492 applicants applied for the program and moved more than 289,000 bales a combined distance of 1.3 million miles.

Dec. 15 - NDDA hosts a meeting for prospective industrial hemp growers to learn about agronomy, processing, marketing and program requirements for growing industrial hemp.

Dec. 19 - NDDA registered final labels for the

Dicamba formulations of XtendiMax by Monsanto and Engenia by BASF. The third formulation for use on soybeans, FeXapan by DuPont, was still in the registration process but a final label will be made available once the process is complete.

Dec. 20 - NDDA's Emergency Hay Transportation Assistance Program has disbursed funds to eligible producers for a portion of hay transportation expenses incurred between June 1, 2017, and Nov. 17, 2017. Producers applied for nearly \$4.1 million in assistance. The state emergency commission approved \$1.5 million for the program, reimbursing producers for approximately 36 percent of their eligible application costs.

Dec. 26 - The Canadian Food Inspection Agency confirmed the presence of emerald ash borer (EAB) in Winnipeg, Manitoba, only 65 miles north of the North Dakota border. This represents a large jump from the previously confirmed area of Thunder Bay, Ontario.

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## 2018

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Jan. 8 - Commissioner Goehring applauded the vision for a better rural America outlined by President Trump today at the American Farm Bureau's 99th Annual Convention in Nashville. President Trump established an interagency task force chaired by Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue in April 2017 to identify ways to help improve life in rural America.

Jan. 9 - Dicamba-specific training sessions were scheduled by BASF, Monsanto and DuPont in various locations around North Dakota.

Jan. 11 - Commissioner Goehring named Dr. Rodney Lym as the recipient of the 2018 Weed Control Partner Award.

Jan. 17 - Commissioner Goehring announced that applications are now being accepted for 2018 Specialty Crop Grants.

Jan. 22 - Commissioner Goehring applauds the decision by the U.S. Supreme Court that challenges to the 2015 waters of the United States (WOTUS) definition belong in federal district

courts, not federal appeals courts.

Jan. 23 - Reporting will soon be required for some farms (including ranches, livestock operations and/or animal operations) to report hazardous substance air releases from animal waste under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) when those releases meet or exceed 100 pounds of ammonia or hydrogen sulfide within a 24-hour period.

Jan. 25 - North Dakota joins 12 other states in asking the U.S. Supreme Court to block laws in California requiring any eggs sold there to be from hens with specific space requirements in their cages.

Jan. 29 - Truckers that haul agriculture commodities may soon need to comply with the electronic logging device (ELD) rule. The ELD rule requires most truckers in commercial motor vehicles who are required to keep records of duty status (RODS) to install ELDs on their trucks to log driving hours. Truckers may only drive for 11 hours per day, after 10 hours off duty. Truckers are also restricted to 14 consecutive hours of on-duty time, including non-driving time. Commissioner Goehring encouraged those in crop and livestock production and food manufacturing to submit comments.

Jan. 29 - NDDA registered a final label for the Dicamba formulation of FeXapan by DuPont. The other formulations for use on soybeans, XtendiMax by Monsanto and Engenia by BASF, received final labels last month.

Feb. 1 - Border area applicators that take a Dicamba-specific training in Minnesota or South Dakota will be allowed to apply the product in North Dakota without taking a separate North Dakota training session. However, they will need to carry evidence of the training in the field and be prepared to provide it to inspectors upon demand.

Feb. 2 - Commissioner Goehring announced that the Hunger Free ND Garden Project has recorded volunteer donations of more than 2.3 million pounds of fresh produce to food pantries, soup kitchens, and other charitable community



programs since the program started in 2010.

Feb. 2 - It was announced that livestock producers now have until May 1 before they must report hazardous substance air releases from animal waste under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). The D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals granted the Environmental Protection Agency's motion to delay the mandate, which was originally to be implemented Jan. 22.

Feb. 2-3 - The 14th annual North Dakota Farmers Market & Growers Association (NDFMGA) & Local Foods Conference is held in Minot.

Feb. 26 - This week is National Invasive Species Awareness Week. The public is encouraged to be aware of invasive species as they cost the U.S. \$40 billion in crop losses, damage to forests and expensive eradication and control efforts.

March 5 - Potential applicants are reminded that the application deadline for the 2018 Specialty Crop Grants is March 15, 2018.

March 14 - Pride of Dakota Day at the Capitol is held.

March 20 - The 45th anniversary of National Ag Day is celebrated.

March 20 - Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao announces that truckers that haul agriculture commodities have until June 18, 2018, until they need to comply with the electronic logging device (ELD) rule.

March 21 - NDDA helped coordinate distribution of 100 bales of hay and 30 bales of oat straw that were donated to the hay lottery, a program started in 2017 to provide relief to livestock producers affected by drought. The bales were donated by the Antler Outlaws, a non-profit, community service group in Antler, N.D.

March 28 - Goehring applauds omnibus provisions for agriculture as President Trump signs a \$1.3 trillion omnibus spending package Friday, which will fund the government through September 30 and includes provisions to address recent agricultural issues.

Apr. 19 - Online dicamba training is available through BASF, Monsanto and DuPont.

Apr. 23 - Equine herpesvirus myeloencephalopathy (EHM) was confirmed in a well-known Bowman County barrel-racing horse. The horse became notably ill on Thursday, April 19. The disease rapidly progressed, resulting in euthanization that same day. Confirmatory lab results were received Friday evening.

May 8 - Spring storms in the Midwest and farmers to get into the field later is causing a fertilizer shortage in the region.

May 9 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring has awarded grants totaling \$52,500 for 12 projects to plant orchards and gardens in local communities.

May 21 - Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week was celebrated this week. The public is urged not to transport firewood.

June 4 - Commissioner Goehring issued a Special Local Needs (SLN) registration to Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC, enabling North Dakota dry bean growers to manage weeds with Reflex® herbicide.

June 6 - Commissioner Goehring announced the availability of a new interactive web-based map to help consumers more easily find local foods in North Dakota. The map contains layers for farmers markets, on farm sales, road side stands, CSAs, u-picks, vineyards, produce donation sites and more.

June 6 - Field days are slated to collect spurge-eating insects.

June 25 - Commissioner Goehring says farmers, ranchers, pesticide dealers and applicators, government agencies and homeowners should bring any unusable pesticides to any of the 12 Project Safe Send collections in July.

June 29 - NDDA advises the public to be aware of and learn to identify Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*), a pigweed species that is similar in appearance to waterhemp and has the potential to be devastating to North Dakota agriculture.

July 2 - The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is finalizing data collection for the 2017 Census of Agriculture and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring is urging North Dakota farmers and ranchers to participate, if they haven't already.

July 3 - North Dakota's state veterinarian reminds livestock producers to vaccinate their animals against anthrax. Dr. Susan Keller says that with the precipitation which has fallen in much of the state, conditions are right for the disease to occur.

July 5 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announces a new program to provide cost-share assistance to North Dakota dairy operations. The North Dakota Dairy Improvement Assistance Program will help dairy operations invest in necessary updates and improvements to enhance compliance with the Pasteurized Milk Ordinance, the national rules for fluid milk.

July 16 - NDDA is gathering information on plant damage that may have been caused by the in-crop use of the herbicide Dicamba on soybeans.

July 16 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring said that applications are now being accepted for reimbursement of organic certification costs through the Organic Certification Cost Share Program for fiscal year 2018.

July 23 - The 30th annual KMOT Pride of Dakota Day was held at the North Dakota State Fair in Minot.

July 26 - Commissioner Goehring activates the North Dakota Harvest Hotline.

Aug. 8 - The 14th annual North Dakota Farmers Market Day at the Capitol is held with nearly 20 vendors from across the state.

Aug. 14 - Last week, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ordered the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to revoke all food tolerances and cancel all registrations for the pesticide chlorpyrifos within 60 days.

Aug. 17 - Commissioner Goehring warns producers about the possibility of individuals impersonating state employees in order to take

photos and samples of grain.

Aug. 18 - NDDA and Clarence Laub, a pilot producer in NDDA's industrial hemp pilot program, co-host an industrial hemp field tour in Elgin, ND.

Aug. 20 - NDDA, in cooperation with the Public Service Commission, has developed a wind energy restoration and reclamation oversight program. The program will connect landowners and tenants experiencing wind energy reclamation and restoration issues with an ombudsman.

Aug. 21 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring urges growers across the state to donate extra fruits and vegetables from their harvest this year to help meet the needs of hungry North Dakotans as part of the Hunger Free ND Garden Project.

Aug. 21 - NDDA identified the individuals that have been taking photos and samples of grain across the state as contract employees from the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) on behalf of the National Agriculture Statistics Services (NASS).

Aug. 28 - Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*), an aggressive pigweed species similar in appearance to waterhemp, was positively identified for the first time in North Dakota in McIntosh County. A farmer showed the suspect plants to a local crop consultant, who then contacted a North Dakota State University (NDSU) weed specialist. The suspect plants have been confirmed as Palmer amaranth through DNA analysis.

Aug. 28 - NDDA compiled the results of a survey seeking information on plant injury that may have been caused by use of newly registered formulations of the herbicide Dicamba in 2018. There were 54 survey responses, with 51 indicating damage.

Sept. 7 - Due to an escalating outbreak of African Swine Fever (ASF) in China and the Balkan Peninsula, as well as ongoing disease transmission of both ASF and Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) in Eastern Europe, Asia and Africa, enhanced biosecurity steps are recommended for people who own, exhibit, sell or raise pigs in the United

States.

Sept. 8 - NDDA and Chris Adams, a pilot producer in NDDA's industrial hemp pilot program, cohosted an industrial hemp harvest field day near Grand Forks.

Sept. 10 - Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*), an aggressive pigweed species similar in appearance to waterhemp, is suspected in additional fields in McIntosh County near the first discovery. North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension, the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) and others scouted and destroyed the plants from the fields and will continue to scout the area. A DNA analysis was ordered to confirm or deny that these plants were Palmer amaranth.

Sept. 13 - Pride of Dakota Day at the State Capitol with 50 North Dakota businesses was held along with a Farmers Market outside with more than a dozen vendors.

Sept. 15-16 - The Pride of Dakota Harvest Showcase in Dickinson was held with more than 70 booths.

Sept. 18 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring was elected Vice President of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) at their recent annual meeting held in Hartford, Connecticut.

Sept. 20 - More than 44,000 students from 185 North Dakota schools dined on food products from their own state today during the 17th Annual Agriculture in the Classroom and Pride of Dakota School Lunch Day.

Sept. 21 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring has awarded 25 grants totaling over \$3 million to promote the development, cultivation, production and sales of specialty crops in North Dakota.

Oct. 16 - The North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner and the Minister of Agriculture in Manitoba, Canada signed an agreement collaborating in various areas of agriculture development for mutually beneficial economic growth.

Oct. 20-21 - The Pride of Dakota Harvest Showcase returned to the Jamestown Civic Center with nearly 100 booths.

Oct. 30 - Producers are reminded that the Harvest Hotline still available for their harvest needs.

Nov. 3-4 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to Grand Forks with nearly 140 companies.

Nov. 5 - The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced it has extended the registration of Dicamba for two years for over-the-top use in Dicamba-tolerant soybeans, while also making new changes to the label.

Nov. 8 - Commissioner Goehring commended U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke for his efforts to address the issue of U.S. Fish and Wildlife wetland easements in the state.

Nov. 8 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announces that \$52,500 is available to help North Dakota communities and schools plant orchards and gardens in 2019. Applications are due by Jan. 11, 2019.

Nov. 10-11 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to Minot with more than 100 North Dakota businesses.

Nov. 16-18 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to Fargo.

Nov. 30 - Dec. 2 - The Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase returned to Bismarck with nearly 225 companies.

Dec. 3 - The North Dakota Game and Fish Department and North Dakota Department of Agriculture open the Coyote Catalog, a statewide effort designed to connect coyote hunters and trappers with landowners who are dealing with coyotes in their areas.

Dec. 5 - Commissioner Goehring says \$50,000 is available to help North Dakota schools and communities research extending the season for fruit and vegetable production through the use of high tunnels.

Dec. 20 - Goehring applauds the passage of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, commonly

known as the farm bill.

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## 2019

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Jan. 3 - NDDA developed a 24c Special Local Needs (SLN) label for the in-crop use of Dicamba on soybeans which prohibits applications after June 30. The new federal requirements only allow for in-crop applications prior to beginning bloom (R1 growth phase) or no more than 45 days after planting, whichever comes first. The North Dakota-specific use protocols are in addition to the federal requirements.

Jan. 8 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring named David Hirsch as the recipient of the 2019 Weed Control Partner Award.

Jan. 8 - Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*) and houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale* L.) were added to the state noxious weed list.

Jan. 10 - Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring met with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue as well as Senator John Hoeven, Senator Kevin Cramer and Congressman Kelly Armstrong on a trip to Washington to discuss a variety of issues related to agriculture, including: Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) loans; Farm Service Agency liens on commodities from the sale of livestock and grain; the importance of the United States Department of Agriculture's National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS) and the reports that provide timely information about exports and stocks; implementation of the Farm Bill, including industrial hemp; workforce development and farm labor; the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) and farm inspections; and the importance of ratifying the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

Jan. 12 - A free farm food safety workshop was held at Mayville State University to help producers create a farm food safety plan, which is often needed to sell to restaurants, school and other institutions.

Jan. 16 - The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Sonny Perdue

announced that many Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices will reopen temporarily in the coming days to perform limited functions for farmers and ranchers.

Jan. 18 - Bovine tuberculosis (TB) was identified in a Sargent County beef herd.

Jan. 22 - The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Sonny Perdue announced that all Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices will soon reopen to provide additional services to farmers and ranchers.

Feb. 1 - The Hunger Free ND Garden Project has recorded volunteer donations of more than 2.8 million pounds of fresh produce to food pantries, soup kitchens, and other charitable community programs since the program started in 2010.

Feb. 1-2 - The 15th annual North Dakota Farmers Market & Growers Association (NDFMGA) & Local Foods Conference was held in Mandan, ND. The conference included in-depth sessions on production practices, business development, marketing and farmer well-being.

Feb. 5 - Commissioner Goehring announces that applications are being accepted for 2019 Specialty Crop Grants.

Feb. 6 - The original deadline to apply for a season extension grant was extended until Feb. 28, 2019. Grants will help North Dakota schools and communities research extending the season for fruit and vegetable production through the use of high tunnels.

Feb. 25 - Potential applicants for the 2019 Specialty Crop Grants are reminded that applications are due by March 8, 2019.

Mar. 7 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) and the North Dakota Agriculture Association (NDAA) set the dates for a series of fertilizer and anhydrous ammonia safety training sessions across the state as Mar. 25 in Valley City; Mar. 26 in Lakota and Mar. 27 in Berthold and Mandan.

Mar. 19 - North Dakota Agriculture Day is celebrated at the State Capitol with more than 20 agriculture-related organizations, associations and



agencies as well as a news conference to announce winners of the 2019 Ag in the Classroom Calendar Art Contest.

Mar. 20 - Agriculture was granted an extension in electronic logging device (ELD) rule. The rule went into effect on Dec. 18 for most operators but the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) delayed the regulation for agricultural commodity transporters. The first extension would have ended March 18, but Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao has announced an additional 90-day extension, bringing the compliance date to June 18, 2018. The delay will give the DOT additional time to issue guidance on parts of the rule that are troubling for agriculture, such as hours of service and other exemptions.

Mar. 21 - Pride of Dakota Day at the State Capitol was held and a special lunch featuring North Dakota commodities and products was featured in the Capitol Cafe.

Mar. 21 - Participants were sought for the North Dakota Department of Agriculture's 2019 hemp pilot program. Potential participants were advised that though the 2018 farm bill had recently removed hemp from the list of Schedule I controlled substances, NDDA was required to operate under the 2014 farm bill rules for the 2019 growing season as USDA did not have regulations ready yet.

Mar. 23 - A free workshop on farm food safety was held at the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, 2576 8th St. SW, Washburn.

Apr. 1 - The state veterinarian encouraged vaccination and biosecurity for horses after equine herpesvirus myeloencephalopathy (EHM) was confirmed recently in horses in several states, including Idaho, Arizona, Nevada, California and Iowa.

Apr. 16 - Commissioner Goehring announced that approximately \$130,000 is available to fund research and promotion of honey bees and that those interested in submitting a proposal should apply.

Apr. 27 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture held a free hops growing workshop at

Fluffy Fields Vineyard and Winery, 2708 21st St. E., Dickinson.

May 1 - Commissioner Goehring encouraged homeowners to check recommended plant hardiness zones and seek expert advice in some cases before buying and planting nursery stock for their property.

May 2 - Commissioner Goehring reminded producers that the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) has developed a 24c Special Local Needs (SLN) label for the in-crop use of Dicamba on soybeans.

May 6 - Commissioner Goehring detailed flood recovery efforts for McKenzie County and talked about working alongside the Department of Emergency Services to help individuals impacted by the flooding in McKenzie County.

May 7 - Commissioner Goehring awarded grants totaling \$50,000 for five projects to research extending the growing season for fruit and vegetable production through the use of high tunnels.

May 20 - Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week starts in North Dakota. The pest has killed hundreds of millions of ash trees in the United States over the past decade but has not been found in North Dakota yet. The public is advised to use local firewood sources and not to move firewood.

May 20 - Commissioner Goehring applauded the lifting of Section 232 tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada and Mexico as well as the removal of all retaliatory tariffs imposed on American goods by those countries.

May 24 - The Trump administration authorized USDA to provide up to \$16 billion in programs to assist agricultural producers in response to retaliation and trade disruption, including the Market Facilitation Program, the Food Purchase and Distribution Program and the Agricultural Trade Promotion Program.

May 28 - North Dakota's state veterinarian is reminded livestock producers to vaccinate their animals against anthrax. Dr. Susan Keller said that with the precipitation which has fallen in much

of the state, conditions are right for the disease to occur.

June 12 - Commissioner Goehring testified before a joint hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW) and the EPW Subcommittee on Fisheries, Waters, and Wildlife about the impact of Waters of the United States (WOTUS) regulations on agriculture.

June 13 - Commissioner Goehring warned the public about a scam in which the caller tries to sell pesticides over the phone and urged people not to buy pesticides or give credit information to anyone who contacts them by phone attempting to sell pesticides.

June 17 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) introduced a new online pesticide complaint reporting process which allows complaints to be filed 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

June 17 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) and the North Dakota Agriculture in the Classroom Council sought proposals for developing and conducting educational programs and materials to help young people understand the importance of agriculture in North Dakota and in their own lives.

June 19 - Commissioner Goehring announced that the Environmental Protection Agency has approved his request for a Section 18 emergency exemption for Provysol®, enabling certain North Dakota growers a new tool to combat cercospora leaf spot (CLS) in sugarbeets.

June 20 - Commissioner Goehring named John Schneider as the director of the business, marketing and information division at the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA).

June 20 - Commissioner Goehring named Shaun Quissell as the director of the grain and livestock licensing division at the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA).

June 21 - Commissioner Goehring advised that utilizing screenings for feed can be an inexpensive, yet effective supplement for feeding livestock, but it may come with some risk if they include seeds

of weeds that are invasive or difficult to control. If screenings are fed, places where cattle are fed, where they foraged and where manure was applied should be monitored.

June 24 - Field days to collect and redistribute flea beetles that eat leafy spurge were announced at multiple North Dakota sites.

June 26 - The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) extended the application date for the in-crop use of Dicamba on soybeans for the 2019 growing season until July 10 or beginning bloom (R1 growth phase), whichever comes first.

# ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## **Director**

Kenneth Junkert

## **Financial Management**

Lynette Baumiller

Jeannie Jacobs-Kopp

Samantha McGrath

Vacant

## **Human Resources**

Lindsay Borlaug

## **Emergency Management**

Kent Theurer

## **GIS/GPS**

Jim Hansen

## **Wildlife Services**

John Paulson

**A**dministrative Services includes fiscal management, human resources, procurement, emergency and risk management, IT, GIS, the pipeline restoration and reclamation oversight program, the wind energy restoration and reclamation oversight program, and wildlife services.

## **Fiscal Management**

Fiscal management oversees the development and tracking of the department's budget. This includes processing payroll, paying all bills, depositing revenue, reviewing and approving contracts, ensuring compliance with state and federal laws relating to the department's finances, tracking of expenditures and filing required reports to federal agencies, and procuring goods and services for the department.

## **Human Resources**

Human resources (HR) administers activities such as recruitment, compensation, benefits, training, absence management and talent management. This includes communicating HR-related information to employees within the agency and responding to open record requests. HR maintains agency policies and procedures and assists the deputy commissioner with any updates/changes. HR also assists division directors and the deputy commissioner with the job classification process.

## **Emergency Management**

Emergency management supports and enhances emergency communication processes and emergency planning or preparedness activities at NDDA in coordination with other governmental agencies and interested local stakeholder groups as requested. This includes coordinating staff emergency communication system capabilities and supporting department events and functions with weather or other interagency communication. Emergency management facilitates technical experts in NDDA as identified core functions are fortified that the agriculture industry and state of North Dakota depend on before, during and after disasters or emergencies.

## **Risk Management**

Risk management coordinates safety incident reporting, workers compensation, designated medical provider and incident investigation efforts. This includes implementing proactive safety programs the department participates in including ergonomics, near miss reporting and other North Dakota risk management initiatives to

help ensure staff are aware of available tools. Risk management creates a safe and effective workplace for our staff.

## Information Technology

Information Technology support in the department leverages hardware, software and information management systems to provide the best possible customer experience while equipping staff to minimize manual time-consuming processes.

The department coordinates with a variety of hardware and software vendors that support the technology staff depend on to support the agriculture industries we serve. This includes North Dakota Information Technology (NDIT), which provides desktop support, network administration, web application support, database management, telecommunications, software training, wireless communications, software management, computers, and other peripherals. The department also coordinates with a handful of other vendors who are experts in their fields to support specialized needs of a variety of programs and hardware used by staff.

Information Technology also has the primary responsibility for implementing the department's Geographic Information System (GIS). This includes the training of partners and staff in the use of global positioning system (GPS) hardware and software to provide location information for a variety of programs. Map products coordinated by GIS specialists enable pesticide applicators to avoid accidentally exposing sensitive sites, such as apiaries, vineyards, fruit orchards and organic fields, to potentially damaging pesticides, allow staff to coordinate visits to processing facilities, and support the work of the Commissioner through graphic display of the industries that we serve.

## Pipeline Restoration and Reclamation Oversight Program

The pipeline restoration and reclamation oversight program connects landowners and tenants experiencing pipeline reclamation and restoration issues with an independent ombudsman. The

ombudsmen are the recognized lead facilitators for promoting fairness when resolving pipeline reclamation and restoration issues, concerns and disputes. The program also provides educational outreach to help landowners/tenants consider things such as pipeline pathways, type of pipeline installation, soil impacts, type of vegetation being reestablished, timelines and other issues before signing agreements. Ombudsmen were assigned to 75 cases during the 2017-19 biennium.

# BUSINESS, MARKETING & INFORMATION

**Director**

John Schneider

**Policy and Research**

Jessie Pfaff

Melanie Gaebe

**Mediation**

Betty Schneider

David Anderson

**Public Info / Communications**

Michelle Mielke

Colby Lysne

**Business Development**

Ashley Hruby

**Local Foods**

Jamie Good

**Development**

Bradley Dean

**Pride of Dakota**

Kara Haff

**Grant Administrator**

Deanna Gierszewski

**Administrative / Reception**

Bonnie Sundby

The Business, Marketing and Information Division includes public policy, the North Dakota Mediation Service, public information, international marketing, the Pride of Dakota program, the Ag in the Classroom program, specialty crop block grants, local foods, agricultural products utilization and agricultural development. The division promotes the sale of North Dakota agricultural commodities and value-added products in international, national, regional and local markets.

## Policy and Research

The policy and research team works closely with the agricultural community, commodity groups and constituents to provide recommendations, resources and background on federal and state agriculture issues to the commissioner. The team also provides leadership and support to the department divisions, establishes policies and manages all legislative activity.

## North Dakota Mediation Service

The North Dakota Mediation Service (NDMS) was established to help resolve disputes and to help financially distressed farmer and ranchers.

Mediation is a voluntary, confidential process in which a neutral mediator guides the parties involved in a dispute through a thorough examination and discussion of issues. Mediation allows all parties involved in a dispute to speak openly in a confidential manner.

For the 2017-19 biennium, NDMS received 187 mediation requests. Agreement between parties was reached in 82 percent of the cases.

The six-member North Dakota Credit Review Board establishes policy for the NDMS. The board members during the 2017-19 Biennium were:

1. Lana Anderson (Renville) – Governor's Appointee
2. Gerald Horner (Kidder) – Governor's Appointee
3. Paul Burtman (Williams) – Attorney General's Appointee
4. Barry Hanson (Pembina) – Attorney General's Appointee
5. Michael Martin (Dickey) – Agriculture Commissioner's Appointee
6. Gerald Melvin (Cass) – Agriculture Commissioner's Appointee

The United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency



requires annual certification of state mediation programs. NDMS was recertified during both years in the 2017-19 biennium.

## Public Information

Public information writes, edits and publishes most department publications, including press releases, informational pamphlets and brochures, newsletters, state laws pertaining to agriculture and the biennial report. Publications are made available in hard copy and on NDDA's website, [www.nd.gov/ndda](http://www.nd.gov/ndda).

Public information also responds to questions and requests for information from the public on agriculture and the department, and maintains department websites and social media accounts.

## International Marketing

The division works closely with Food Export Association of the Midwest USA (Food Export – Midwest), a consortium of 13 state agriculture departments, to develop international markets for North Dakota companies that produce food or agricultural products. NDDA promoted such programs as export promotion, customized export assistance and a cost-sharing funding program. North Dakota companies continue to participate in these programs, growing their export markets through the services offered by NDDA and Food Export – Midwest. NDDA also works with the North Dakota Trade Office to expand trade through advocacy, education and trade missions.

## Pride of Dakota

With more than 540 member companies, the Pride of Dakota (POD) program is the centerpiece of the division's domestic activities. The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) mentors POD members through marketing seminars and business development trainings, social media opportunities and partnerships with other agencies and organizations. POD members can qualify for financial incentives to attend out-of-state trade shows, and can use the program's point-of-purchase materials to promote their products. The program also offers assistance to retailers working to promote the POD brand.

The Pride of Dakota website – [www.prideofdakota.com](http://www.prideofdakota.com) – lists all Pride of Dakota members with descriptions of their businesses and products, pictures and contact information, and it contains a listing of North Dakota retail locations that carry POD products. The department continues to improve functionality on the front end for viewers and members and on the back end for managing members, events and databases.

The most visible Pride of Dakota activities are the Holiday Showcases, held annually in Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks and Minot. Attendance at the Holiday showcases was 35,771 shoppers in 2017 and 42,141 in 2018. There are also two Harvest Showcases, held in Dickinson and Jamestown during September and October, totaling 4,711 shoppers in 2017 and 4,328 in 2018. Other events include the annual Pride of Dakota Day at the North Dakota State Fair and Pride of Dakota Showcases at the Capitol.

## Agriculture in the Classroom

As North Dakota's population moves away from farms, ranches and smaller communities and into the larger urban settings, fewer people have direct contact with the state's agricultural sector. In 1985, the Legislature established the Agriculture in the Classroom program (NDCC 4-37-01) to develop educational materials and assist in the training of teachers in an agriculture curriculum. A six-member board, appointed by the agriculture commissioner, advises the department on the program.

North Dakota K-12 teachers can integrate agricultural information into their classes with "Food, Land & People" (FLP), a nationally developed program that encourages the use of state-specific information. FLP has numerous lessons covering such topics as seeds, raw to processed foods, pollination, soil erosion, cattle byproducts, fabric production and nutrition.

The council published six editions of North Dakota AgMag during the biennium. Each edition was devoted to a different subject –Livestock and Land Stewardship, Horticulture and Forestry, Beef, Pulse Crops, and Pollinators.

The Ag in the Classroom grant program provided \$100,000 to organizations to enhance agriculture education throughout the state during the 2017-2019 biennium.

## Specialty Crop Block Grants

The USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant program is administered by the marketing and information division. Specialty crops are defined as “fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops (including floriculture).”

To be eligible for a grant, the project(s) must solely enhance the competitiveness of U.S. or U.S. territory grown specialty crops in either domestic or foreign markets. Projects must also benefit more than one commercial product (e.g., ABC Company brand), organization, or individual.

Examples of “solely enhancing the competitiveness of specialty crops” can include: education, research, food safety, pest and plant health, marketing and promotion, and production.

A North Dakota priority survey identified these top issues during the 2015-17 biennium: pest and disease control; development of organic and sustainable production practices; developing local and regional food systems; and investing in specialty crop research, including research to focus on conservation and environmental outcomes.

## Local Foods

The division continues to help expand the presence of farmers markets and food choices around the state and to help educate growers and vendors who use these markets. More than 55 farmers markets now operate in the state, reflecting an increasing demand and awareness for locally produced foods.

The department leads many activities to assist with the state’s local foods movement. A few of the highlights include:

- Farmers Market Day at the State Capitol continues to grow and draws a diverse crowd of vendors and shoppers.
- The Mobile Food Processing Unit, a commercial-grade kitchen on wheels, is used for product

testing, processing product for Pride of Dakota companies, cooking demonstrations, serving farm-to-table meals at special events, and taste testing activities.

- Annual publications include the Farmers Markets of North Dakota publication.
- An online local foods directory map was created to more visually show the locations of farmers markets, producers that direct market their products, locations of produce donations sites and community orchards in the state. That map can be found online at: <https://www.nd.gov/ndda/NDLFMAP>
- The Hunger Free ND Garden Project encourages fresh produce donations to charitable community organizations. An important partner in this venture is the Great Plains Food Bank. The project has encouraged and recorded over 2.8M pounds of produce donations since its start in 2010. This season marked the 10 year anniversary of the program.
- Community orchard grants are awarded to communities and schools throughout the region to encourage fruit production. To date, the NDDA has supported more than 65 projects across the state.
- An annual local foods conference brings educational sessions to local growers across the state. NDDA and NDFMGA (North Dakota Farmers Market and Growers Association) are joint sponsors.

## Organics

North Dakota has more than 200,000 acres of certified organic acres. An Organic Advisory Board advises the Agriculture Commissioner on organic issues. The NDDA has also started an Organic Education and Transition Cost Share Program for North Dakota farmers transitioning to an organic system. North Dakota is the second state in the country to have such a program.

## Turkey Promotion

Funded by a producer checkoff, the Turkey Fund (N.D.C.C. §4.1-12) aids in the promotion,

## Turkey Promotion Fund

### Revenue

Turkey checkoff	\$24,980.48
Interest	\$20.49
2017-19 carryover funds	<u>\$11,936.71</u>
Total revenue	\$36,937.68

### Expenditures

Operating expenses	<u>\$22,636.13</u>
Total expenditures	\$22,636.13
Balance (6-30-19)	\$14,301.55

marketing and research of turkey products. Processors deduct money from payments to producers and turn the funds over to NDDA for deposit in the turkey fund. Marketing Services administers the Turkey Promotion Fund with the advice of the North Dakota Turkey Federation.

During the 2017-19 biennium, the fund was used to pay National Turkey Federation dues, cover expenses for the North Dakota Turkey Federation to attend the National Convention, and to purchase turkeys for charitable organizations.

## Grape, Fruit and Wine Grants

The Grape, Wine and Fruit Promotion Fund is governed by the Grape and Wine Advisory Committee. The Committee consists of two individuals who are grape producers; one individual who is the producer of a fruit other than grapes, used in vinification; two individuals who own wineries located in the state; and one representative of the North Dakota Grape and Wine Association. The North Dakota Department of Agriculture administers the fund.

The mission of the Grape, Wine and Fruit Promotion Fund is to provide research and promotion in support of the grape and wine industry in North Dakota.

Funding for the Grape, Wine and Fruit Promotion Fund is included in the Agriculture Commissioner's budget. It includes approximately \$76,100 to support grape and wine research projects and marketing in North Dakota.



# ANIMAL HEALTH

**State Veterinarian/Director**

Susan Keller, DVM

**Deputy State Veterinarian**

Beth Carlson, DVM

**Assistant State Veterinarian**

Sarah Bailey, DVM

**Field Investigator**

Nathan Boehm

**Avian Influenza Coordinator /  
Inspector**

Jeanne David

**Administrative Assistant**

Tammy Celley

**Office Assistants**

Peggy Masset

Kathy Hoffman

The state veterinarian and the deputy state veterinarian are appointed by the Agriculture Commissioner, with the consent of the State Board of Animal Health. The state veterinarian is responsible for carrying out policies and orders of the State Board of Animal Health (BOAH). The state veterinarian keeps the Agriculture Commissioner apprised of animal health related issues and concerns.

The state veterinarian is also the director of the Animal Health Division in the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and is responsible for the diagnosis, prevention and control of animal diseases, monitoring new threats, emergency response planning and implementation and providing public information regarding new, emerging and re-emerging animal health concerns. The state veterinarian is also the state tuberculosis and brucellosis epidemiologist.

The deputy state veterinarian oversees the nontraditional livestock, farmed elk, chronic wasting disease surveillance and scrapie eradication programs. The deputy serves as the state's transmissible spongiform encephalopathy epidemiologist, and is a liaison to the Department of Health regarding zoonotic disease issues such as rabies and oversees the North Dakota Voluntary Johne's disease control program. The deputy state veterinarian serves as the acting state veterinarian in her absence.

The assistant state veterinarian oversees the Board of Animal Health's and the Animal Health Division's emergency response planning, and the National Poultry Improvement programs, assists with the drafting and review of biosecurity plans which are implemented by commercial poultry producers and coordinates the Reserve Veterinary Corps (RVC) training. The ~20-member RVC assists the state veterinarian in preparing for and carrying out emergency responses. The assistant is a liaison to the Department of Emergency Services for animal health emergencies and planning purposes.

The livestock field investigator investigates suspected violations of animal health importation regulations. The investigator assists in inspections of auction markets, non-traditional livestock and farmed elk facilities, modified live vaccine facilities and assists local law enforcement with the investigations of alleged inhumane treatment of animal(s) cases.

## State Board of Animal Health

The State Board of Animal Health establishes rules and enforces laws and regulations pertaining to animal agriculture and establishes operating policies for the state veterinarian's office. The board may take necessary action to control, suppress, and eradicate any and all contagious and infectious diseases among any of the domestic animals and nontraditional livestock of the state.

Appointed by the governor, the nine-member board includes representatives from the purebred and commercial beef, dairy, sheep, swine, bison and nontraditional livestock industries, as well as two veterinarians. The board appoints a consulting veterinarian from the staff at North Dakota State University. The state veterinarian provides a report to the board at their quarterly meetings.

Current board members are:

Melvin Leland, Sidney, MT, President:  
Purebred Cattle

Dr. Morgan Dallman, Golden Valley,  
Secretary: Veterinarian

Dr. Gerald Kitto, McClusky: Veterinarian

Kristi Doll, New Salem: Dairy

Seth Bacon, Larimore: Swine

Joel Olson, Almont: Commercial Beef Cattle

David Pearson, Hettinger: Sheep

Christopher Ryckman, Bismarck: Non-  
Traditional Livestock

Ryan Homelvig, New Rockford: Bison

Dr. Michelle Mostrom, Fargo: Consulting  
Veterinarian

The support staff reviews approximately 8,400 incoming and 15,000 outgoing certificates of veterinary inspection per year. They also review disease test charts, monitoring those for tuberculosis and brucellosis to determine eligibility for accredited free and certified free herd and flock statuses, issuing certificates when

applicable. North Dakota has 22 accredited tuberculosis-free herds, 12 certified brucellosis-free herds, and 10 *Brucella ovis* free flocks.

North Dakota is considered brucellosis-free, tuberculosis-free, pseudorabies free and pullorum typhoid free. This disease-free status allows interstate movement and export of animals to other states and countries, with minimal to no additional testing and health certification requirements. Reviewing laboratory reports, field reports, test charts and certificates of veterinary inspection is necessary to maintain North Dakota's status. Due to suspect and positive cases of TB and brucellosis that are still identified in the U.S. as part of our country's routine surveillance, disease investigations can result in the need to test varying numbers of livestock for brucellosis and tuberculosis throughout the biennium. A significant percentage of the breeding quality heifers that are used in herds or sold for breeding purposes in ND are also official calf hood vaccinated (OCV) against brucellosis in an effort to prevent the reintroduction of *Brucella abortus*. The ND Voluntary Johne's Disease Control Program provides resources to producers and veterinarians to help reduce the incidence of the disease in herds in North Dakota. During the biennium, 170 beef and 4 dairy herds participated in the program.

The Animal Health Division and the state veterinarian assists law enforcement in inhumane treatment of animal cases. About 90 reports were investigated during the past biennium. Staff veterinarians provided expertise when these cases were investigated and/or prosecuted. The state veterinarian also contracts accredited veterinarians to assist law enforcement with investigations.

The division enforces licensing and rules relating to nontraditional livestock, such as deer, indigenous birds and other exotic species. Currently, 50 nontraditional livestock premises are licensed and 53 elk premises are approved. The division also issued 181 permits to possess, propagate or domesticate pheasants, quail, and chukar to individuals on behalf of the North

Dakota Game and Fish Department.

Eleven livestock auction markets were operating within the state during the biennium. Regular inspections are conducted to provide a safe environment for livestock and the public. An auction market veterinarian, who acts as a BOAH agent, inspects animals for disease prior to sale. The BOAH approves the veterinary inspector recommended by the livestock auction market.

The division licenses and inspects modified live vaccine outlets, and provides the continuing education, required by state law, to entities wishing to sell products containing modified live germs, cultures or viruses for treatment or vaccination of domestic animals. In 2017, 79 permits were issued, involving 210 personnel who took the training.

Registration of livestock medicine has been transferred to the Animal Health Division. Approximately 1,274 products are currently registered in North Dakota.

The state veterinarian works with the North Dakota Department of Health on zoonotic disease issues and with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department on diseases of wildlife and nontraditional livestock. The office works with the federal area district director for North Dakota and South Dakota, in activities required under national disease eradication or control programs. The office also works with USDA's Wildlife Services Division and with the State Game and Fish agency on feral swine issues and wildlife disease surveillance.

Through limited and unpredictable federal cooperative agreements, the state has been able to provide funds to help veterinarians and their clients with syndromic surveillance for new emerging or re-emerging diseases that might otherwise go undiagnosed.

The division assists the Department of Emergency Services with establishing and stocking animal shelters as needed. The veterinarians and the support staff assist with sheltering when local staff is limited. On behalf of the Board the state veterinarian partners with national sheltering coalitions, for their additional expertise and assistance for large-scale sheltering in the event of

an emergency.

## Animal ID

Plans for a national animal identification program were replaced with the national Animal Disease Traceability program, which allows states to use their own protocols to meet minimum national standards. The Animal Health Division works with the North Dakota Stockmen's Association on premises registration and animal traceability efforts. An animal identification working group, made up of livestock industry representatives provides input on the development of a workable animal disease traceability plan in North Dakota. About 9,000 livestock premises have been registered.

# LIVESTOCK INDUSTRIES

## **Director**

Andrea Grondahl, DVM

## **Dairy**

David Boschma

Haylee Beehler

Nathan Kroh

## **State Meat Inspection**

Heather Andersen

Joshua Epperly

Cody Kreft

Cami Metzger

Sherlynn Olson

Takara Simmons

David Slack

Shawn Steffen

Whitney Vogel

Vacant

Vacant

## **Administrative Assistant**

Becky Gietzen

**L**ivestock Services includes duties and functions related to dairy production, meat inspection, and poultry and egg production.

## **Dairy**

The dairy inspection staff visited the state's 63 dairy farms an average of three to four times per year during the biennium, checking for equipment cleanliness and proper use and storage of drugs, and verifying that the water supply meets approved standards. Inspectors also conducted about 150 inspections of distribution facilities and about 150 inspections of farm bulk trucks and samplers.

North Dakota's three fluid milk processing plants, three manufacturing plants, and one transfer station are inspected quarterly. Inspectors ensure that every pasteurizer functions properly on a quarterly basis. Inspectors collect approximately 1,000 samples of raw milk and finished products during a biennium. Samples are tested for bacteria, somatic cells, coliforms and drug residues.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture contracts the Dairy Division to inspect manufacturing grade dairy plants. The division also conducts the Interstate Milk Shippers surveys of 11 listed (certified) producer groups and two plants. IMS certification allows raw milk and finished products to be shipped out of state.

The division licenses processors, distributors, testers and bulk haulers of milk and dairy products in North Dakota. Anyone buying milk from producers must be bonded and licensed.

## **Poultry**

The Dairy Division also serves as the Poultry Division. The division inspects small flock egg production operations, allowing the 24 such producers currently in the state to directly market eggs to retailers or other business establishments such as nursing homes, restaurants and grocers.

## **Meat and Poultry Inspection**

The State Meat and Poultry Inspection Program (SMPIP) currently regulates 90 processing plants. Fifteen plants are state inspected or official state establishments at which livestock is slaughtered and/or processed under regulated inspection. Three of these plants are operating as selected establishments operating under the Cooperative Interstate Shipment (CIS) Program.

Inspectors perform both ante-mortem and post-mortem

examinations of each animal and perform various tasks during processing activities.

The final products from official state establishments carry the state inspection mark and may be sold retail or wholesale only within North Dakota. Certain nontraditional products, such as buffalo or elk, may be sold out of the state if they meet special criteria. The final products from selected establishments carry the USDA inspection mark and may be sold nationwide.

The remaining 75 plants are custom exempt establishments which offer slaughter and/or processing services for a fee. Animals to be slaughtered or the meat to be processed belong to the customer, not the establishment. All of the products derived from the custom operations must be returned to the owner. Custom exempt plants may also carry retail exempt products for sale to the public. The owner/operator of the plant buys boxed meat from an inspected plant and further processes it for retail sale. These products may only be sold at the retail counter within the plant. SMP/IP inspects these plants two to four times annually.

NDDA, in cooperative agreement with the Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS), provides beef grading services to producers, state-inspected and federally-inspected meat processing plants. Two SMP/IP inspectors have been certified as graders.

NDDA and AMS have a cooperative agreement for country of origin labeling. The agreement requires surveillance audits of retail outlets for compliance with provisions in the 2002 and 2008 Farm Bills.

Covered commodities include: whole cuts of beef, pork, lamb, goat, chicken, ground beef, ground pork, ground lamb, ground goat, ground chicken, fish, shellfish, fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables, peanuts, pecans, macadamia nuts and ginseng.

# PESTICIDE & FERTILIZER

## **Program Manager**

Eric Delzer

## **Pesticide**

Lukas Wagner  
Crystal Zabolotny  
Jill Carlson  
Kevin Coufal  
Andrew Erickson  
Jonathan Krei  
Carla Ralston  
Derek Woehl  
Jeremiah Lien

## **Fertilizer**

Brandy Kiefel  
Darrell Haseleu  
Brian Kramer

## **Environmental Scientist**

Jerry Sauter

## **Administrative Assistant**

Faye Wangen

The Pesticide & Fertilizer Division is responsible for North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) functions and duties related to regulation of pesticides and fertilizers.

## **Pesticide Enforcement**

The Pesticide Enforcement program randomly inspects pesticide dealers, commercial and private applicators, and repackaging facilities. Pesticide Enforcement staff conducted 1,269 and 823 inspections in the federal fiscal year of 2018 and 2019 respectively. As a result of these inspections, NDDA issued 134 enforcement actions, including 66 warnings and 68 civil penalties. In addition to inspections, the Pesticide Enforcement program responded to complaints of alleged pesticide misuse. The department continues to use all available strategies, including inspections, complaint investigations and outreach to educate the public on the risk associated with pesticide misuse and to gain compliance with pesticide laws and rules. Staff reached approximately 6,192 people during public and private compliance assistance and outreach events in the federal fiscal years of 2018 and 2019.

## **Worker Protection Standard**

The Worker Protection Standard (WPS) protects workers and pesticide handlers from pesticide exposure in farm, forest, greenhouse, and nursery settings. NDDA personnel provided outreach to help businesses and farms comply with the standard. Inspections were conducted to monitor compliance and provide additional education.

## **Pesticide Registration**

The Pesticide Registration program registered 15,488 pesticide products in the past biennium, including insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, disinfectants, rodenticides and other chemicals intended to kill, repel, and otherwise mitigate pests. As part of the pesticide registration process, the NDDA reviewed product labeling to ensure that it was enforceable, complied with federal requirements, and adequately mitigated risk to human health and the environment.

Sections 18 and 24(c) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) authorize NDDA to ensure that pesticide uses are available to address significant pest problems. The department issued 17 Section 24(c) Special Local Needs (SLN) registrations during the biennium to address pests of local concern.



Adding new SLN registrations to previously issued, active registrations resulted in the NDDA managing 40 SLN registrations during the biennium. One Section 18 emergency exemptions were requested during the biennium.

### **Fertilizer Registration**

A total of 6,605 fertilizer products, ranging from home and garden fertilizers to commercial agricultural fertilizers and soil conditioners, were registered in the biennium. North Dakota currently licenses 832 fertilizer distributors and 298 anhydrous ammonia facilities.

During the biennium, 433 fertilizer samples, including 362 ag fertilizers and 71 specialty fertilizer products, were tested to ensure that chemical composition matched label claims. NDDA collected tonnage fees on a total of 5,087,124 tons of fertilizer distributed in the state last biennium.

### **Fertilizer Enforcement**

The Fertilizer Program inspects fertilizer facilities, anhydrous ammonia storage facilities, and anhydrous ammonia nurse tanks. The Department also enforces the federal chemical accident prevention provisions of the EPA's Risk Management Program (RMP) rule for all agricultural anhydrous ammonia facilities in the state. During 2018 and 2019, fertilizer staff conducted 997 total inspections which included 628 nurse tank inspections, 219 anhydrous ammonia storage facility inspections, and 150 RMP inspections.

### **Project Safe Send**

Project Safe Send is a program for collecting old and unwanted pesticides from the public so that they can be disposed of safely and legally. The NDDA hosted 12 Safe Send collection sites in both 2018 and 2019. More than 521,461 pounds of pesticides were collected. More than 357 people disposed of pesticides through Project Safe Send last biennium.

### **Pesticide Water Quality**

NDDA worked with the North Dakota

Department of Health in the biennium to sample 30 river and stream sites for 102 pesticides and pesticide degradates.

As part of its obligations to EPA, NDDA assessed pesticides for their potential to contaminate groundwater and surface water. To date, 125 pesticides have been assessed. As part of this assessment process, 2,4-D, acetochlor, atrazine, chlorpyrifos, metolachlor and terbufos have been identified as pesticides of concern. NDDA continues to monitor surface water for pesticides to ensure that levels do not pose a risk of unreasonable adverse effects to human health or the environment.

### **Endangered Species Program**

North Dakota was the first state to establish an Endangered Species Protection Program (ESPP). As part of the program, NDDA worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to identify pesticide uses that pose a significant risk to threatened and endangered species in North Dakota. The ESPP requires NDDA to supply EPA with data and recommendations relating to pesticides and their potential to impact listed species.

### **IP Management in Schools Program**

The Integrated Pest Management in Schools Program is a non-regulatory program focused on providing primary and secondary schools with information and tools to reduce pesticide risk and exposure to children, educators and staff. The program's goal is increasing school adoption of integrated pest management strategies, including the use of physical, cultural, biological and chemical techniques, for achieving long-term, environmentally-sound pest control and reducing use of pesticides in school settings. The program employs strategies to reduce sources of food, water and shelter for pests in school buildings and grounds. It also involves the prudent and careful use of pesticides and appropriate training of staff members who use pesticide products.

# PLANT INDUSTRIES

**Director**

Samantha Brunner

**Plant Protection Officer**

Charles Elhard

**Plant Protection Specialists**

John Mortenson  
Adam Pachl  
Chelsey Penuel

**Noxious Weeds Specialist**

Richard Weisz

**Plant Industries Assistant**

Kim Norton

Plant Industries is responsible for North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) functions and duties related to crop production. These include plant protection, noxious weed control, apiary, hemp and nursery regulation.

## Noxious Weeds Program

NDDA coordinates the efforts of county and city weed boards, and state and federal land managers to implement weed management programs. Through state appropriations, county and city weed boards offer cost-share funding to landowners for noxious weed control. During the 2017-2019 biennium, 43 counties were reimbursed a total of \$1,005,602 for control of noxious weeds through the Landowner Assistance Program (LAP).

The Targeted Assistance Grant (TAG) program provides cost-share funds to county and city weed boards to meet specified noxious weed control needs. During the 2017-2019 biennium, \$215,468 was reimbursed to local weed boards to buy equipment, software and supplies to survey and map noxious weeds, conduct biocontrol activities and other activities.

### 2017-19 Noxious Weed Control Funding

	General Funds	Special Funds
Landowner Assistance	\$16,978.07	\$993,331.44
Targeted Assistance	\$75,304.99	\$142,096.14

The U.S. Forest Service reimbursed NDDA \$36,889 during the 2017-2019 biennium. These funds enabled NDDA to survey, map and control noxious and invasive weeds through integrated weed management; rehabilitate degraded lands; purchase, release, redistribute and monitor biological control agents; print and distribute weed identification guides, host weed identification and other workshops; and map biocontrol release sites.

Most counties have weed mapping capabilities using various GPS programs. Counties provided NDDA with nearly 4 million GPS data points during the biennium. Yearly maps are provided to participating weed boards.

NDDA administers a weed seed-free forage (WSFF) program that meets the North American Invasive Species Management (NAISMA)



## North Dakota's Noxious Weeds

Absinth wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium* L.)

Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense* L.)

Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria genistifolia* spp. *Dalmatica*)

Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa* Lam.)

Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula* L.)

Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans* L.)

Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*)

Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria* L., *Lythrum girgatum* L. and all cultivars)

Russian knapweed (*Centaurea repens* L.)

Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe* spp. *micranthos*)

Saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.)

Yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*)

standards. From July 1, 2017, to the end of the 2017 growing season, 4,895.62 acres in 13 counties were inspected and 8,054 bales of alfalfa and wheat straw were certified. During the 2018 growing season, 6,127.16 acres in 16 counties were inspected and 25,205 bales of alfalfa, mixed hay, and wheat, barley, and oat straw were certified. During the 2019 growing season up to June 30, 2019, 172.3 acres in four counties were inspected and 5,242 bales of alfalfa and mixed hay were certified.

### Plant Protection Program

The Plant Protection Program conducts a pest survey program for exotic plant pests and pests of export significance. Surveys included Karnal bunt, exotic wood borers and bark beetles, emerald ash borer, Japanese beetle, small grain insects and diseases, corn insects and disease, khapra beetle, potato cyst nematode, exotic honey bee pests, other plant parasitic nematodes and barberry.

Public education regarding exotic pest threats is

accomplished through distribution of outreach materials, booth displays at trade shows and presentations. Emerald ash borer, gypsy moth and Japanese beetle were the primary exotic threats that were targeted.

Export certification services were provided to exporters to satisfy the plant pest regulations of other states and foreign countries. A memorandum of understanding with USDA-APHIS-PPQ was maintained to allow issuance of federal phytosanitary certificates. More than 7,800 federal phytosanitary certificates were issued during the biennium involving many agronomic commodities, seedstocks and nursery stock. Certificates were issued to 83 different countries.

Export certification documents issued to satisfy phytosanitary requirements of Canada and California included certification of cereal seed exported to Canada (three active compliance agreements - 11 certificates), cereal grain exported to Canada (62 active compliance agreements - 596 certificates), and grain corn exported to western states for European Corn Borer quarantine (71 compliance agreements - 1,044 certificates).

Nursery growers and dealers must be licensed, and all nursery stock that is sold must be from inspected sources and certified to be practically free from damaging pests (N.D.C.C. § 4-21). In 2017, there were 274 nursery licenses issued including 38 growers covering 1,200 acres of field-grown nursery stock. In 2018, there were 275 nursery licenses issued including 34 growers covering 1,200 acres of field-grown nursery stock. Permits were issued to 154 dealers to import and sell stem rust-resistant barberry.

Nursery growers are inspected for insects and diseases, allowing for both intrastate and interstate movement as well as some international sales. The most common causes of refusal of certification were needlecast diseases of spruce, wood borer infestations and failure to maintain adequate weed control or overcrowded conditions resulting in the inability to conduct adequate inspections.

Nursery stock at dealer locations was inspected to detect pest introductions, enforce the black stem

rust (barberry) quarantine and to enforce viability and hardiness requirements. Dealer inspections were conducted at 85 locations in 2017-2018 with non-hardy labeling violations the most common citation.

### Apiary Program

NDDA is responsible for licensing all beekeepers, registering bee colonies and bee yards.

In 2017, NDDA licensed 313 beekeepers and registered 605,126 colonies at 13,360 locations. In 2018, NDDA licensed 308 beekeepers and registered 674,335 colonies at 16,906 registered locations. A major activity of the apiary program is the inspection of migratory bee colonies for diseases, including American foulbrood, European foulbrood, sacbrood and chalkbrood. Inspectors also check for Varroa mites and small hive beetles. A majority of beekeepers are migratory, moving their bees to warmer climes in the winter, where they pollinate many crops, such as almonds, apples and citrus fruits. NDDA also investigates complaints about bees and serves as a liaison between landowners, the general public and beekeepers.

### Honey Promotion

The North Dakota Honey Assessments Act (N.D.C.C. § 4.1-08) assesses 10 cents on each licensed honey bee colony with a minimum assessment of \$1 per beekeeper. All proceeds are

deposited in the Honey Promotion Fund. The apiary program administers the Honey Promotion Fund with the advice of the North Dakota Beekeepers Association. Beekeepers who do not wish to participate in the program may ask for an assessment refund if they had contributed at least five dollars.

During the 2017-19 biennium, the Honey Fund was used for special promotions and research to benefit the honey industry.

### Hemp Program

NDDA is responsible for the hemp program, which licenses all hemp processors and growers, conducts inspections and samples for THC content analysis (N.D.C.C. § 4.1-18.1). In 2017, NDDA licensed 2 university professors, 1 processor and 33 hemp growers. North Dakota growers planted 3,020 acres, including 7 varieties in 17 counties. In 2018, NDDA licensed 4 processors and 27 growers. North Dakota growers planted 2,778 acres.

Honey Promotion Fund	
<u>Revenue</u>	
Honey promotion fees	\$128,460.25
Interest	<u>\$404.46</u>
Total revenue	\$227,032.11
<u>Expenditures</u>	
Operating expenses	\$3.09
Grant expenses	<u>122,324.94</u>
Total expenditures	\$122,328.03
Balance (6-30-19)	\$104,704.08

# GRAIN & LIVESTOCK LICENSING

**Director**

Shaun Quissell

**Specialist**

Vacant

**Grain Inspectors**

Vacant

Vacant

Vacant

**Livestock Development**

Jason Wirtz

**Feed Specialist**

Dave Phillips

**Administrative Assistant**

Angela Rittmiller

**G**rain and Livestock Licensing includes duties and functions related to grain inspection, feed inspection and registration, livestock development and licensing, livestock pollution prevention, and beef age and source verification.

## Grain Licensing & Inspection

The 66th Legislative Assembly transferred the authority of the Grain Licensing and Inspection program to the North Dakota Department of Agriculture effective July 1, 2019. As of the end of the period that this biennial report covers (June 30, 2019), the division had been set up and the hiring process was started for the grain and livestock specialist and grain inspector positions.

## Livestock Licensing

The division licenses livestock dealers and livestock auction markets, who must first post adequate bond, file a current financial statement and pass basic tests of financial responsibility. Random visits are conducted to discover unlicensed dealers at the states licensed auction markets.

Dealer licenses cost \$50 annually and are valid from July 1 to June 30; auction market licenses cost \$200 annually and are valid from April 1 to March 31. Current lists of livestock dealers and auction markets are available on the department's website. Wool dealer licenses are \$10 and are valid from July 1 through June 30.

## Livestock Pollution Prevention

NDDA is in the 19th year of the Livestock Pollution Prevention Program that provides educational, technical and financial assistance to livestock producers for manure containment systems. The program has worked with about 180 livestock producers since its inception. An EPA 319 grant funds the program through 2021.

NDDA is beginning its eighth year in the North Dakota Verified Livestock Program, which provides age and source verification services to beef cattle producers to aid in accessing market opportunities for their cattle. The program has provided services to more than 400 cattle producers and has an enrollment of approximately 120,000 calves.

## Feed Registration

Approximately 4,000 commercial feeds and 8,700 pet foods are registered in the state. Labels are reviewed for all new products

submitted for registration including 7,700 pet foods and 3,200 commercial feed products during the 2019 biennium. Also 150 feeds and pet food samples were collected and tested. When lab results showed discrepancies between labeling and actual feed content, letters were sent to the manufacturers of these products requesting corrections. During the same period, 394 feed manufacturers and 232 feed retailers were licensed. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration contracted NDDA to conduct medicated feed plant inspections, Veterinary Feed Directive and bovine spongiform encephalopathy inspections.

# STATE FAIR

**Fair Manager**

Renaë Korslien

North Dakota law (NDCC 4.1-45-23) requires that an annual report of the North Dakota State Fair Association with a statement of financial condition be filed with the agriculture commissioner, and that the commissioner include the report in whole or in part in the biennial report of the Department of Agriculture.

The secretary of state has advised the Department of Agriculture that reprinting these documents is unnecessary if they are referenced in the department's biennial report because they are published elsewhere at state expense and are readily available.

For a complete report on the state fair and the North Dakota State Fair Association for the 2017-2019 biennium, please refer to the annual reports of the North Dakota State Fair.

Copies of these reports may be obtained from:

The North Dakota State Fair  
P.O. Box 1796  
Minot, N.D. 58702  
(701) 857-7620

Copies of these reports may be borrowed from the North Dakota State Library, 604 E. Boulevard Ave., Liberty Memorial Building, Bismarck, ND 58505-0800; (800) 472-2104; (701) 328-4622.

# North Dakota Department of Agriculture

## Funding & Expenditures 2017-19

<u>Expenditures by Line Item</u>	Current Appropriation	Expenditures	Remaining Appropriation	Percent Remaining
Salaries and Wages	\$12,372,949.00	\$11,516,151.79	\$856,797.21	7%
Operating Expenses	\$7,444,336.00	\$4,195,320.61	\$3,249,015.39	44%
Capital Assets	\$13,000.00	\$9,027.86	\$3,972.14	31%
Grants	\$10,437,774.00	\$8,118,747.60	\$2,319,026.40	22%
Board Of Animal Health	\$869,618.00	\$289,731.87	\$579,886.13	67%
Wildlife Services	\$1,408,000.00	\$1,408,000.00	\$0.00	0%
Pipeline Oversight Program	\$200,000.00	\$71,327.07	\$128,672.93	64%
Crop Harmonization Board	\$75,000.00	\$63,966.89	\$11,033.11	15%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$32,820,677.00</b>	<b>\$25,672,273.69</b>	<b>\$7,148,403.31</b>	<b>22%</b>
<u>Expenditures by Funding Source</u>				
General Fund	\$9,113,001.00	\$9,103,943.50	\$9,057.50	0%
Federal Funds	\$12,089,336.00	\$7,900,807.15	\$4,188,528.85	35%
Special Funds	\$11,618,340.00	\$8,667,523.04	\$2,950,816.96	25%
<b>Total Expenditures by Source</b>	<b>\$32,820,677.00</b>	<b>\$25,672,273.69</b>	<b>\$7,148,403.31</b>	<b>22%</b>

# LEGISLATION

The following is a summary of legislation passed during the biennium that related to the North Dakota Department of Agriculture:

HB 1020 - AN ACT to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the North Dakota state university extension service, northern crops institute, upper great plains transportation institute, main research center, branch research centers, and agronomy seed farm; to provide for a report; to provide a statement of legislative intent; to provide an exemption; and to declare an emergency.

HB 1081 - Relating to the definition and sale of eggs.

HB 1134 - Relating to commercial feed and prohibited acts; to amend and reenact sections 4.1-41-01, 4.1-41-02, 4.1-41-04, 4.1-41-05, 4.1-41-06, 4.1-41-07, 4.1-41-09, 4.1-41-10, 4.1-41-11, 4.1-41-13, 4.1-41-16, and 4.1-41-18 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to commercial feed; and to provide a penalty.

HB 1149 - Relating to noxious weed certification; and to declare an emergency.

HB 1349 - Relating to the regulation of hemp; to amend and reenact subdivision b of subsection 2 of section 12-60-24 and subsection 22 of section 19-24.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to criminal history background checks and the definition of marijuana; to repeal chapter 4.1-18 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the regulation of industrial hemp; to provide a penalty; to provide a continuing appropriation; and to declare an emergency.

HB 1383 - Relating to the creation of an environmental impact mitigation fund and to mitigating direct environmental impacts; to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 4.1-01-18, sections 49-22-05.1 and 49-22-09, and subsection 4 of section 49-22-16 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the federal environmental law impact review committee, exclusion and avoidance areas, the factors considered by the public service commission when evaluating and designating sites, corridors, and routes, and state agency rules; to provide for a report to the legislative management; to provide an appropriation; and to provide a continuing appropriation.

HB 1388 - Relating to persons eligible for corporate farm ownership.

HB 1467 - Relating to the definition of agriculture commissioner; and to amend and reenact section 49-02-01, subsection 1 of section 60-02-01, sections 60-02-02, 60-02-03, 60-02-04, 60-02-05.1, 60-02-07, 60-02-07.2, 60-02-09, 60-02-09.1, 60-02-10.1, 60-02-11, 60-02-14, 60-02-17, 60-02-24, 60-02-27, 60-02-35.1, 60-02-38, 60-02-40, 60-02-41, and 60-02-42, subsection 1 of section 60-02.1-01, sections



60-02.1-02, 60-02.1-03, 60-02.1-04, 60-02.1-06, 60-02.1-07, 60-02.1-07.1, 60-02.1-08, 60-02.1-09, 60-02.1-11, 60-02.1-16, 60-02.1-17, 60-02.1-19, 60-02.1-22, 60-02.1-26, 60-02.1-27, 60-02.1-29, 60-02.1-30, 60-02.1-32, 60-02.1-33, 60-02.1-34, 60-02.1-35, 60-02.1-36, 60-02.1-37, 60-02.1-38, and 60-02.1-39, subsection 1 of section 60-04-01, and sections 60-04-03, 60-04-03.1, 60-04-03.2, 60-04-03.3, 60-04-04, 60-04-05, 60-04-06, 60-04-07, 60-04-08, 60-04-09, 60-04-10, 60-05-01, 60-05-02, 60-05-03, 60-05-04, 60-06-05, 60-06-06.1, 60-10-01, 60-10-02, 60-10-03, 60-10-05, 60-10-07, 60-10-08, 60-10-09, 60-10-10, 60-10-11, 60-10-12, 60-10-14, and 60-10-15 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to moving the authority over grain, grain buyers, warehousing, deposits, and warehousemen from the public service commission to the agriculture commissioner; to provide a penalty; and to provide a continuing appropriation.

SB 2009 - (NDDA Budget) Relating to the definition of agriculture commissioner and records confidentiality for warehousemen and grain buyers; to amend and reenact sections 4.1-01-02 and 49-02-01, subsection 1 of section 60-02-01, sections 60-02-02, 60-02-03, 60-02-04, 60-02-05.1, 60-02-07, 60-02-07.2, 60-02-09, 60-02-09.1, 60-02-10.1, 60-02-11, 60-02-14, 60-02-17, 60-02-24, 60-02-27, 60-02-35.1, 60-02-38, 60-02-40, 60-02-41, 60-02-42, 60-02.1-01, 60-02.1-02, 60-02.1-03, 60-02.1-04, 60-02.1-06, 60-02.1-07, 60-02.1-07.1, 60-02.1-08, 60-02.1-09, 60-02.1-11, 60-02.1-16, 60-02.1-17, 60-02.1-19, 60-02.1-22, 60-02.1-26, 60-02.1-27, 60-02.1-29, 60-02.1-30, 60-02.1-32, 60-02.1-33, 60-02.1-34, 60-02.1-35, 60-02.1-36, 60-02.1-37, 60-02.1-38, and 60-02.1-39, subsection 1 of section 60-04-01, and sections 60-04-03, 60-04-03.1, 60-04-03.2, 60-04-03.3, 60-04-04, 60-04-05, 60-04-06, 60-04-07, 60-04-08, 60-04-09, 60-04-10, 60-05-01, 60-05-02, 60-05-03, 60-05-04, 60-06-05, 60-06-06.1, 60-10-01, 60-10-02, 60-10-03, 60-10-05, 60-10-07, 60-10-08, 60-10-09, 60-10-10, 60-10-11, 60-10-12, 60-10-14, and 60-10-15 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the salary of the agriculture commissioner and moving the authority over grain, grain buyers, warehousing, deposits, and warehousemen from

the public service commission to the agriculture commissioner; to provide for a report to the legislative assembly; to provide a penalty; and to provide a continuing appropriation.

SB 2080 - Relating to the federal meat inspection revision.

SB 2152 - Relating to the licensing of anhydrous ammonia storage tanks and mobile storage containers.

SB 2176 - AN ACT to provide for a road train pilot program; to provide for a legislative management study of a road train pilot program; and to provide an expiration date.

SB 2224 - Relating to a bioscience innovation grant program; to amend and reenact sections 54-65-01, 54-65-06, and 54-65-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to research North Dakota; to repeal section 10-30.5-14, chapters 15-69 and 54-65, and sections 54-65-02, 54-65-03, 54-65-04, and 54-65-05 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the centers of excellence, centers of research excellence, and research North Dakota; to provide a continuing appropriation; to provide an appropriation; to provide for a transfer; and to provide an effective date.

SB 2261 - Relating to conditions imposed on the designation of sites, corridors, and routes.

SB 2328 - Relating to the agricultural products utilization commission; to repeal chapter 54-60.3 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the agricultural products utilization commission; and to provide a report.

SB 2344 - Relating to injection or migration of substances into pore space; and to amend and reenact sections 38-08-25, 38-11.1-01, and 38-11.1-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to pore space and oil and gas production.

SB 2345 - Relating to animal feeding operations and zoning regulations; to provide a report to the legislative management; to provide an effective date; to provide a contingent effective date; and to provide an expiration date.

SB 2360 - Relating to the calculation of income for purposes of the farm residence property tax



exemption; and to provide an effective date.

SB 2079 - Relating to the definition of pasteurized milk ordinance and to the pasteurized milk ordinance revision.