

North Dakota Weed Seed-Free Forage Program (WSFF)

Frequently asked questions

How does forage certification work?

Forage crops must be inspected on a field-by-field basis within 10 days of cutting or harvest. A field includes a surrounding buffer zone of one rod (16½ feet or 5½ yards). The inspector follows a standard procedure to visually inspect the forage. The inspector also completes a Weed Seed-Free Forage Inspection Report and Certification form [SFN 59074], detailing whether or not forage meets minimum standards. After baling, NDDA provides the producer with a special tag to be affixed to each bale produced from the field. Storage sites for certified forage must also be inspected and meet NAISMA standards to prevent contamination of certified forage.

How do I get my forage inspected?

A list of inspectors is found on the NDDA website at www.nd.gov/ndda/program-info/weed-seed-free-forage-program/weed-seed-free-forage-inspectors or by calling NDDA at (800) 242-7535 or (701) 328-2250. From NDDA or an inspector, obtain a “request to inspect” form [SFN 59075], fill it out and send it to an inspector in your area. An inspector will contact you and arrange for the inspection(s).

Where can I find WSFF for sale?

A list of producers with WSFF for sale is available on the NDDA website at www.nd.gov/ndda/program-info/weed-seed-free-forage-program/certified-weed-seed-free-forage-available-sale or by calling (701) 328-2250 or (800) 242-7535. Also, check with the agency where the forage will be used (Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, etc.) for a list of producers and/or vendors of WSFF or for a supply on hand.

How can I identify certified forage?

Every bale of certified WSFF has a colored, dated tag (see example inside) or specially colored twine. Certified forage from other states may be similarly tagged or bound with specially colored twine. The producer may also have a copy of the inspection report that indicates that the field has or has not passed inspection and lists the numbers of the tags issued to him/her for each bale produced from each field.



NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Plant Industries Division

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NORTH DAKOTA WEED SEED-FREE FORAGE PROGRAM



AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER
DOUG GOEHRING

North American Noxious Weed List

North Dakota Weed Seed-Free Forage Program and North American Invasive Species Management Association

Absinth wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium*) [P] [F]
Annual sowthistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*) [A] [F]
Austrian fieldcress (*Rorippa austriaca*) [P] [F]
Baby's breath (*Gypsophila paniculata*) [P] [F]
Black Henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*) [A] [B] [F]
Buffalobur (*Solanum rostratum*) [A] [N] [F]
Bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*) [B] [F]
Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) [P] [F]
Common burdock (*Arctium minus*) [B] [F]
Common crupina (*Crupina vulgaris*) [A] [F]
Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) [P] [N]
Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*) [B] [F]
Common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*) [P] [F]
Common teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*) [B] [F]
Cutleaf teasel (*Dipsacus laciniatus*) [B] [F]
Dame's rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*) [B] [P] [F]
Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*) [P] [F]
Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*) [A] [P] [F]
Downy Brome (Cheatgrass) (*Bromus tectorum*) [A] [F]
Dyers woad (*Isatis tinctoria*) [A] [B] [P] [F]
False chamomile (*Matricaria maritima*) [A] [P] [F]
Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*) [P] [F]
Field scabious (*Knautia arvensis*) [A] [P] [F]
Halogeton (*Halogeton glomeratus*) [A] [F]
Hoary alyssum (*Berteroa incana*) [A] [B] [P] [F]
Hoary cress (*Cardaria spp.*) [P] [F]
Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*) [B] [F]
Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*) [P] [F]
Jointed goatgrass (*Aegilops cylindrica*) [A] [F]
Kochia (*Kochia scoparia*) [A] [F]
Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*) [P] [F]
Marsh sowthistle (*Sonchus arvensis*) [P] [F]
Meadow knapweed (*Centaurea pratensis*) [P] [F]

Medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*) [A] [F]
Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*) [B] [F]
Orange hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*) [P] [F]
Oxeye daisy (*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*) [P] [F]
Perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*) [P] [F]
Perennial sowthistle (*Sonchus arvensis*) [P] [F]
Plumeless thistle (*Carduus acanthoides*) [B] [F]
Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*) [B] [F]
Puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*) [A] [F]
Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) [P] [F]
Quackgrass (*Agropyron repens*) [P] [F]
Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*) [P] [F]
Russian knapweed (*Centaurea repens*) [P] [F]
Saltcedar (*Tamarix sp.*) [P] [F]
Scentless chamomile (*Matricaria perforata* or *M. milaceum*) [P] [F]
Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*) [B] [F]
Sericea Lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*) [P] [F]
Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*) [B] [P] [F]
Squarrose knapweed (*Centaurea virgata*) [P] [F]
St. Johnswort (*Hypericum perforatum*) [P] [F]
Sulfur cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*) [P] [F]
Tall buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*) [P] [F]
Tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*) [P] [F]
Vipers Bugloss/Blueweed (*Echium vulgare*) [A] [B] [P] [F]
Wild oats (*Avena fatua*) [A] [F]
Wild proso millet (*Panicum miliaceum*) [A] [F]
Yellow hawkweed (*Hieracium pratense*) [P] [F]
Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*) [A] [F]
Yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*) [P] [F]

[A] Annual [B] Biennial [P] Perennial [N] Native [F] Foreign Origin

North Dakota Weed Seed-Free Forage Program

Objectives

- Prevent the spread of noxious and invasive weeds through mulch or forage used by horse riders and recreational land users.
- Protect public and private lands from introduction of non-native, invasive plants species.
- Provide a product that is recognized as acceptable and transportable onto public lands closed to all but certified weed seed-free forage.

Frequently asked questions

What is "certified weed seed-free forage"?

Certified weed seed-free forage (WSFF) has been inspected by North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA)-trained inspectors prior to cutting. Forage found to be free of weed seeds identified in the North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA) and the North Dakota noxious weed lists may be certified.

Is certified weed seed-free forage required?

Certified WSFF is required for use on many public lands, including state parks, national parks, military reservations and lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Fish and Wildlife.



NORTH DAKOTA WEED SEED FREE FORAGE (WSFF) PROGRAM

For questions or concerns call 1-800-242-7535
or visit:
<http://www.nd.gov/ndda/program/weed-seed-free-forage-program>

No.

FORAGE CERTIFICATION TAG

FORAGE, TO WHICH THIS TAG IS ATTACHED, HAS BEEN INSPECTED. IT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN WEED FREE FORAGE CERTIFICATION STANDARDS. THIS TAG MAY NOT BE REUSED AND MAY NOT BE USED ON FORAGE HARVESTED FROM A FIELD THAT WAS NOT OFFICIALLY INSPECTED AND CERTIFIED AS MEETING THE NORTH AMERICAN WEED FREE FORAGE CERTIFICATION