

ND Weed Seed Free Forage Inspection Procedure Reference Sheet

January 2011

- I) Producer requests *Weed Seed Free Forage Certification Request to Inspect* [SFN 59075] form and returns completed form to inspector (inspection must occur within 10 days of planned harvest).
- II) Inspector, upon receipt of completed SFN 59075, contacts producer within 24 hours and makes arrangements for inspection. Inspector should remind the producer that he/she must have weeds controlled before inspection in order to receive certification.

III) Inspection process:

- a) Inspect entire field border and buffer (1 rod or 16.5 feet or 5.5 yards).
- b) 2 entry points per field (or every 150 feet counts as an entry point).
- c) Scout in an X pattern and all unique features.
- d) **DO NOT** inspect field(s) if there is potential for a conflict of interest.
- e) Inspect all storage sites where the forage is to be kept and record whether it passed or failed. If the storage site fails inspection, indicate reason(s) for failure.
- f) Complete pre-harvest information on *Weed Seed Free Forage Inspection Report and Certification* [SFN 59074] as soon as possible.
- g) Notify producer of the results and remind them to harvest the forage within 10 days.
- h) Producer contacts the inspector with the harvest information; inspector records harvest information on SFN 59074 (date, bale type, number of bales per field) and invoices producer.

NOTE: Inform producers that they can have their WSFF listed on the North Dakota Department of Agriculture's website at <http://www.agdepartment.com/Programs/Plant/WeedSeedFreeForage.htm>. The inspector must check the appropriate box on SFN 59074 indicating the producer wishes to disseminate their contact information regarding the product(s).

- i) Producer mails pink copy of invoice along with a check for payment to the NDDA.
- j) NDDA, upon receipt of payment, will finalize certification and issue tags to producer.
- k) Inspector records tag numbers on SFN 59074. The reason for "HAS NOT" on SFN 59074 is given and recorded, if necessary. Copies of all forms are mailed to NDDA.

NOTE: the first two bales made will NOT be tagged and certified as a precaution against contaminated equipment.

- IV) Tags are placed on bales by producer at his or her convenience, unless certification is cancelled for any reason, in which case a re-inspection may take place at a later date if requested.

Minimum standards are those set forth by the North American Weed Management Association's NAWMA and are followed by the ND Department of Agriculture for this program. The NAWMA list of noxious weeds will be referenced during inspection. NAWMA standards also include all North Dakota noxious weeds.