

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Promoting a healthy economy,
environment and social climate
for North Dakota agriculture
and the rural community.*



Roger Johnson, Commissioner



CONTENTS

A Message from the Commissioner	ii
Mission Statement	iii
Organizational Chart	iv
History	1
Administration	3
Executive Services	6
Livestock Services	10
Plant Industries	15
State Fair	20
Funding & Expenditures	21



A Message from the Commissioner

My Fellow North Dakotans,

The numbers are in, and they clearly show that North Dakota's 30,000 family farmers and ranchers are some of the best producers in the world. Their efforts have made our state the national leader in more than a dozen important commodities, including spring wheat, durum, barley, sunflowers, canola, dry edible peas and beans, oats, flax, honey and more. They have done this despite less than optimal growing conditions. Too much moisture in some parts of the state and severe drought in others significantly reduced yields for many producers and prevented the planting of hundreds of thousands of acres. Plant diseases, insects and other plant pests caused further losses. Yet our farmers and ranchers continued to provide safe and abundant food, 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 Plant Industries Program Area 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 Agricultural Mediation Service provided low-cost agricultural mediation and financial counseling services. Marketing Services 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 lead our state into a more prosperous future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roger Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

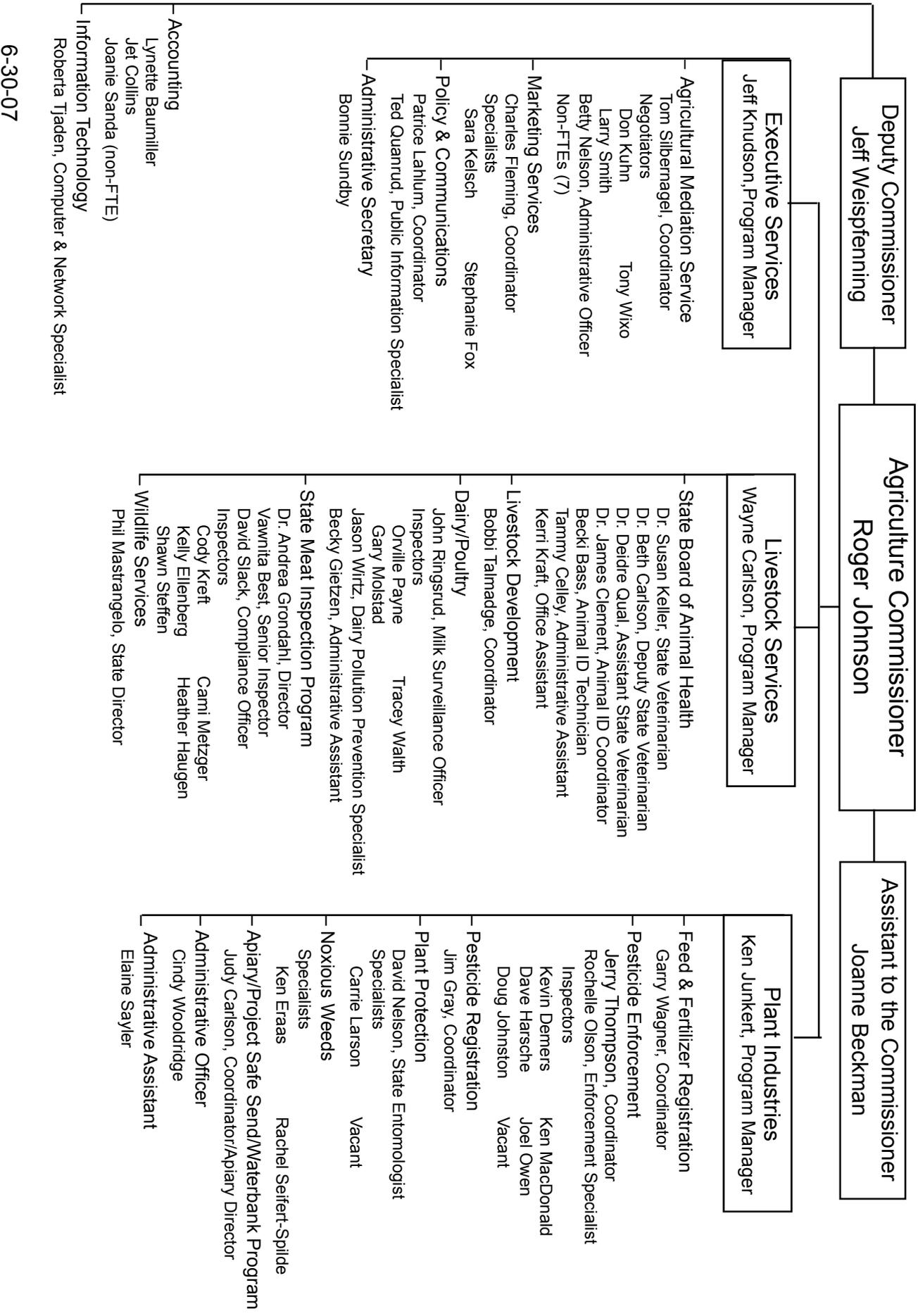
Roger Johnson
Agriculture Commissioner

Mission

The North Dakota Department of Agriculture fosters the long-term well-being of North Dakota by promoting a healthy economic, environmental and social climate for agriculture and the rural community through leadership, advocacy, education, regulation and other services. 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.

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



HISTORY

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-present
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The office of commissioner of agriculture and labor was established in the North Dakota Constitution of 1889. In 1964, voters amended the constitution, dividing the office into two entities – commissioner of agriculture and commissioner of labor, and lengthening the term of office from two years to four. The title of the office was changed to agriculture commissioner by a constitutional amendment, approved by the voters in 1996.

Duties and Responsibilities

Originally, the commissioner's principal duties were the collection and publication of agricultural and labor statistics and enforcement of regulations. The commissioner was also the commissioner of immigration. The responsibilities of the department 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. Collection and publication of statistics is now the responsibility of the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

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

- Promoting improved marketing conditions for North Dakota products, §4-01-19.
- Regulating dairy and poultry industries, §4-30 and §4-13.2.
- Licensing and bonding of livestock auction markets and individuals selling livestock, §36-04 and §36-05.
- Controlling and eradicating bee diseases and licensing of beekeepers, §4-12.2.

- Developing, supervising and participating in programs to protect plant life from disease and insects, §4-32-01 and §4-33.
- 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, §4-21.1.
- Administering and enforcing state and federal pesticide laws, §4-35.
- Licensing and inspection of anhydrous ammonia bulk facilities, §4-38.
- Administering noxious weed laws, §63-10.1.
- Monitoring compliance with established standards by organic producers, §4-38.
- Promoting honey and honey products, §4-12.1.
- Administering the Agriculture in the Classroom program, §4-37.
- Cooperating with federal agencies in controlling animals that cause property damage, §4-01-17.1.
- Administering the State Waterbank program, §61-31.
- Promoting the turkey industry and turkey products, §4-13.1-01.
- Administering the cultivated ginseng law, §4-39.
- Registering crop protection products with Canadian labels, §4-40.
- Licensing industrial hemp growers, §4-41-02.
- Registering animal feeds and licensing and regulating animal feed products, §19-13.1.
- Registering and regulating livestock medicines, §19-14.
- Registering and regulating the sale of pesticides, §19-18.
- Registering and enforcing laws pertaining to fertilizers and soil conditioners, §19-20.1.
- Licensing anhydrous ammonia facilities and enforcing laws related to anhydrous ammonia storage, §19-20.2.
- Administering a state meat and poultry inspection program, §36-24.

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 Equalization
- Agricultural Products Utilization Commission
- N.D. Dairy Promotion Commission
- N.D. Seed Commission
- N.D. Pesticide Control Board
- N.D. Barley Council
- N.D. Crop Protection Product Harmonization and Registration Board
- N.D. Edible Bean Council
- Northern Crops Council
- N.D. Potato Council
- N.D. Oilseed Council
- Soil Conservation Committee
- State Emergency Board
- N.D. Soybean Council
- Ag in the Classroom Council
- State Intermodal Transportation Team
- Governor's Task Force on Blackbird Depredation
- N.D. Disaster Emergency Board
- Interstate Compact on Pest Control
- Wetland Mediation Advisory Board
- USDA Food and Agriculture Council
- Honey Promotion Council
- Waterbank Advisory Board

ADMINISTRATION

Agriculture Commissioner

Roger Johnson

Deputy Commissioner

Jeff Weispfenning

Assistant to the Commissioner

Joanne Beckman

The agriculture commissioner directs the administration of the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA). The present commissioner, Roger Johnson, was first elected in 1996 and re-elected in 2000, 2004 and 2006.

The Farm Bill

As vice-president and then president-elect of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) and as chair of NASDA's Rural Development and Financial Security Committee, Commissioner Johnson was deeply involved in the formulation of NASDA's policy recommendations for the next Farm Bill.

In testimony before Congress, he argued that the new legislation should include:

- A permanently authorized, disaster assistance program, covering both crops and livestock.
- Payment limitations with closing of existing loopholes, such as the "three entity rule" and generic certificates.
- Improved crop insurance, research, renewable energy and conservation programs.
- A livestock indemnity program.

Current versions of the Farm Bill contain all of these provisions.

Pesticide Harmonization

Commissioner Johnson has long supported harmonization of U.S.-Canadian laws, regulations, labeling and pricing of pesticides. He ordered the department's pesticide staff to work closely with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, its Canadian equivalent and the state's congressional delegation in the development of a NAFTA label that would enable cross-border sales of pesticides.

In February 2007, the Arizona-based Gowan Co. received the first NAFTA label for its Far-GO® herbicide that is used to control wild oats, foxtail and other grasses on cereal grains, lentils, sugarbeets, and peas.

Industrial Hemp

Production of industrial hemp has been legal in North Dakota since the 1990s, but federal regulations prohibit growing the crop anywhere in the United States. In 2006, Commissioner Johnson ordered development of rules and regulations to allow industrial hemp production. On

Feb. 5, 2007, he issued the first industrial hemp grower licenses in the U.S. to two North Dakota farmers, David Monson, Osnabrock, and Wayne Hauge, Ray. The licenses are contingent on U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency approval.

Johnson pressed the case for the licenses in a visit to DEA headquarters in Washington and in follow-up letters to the agency.

DEA ultimately refused to honor the licenses. Monson and Hauge subsequently filed a lawsuit against the DEA, asking the federal court to prohibit the agency from prosecuting them for growing the crop.

The Vermont Legislature invited Johnson to testify on North Dakota efforts to legalize the cultivation of industrial hemp. He visited with the Vermont House Agriculture Committee by phone about the issue.

Foreign Trade

Following the successful initial contacts with Cuba, Commissioner Johnson led three trade missions to the Caribbean nation during the 2005-07 biennium. Despite increasingly onerous federal trade restrictions, North Dakota has secured about \$20 million in contracts – mostly for dry peas – from the Cuban government, as of the end of the biennium. Negotiations are continuing to send the first shipment of North Dakota seed potatoes to Cuba.

In May, 2007, Commissioner Johnson was invited by the International Trade Commission to be the lead witness in a hearing, “U.S. Agricultural Sales to Cuba: Certain Economic Effects of U.S. Restrictions.”

Johnson told the ITC that relations with Cuba should be normalized to provide new markets for American agricultural products and, more importantly, to foster capitalism and democracy in the Caribbean nation.

“We have normalized trade relationships with other communist nations, such as China and Vietnam, in the belief that economic engagement, rather than embargoes, will foster open and democratic forms of government and lead to improved human rights for citizens,” Johnson said. “Yet with Cuba, our government continues with the opposite approach, seemingly convinced



Drought hit south central and southwest North Dakota hard in 2006. Here, Allan Lund and Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson examine a field of corn, south of Flasher. The corn should have been three feet tall or higher. Commissioner Johnson chaired the North Dakota Agriculture Drought Task Force, activated by the drought disaster proclamation.

that continued economic isolation and diplomatic slaps in the face will effect positive change.”

Energy Development

Commissioner Johnson and Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, both members of the State Industrial Commission, joined 25 energy industry executives, state regulatory commissioners, environmental advocates and foundation representatives from 11 states in July 2006 on a coal technology and policy fact-finding tour of Germany and the Netherlands, organized by the Great Plains Institute (GPI). The week-long trip included tours of commercial-scale, dry-feed gasification plants. The gasification technologies featured dur-

ing the visit can flexibly respond to changing markets over time by producing diverse energy products from different fuels: coal, renewable biomass and other carbon-rich fuels can be gasified to generate electricity, synthetic gas, liquid fuels, chemicals, fertilizer and hydrogen. These plants can also dramatically reduce conventional air pollutants and have the capability to capture and store carbon dioxide (CO₂) and mercury emissions. Senior Dutch and German government officials and industry executives briefed delegation members on policies and strategies for managing carbon dioxide as part of the European Union's broader policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Johnson and Stenehjem said prospects are excellent for North Dakota to take advantage of new, commercial coal gasification technology.

Renewable Energy and Livestock Development

Commissioner Johnson has continued advocating for the development of new livestock industries in North Dakota to add value to North Dakota grains and processing byproducts. Such projects can be done in a fashion that protects the environment and addresses concerns of local citizens. These efforts have become critically important as local markets for byproducts of ethanol and biodiesel become key to the profitability of these new energy projects.

He has worked to resolve local zoning issues legislatively and to implement new initiatives both administratively and legislatively to support and expand the livestock component of North Dakota's economy. These efforts have included support for funding dairy operations and feedlots through Biofuels PACE, supporting state mandates for ethanol and biodiesel consumption and working with various state stakeholders to reach consensus on state livestock zoning authorities.

Commissioner Johnson also continues to advocate the development of renewable energy industries in North Dakota – namely biodiesel, biomass, ethanol and wind. Commissioner Johnson worked with a number of stakeholders to bring forward several pieces of legislation to promote and provide incentives for developing renewable energy industries.

Johnson supported the creation of the Renewable Energy Council, which will work in consultation with the Industrial Commission to provide financial assistance as appropriate to foster the development of renewable energy, including wind, biofuels, biomass, solar,

hydroelectric, geothermal, and hydrogen. In addition, he supported the creation of a biobased procurement program and the expansion of Biofuels PACE to include ethanol facilities, related livestock facilities and condominium grain storage, and the creation of a biomass incentive and research program to fund a biomass demonstration project for further research and demonstration of biomass production and study of a cellulosic ethanol and nanowhiskers project.

Marketplace for Entrepreneurs and Marketplace for Kids

Commissioner Johnson and U.S. Senator Kent Conrad are the organizing sponsors of the annual Marketplace for Entrepreneurs. Held in January, Marketplace has been described as “a supermarket of ideas, resources and information” for rural development.

The components of Marketplace include:

- Marketplace Day is 10 hours devoted to economic development. Thousands of North Dakotans come together to attend one or more of the more than 100 workshops and visit more than 200 booths, all made possible by more than 1,000 private and public groups, organizations, and volunteers.
- Many organizations and development groups, such as the Northern Plains Inventors Congress, North Dakota Renewable Energy Partnership, New Bohemia, and the Coordinating Council for Cooperatives, hold meetings and programs in conjunction with Marketplace.
- The Marketplace Resource Directory, a comprehensive compilation of economic development ideas, programs and assistance providers, is available on-line at marketplaceforentrepreneurs.org.
- Marketplace for Kids recognizes the important role of youth and their teachers in the long term economic well being of the state. Marketplace for Kids provides a forum for young innovators and youth leaders to showcase their business ideas, inventions, and innovative ideas. Marketplace Education Days were held in Bismarck, Bottineau, Devils Lake, Dickinson, Fargo, Grand Forks, Jamestown, Minot and Williston in the spring of 2006 and 2007. A special Education Day was held in July both years in Cooperstown as part of their regional 21st Century Learning summer school activities.

Marketplace 2006 and Marketplace 2007 were held in the Fargodome. Marketplace 2008 will be held Jan. 14-15, in the Alerus Center, Grand Forks.

EXECUTIVE SERVICES

Program Manager

Jeff Knudson

Agricultural Mediation

Tom Silbernagel

Don Kuhn

Larry Smith

Tony Wixo

Betty Nelson

Marketing Services

Charles Fleming

Sara Kelsch

Stephanie Fox

Policy & Communications

Patrice Lahlum

Ted Quanrud

Reception

Bonnie Sundby

Executive Services includes marketing services and agricultural mediation, and provides policy development, public information and reception services for other program areas within the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA).

Marketing Services

Marketing Services promotes the sale of North Dakota agricultural commodities and value-added products in international, national, regional and local markets.

During the 2005-07 biennium, NDDA aggressively sought to expand markets for North Dakota commodities in Cuba. Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson led three missions with North Dakota companies to Havana. More than \$20 million in sales resulted directly from those efforts. NDDA helped North Dakota companies attend a number of international trade shows in Europe, Asia and North America.

NDDA works closely with Food Export Association Midwest of the USA (Food Export – Midwest) to develop markets for North Dakota companies. Seventeen North Dakota companies enrolled in the Food Export – Midwest Branded Program this biennium.

With more than 430 member companies, the Pride of Dakota (POD) program is the centerpiece of the Marketing Services domestic activities. A new Pride of Dakota Store Program has raised public awareness in Pride of Dakota. Fifty five retailers are a part of that effort.

Taste of Dakota events were held in a number of grocery stores, providing Pride of Dakota members an opportunity to reach new customers. The Wholesale Gift Show continues to attract a large number of vendors and North Dakota retailers interested in carrying their products.

Pride of Dakota School Lunch Day continues to be popular with North Dakota schools. On a special day every March, schools are encouraged to serve North Dakota products. Other Pride of Dakota activities include educational seminars for members, and the Pride of Dakota website – www.prideofdakota.com. This website lists all Pride of Dakota members and their descriptions, including pictures. Pride of Dakota Day at the North Dakota State Fair continues to be an excellent venue for participating companies to display and sell their products.

Excellent member participation at the twice-yearly Minneapolis Gift Mart resulted in increased sales and new distributorships for North Dakota firms.

Marketing Services has actively promoted farmers' markets, holding more than 75 meetings statewide that led to the organization of 27 new markets.



More than 22,000 people – a record – and more than 200 companies – also a record – took part in the 2006 Holiday Showcases. The showcases are held annually in Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks and Minot.

NDDA continues to play an important role in the North Dakota Farmers Market and Growers Association, Inc. (NDFMGA). An annual farmers market conference provides members with educational opportunities. A database of growers, farmers markets and farmers market developers has been established. NDDA has developed an electronic newsletter for members and others interested in promoting the industry. NDDA sponsors the Annual Farmers Market Day at the Capitol in Bismarck. Recognition of the “Dakota Grown” logo continues to grow, as NDFMGA members use it on their produce and consumers look for locally grown foods. There are currently 83 NDFMGA members with 32 member farmers markets.

Marketing Services continued to be active in the development of small hog facilities throughout the state. Working closely with the Cloverdale Growers Alliance and utilizing the minimum price guarantee program and the Soybean Marketing Initiative for Livestock Expansion (SMILE) which was initiated in the previous biennium, the number of slaughter hogs processed at the Cloverdale Foods, Inc. plant in Minot from North Dakota sources increased from 33 percent to more than 50 percent of their total processing.

Marketing Services administers the Honey Promotion Fund with the advice of the North Dakota Beekeepers Association and the Turkey Promotion Fund with the advice of the North Dakota Turkey Federation.

Honey Promotion Fund

Revenue

Honey promotion fees	\$35,254.65
Interest	\$312.40
2003-05 carry-over funds	<u>\$12,994.06</u>
	\$48,561.11

Expenditures

Operating expenses	\$40,645.48
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The North Dakota Honey Promotion Act (NDCC § 4-12.1) assesses five cents on each licensed honeybee colony with a minimum assessment of \$1 per beekeeper. All proceeds are deposited in the Honey Promotion Fund. Any beekeeper who does not wish to participate in the program may ask for a refund of the assessment.

During the 2005-07 biennium, the Honey Fund was used for special promotions and research to benefit the honey industry.

Funded by a producer checkoff, the Turkey Promotion Fund (NDCC §4-13.1) aids in the promotion, marketing and research of turkey products. Processors deduct money from payments to producers and turn the funds over to NDDA for deposit in the promotion fund.

During the 2005-07 biennium, the fund was used to purchase broadcast advertising, supply turkeys to local food banks and sponsor 4-H activities.

Turkey Promotion Fund

Revenue

Turkey checkoff	\$58,034.46
Interest	\$761.19
2003-05 carry-over funds	<u>\$11632.18</u>
	\$70,427.83

Expenditures

Operating expenses	\$35,364.37
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Agricultural Mediation

The North Dakota Agricultural Mediation Service (NDAMS) provides fair, realistic and timely dispute resolution services for any farmer, creditor, or person dealing with a farmer. In addition to the fulltime staff listed on Page 6, NDAMS has three part-time employees located across the state.

Both the Farm Service Agency and Farm Credit Services must offer mediation to delinquent borrowers for debt restructuring and other debt servicing options when these options are less expensive to the creditor than foreclosure.

The 1991 Legislature expanded the NDAMS to provide services to farmers who had disputes in non-credit areas, such as disputes with government agencies, landlords, tenants, seed dealers, etc.

The 2007 Legislature expanded program eligibility to anyone eligible for mediation with an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture. NDAMS offers two principal services – negotiation and mediation. Negotiators assist farmers and ranchers with loan questions, preparation of financial and cash flow statements and loan applications. Negotiators can help farmers and ranchers assess alternatives and help them negotiate with creditors and others. Farmers can request negotiation by calling a toll-free number, (800) 642-4752. All information received is confidential.

During the 2005-07 biennium, NDAMS provided negotiation and financial analysis assistance to 210 new clients.

Introduced in 1989 to reduce farm foreclosures and bankruptcies, mediation is a voluntary process for farmers and creditors, but it is mandatory for FSA and FCS and is requested as a matter of policy by the Bank of North Dakota on delinquent farm loans. Mediators act as impartial intermediaries between farmers and creditors and others in attempting to resolve credit problems outside the court system.

During the 2005-07 biennium, NDAMS mediated 185 cases of 349 requests. Agreement between parties was reached in approximately 78 percent of cases.

Operating policy for the Agricultural Mediation Service is established by the six-member North Dakota Credit Review Board. Two producers are appointed by the agriculture commissioner, while the governor and attorney general each appoint a producer and a representative of a financial institution. The members serve two-year terms.

Credit Review Board

Members of the North Dakota Credit Review Board during the 2005-07 biennium were:

Marilyn Aarsvold, Blanchard

Elwood "Woody" Barth, Solen

Paul Burtman, Wildrose

Russ Erickson, Grand Forks

David Rustebakke, Grand Forks

George Wald, Dickinson

Policy and Communications

Policy and Communications assists the agriculture commissioner by providing research and analyses of issues facing agriculture and the rural community and by serving as a liaison to agricultural organizations, councils and other government entities.

During the 2005-07 biennium, the division researched a wide variety of subjects, including federal farm policy, trade issues, disaster assistance, livestock concentration, crop insurance, value-added agriculture and renewable energy development.

Policy and Communications 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.agdepartment.com.

Agriculture in the Classroom

As North Dakota's population moves away from farms, ranches and smaller communities and into the larger urban areas, fewer people have direct contact with the state's agricultural sector. The 1985 Legislature established the Agriculture in the Classroom program



Policy and Communications organized the first North Dakota Department of Agriculture Photo Contest in 2006. This picture of 19 combines, harvesting the wheat fields of an ill producer in Steele County, was taken by Becky Johnson of Sharon and won first place in the farming category.

(NDCC 4-37-01) to develop educational materials and assist in the training of teachers in an agriculture curriculum. A 16-member council, appointed by the agriculture commissioner, oversees 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. Each edition was devoted to a different subject – biofuels, technology, corn, soil & water, dairy and oilseeds.

Several other projects are now underway to increase agriculture education in all North Dakota classrooms.

Organics

There are approximately 300 organic producers in North Dakota. NDDA follows the National Organic Program rules that became effective in October, 2002. NDDA distributed approximately \$117,796.06 from USDA to organic producers to cover seventy-five percent of their certification costs to a maximum of \$500 per producer over the three-year period, 2003 through 2005. USDA funding for the program has been unavailable in 2006 and 2007. Funding may again after passage of the next Farm Bill.

LIVESTOCK SERVICES

Program Manager

Wayne Carlson

Animal Health

Susan Keller, DVM

Beth Carlson, DVM

Deidre Qual, DVM

James Clement, DVM

Thomas Moss, DVM

Tammy Celley

Becki Bass

Kerri Kraft

Dairy/Poultry

John Ringsrud

Orville Paine

Tracey Walth

Jason Wirtz

Becky Gietzen

State Meat Inspection

Andrea Grondahl, DVM

Vawnita Best

David Slack

Kelly Ellenberg

Heather Haugen

Cody Kreft

Cami Metzger

Shawn Steffan

Livestock Pollution Prevention

Jason Wirtz

Livestock Development

Bobbi Talmadge

Wildlife Services

Phil Mastrangelo - Director

Livestock Services includes duties and functions related to dairy production, animal health, livestock sales, meat inspection and animal damage control. Domestic and nontraditional livestock in North Dakota number an estimated 1.85 million cattle, 169,000 hogs, 105,000 sheep, 1.3 million turkeys, 26,000 bison, 50,000 horses and 8,000 elk, as well as deer, ratites and other non-traditional livestock.

Livestock

Historically, cattle production ranks only behind wheat farming as the most important sector in North Dakota's economy. Swine and sheep production is also important; buffalo and other "exotic" animals are increasingly significant. The Livestock Division protects livestock producers through licensing of livestock dealers and livestock auction markets (NDCC §36-04, 36-05).

Dealers or auction markets are licensed only after posting adequate bond, filing a current financial statement and passing basic tests of financial responsibility. Random visits are conducted to discover unlicensed dealers.

Livestock dealer licenses cost \$50 annually and are valid from July 1 to June 30; livestock 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 web site. Wool dealer licenses are \$10 and are valid from July 1 through June 30.

Dairy

The dairy inspection staff conducts hundreds of annual, on-site inspections of dairy farms, manufacturing and processing plants, and transportation and storage facilities to ensure that North Dakota-produced milk meets stringent federal and state standards (NDCC 4-30).

Inspectors visited the state's 280 dairy farms an average of 2.5 times a 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 130 inspections of distribution facilities and more than 200 inspections of farm bulk trucks and samplers during the biennium.

North Dakota's four fluid milk processing plants and three manufacturing plants are inspected quarterly. Inspectors collect samples of raw milk and finished products monthly at Grade A facilities and quarterly at Manufacturing Grade facilities. Samples are tested for bacteria, somatic cells, coliforms and drug residues by the State Laboratory and private laboratories.

The Dairy Division conducts Manufacturing Grade dairy plant inspections under contract with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The division also conducts the Interstate Milk Shippers (IMS) surveys of 34 listed (certified) producer groups, five plants, and four transfer/receiving stations. 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 (NDCC 4-13.2). The division monitors the movement of chicks, hatching eggs, breeder flocks and hatcheries for compliance with the National Poultry Improvement Plan, which is designed to reduce or eliminate major poultry-related diseases.

The division inspects small flock egg production operations, allowing those producers to market eggs directly to institutions such as schools and nursing homes. There are currently 20 such producers in the state. Poultry licensing, bonding requirements and inspection paperwork are handled by the dairy inspection services coordinator.

Livestock Pollution Prevention

NDDA is in the seventh year of the Livestock Pollution Prevention Program (LP3) that provides educational, technical and financial assistance to livestock producers for manure containment systems. The program worked with approximately 100 livestock producers during the 2005-07 biennium. The program is funded by EPA 319 grants through June 30, 2010.

State Board of Animal Health

The State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) is responsible for protecting the health of all animals in the state, establishing rules and enforcing the laws and regulations pertaining to animal agriculture, and establishing operating policies for the state veterinarian's office.

The nine-member board, appointed by the governor, consists of representatives from the cattle, sheep, swine, bison and nontraditional livestock and dairy industries, as well as two veterinarians.

The state veterinarian diagnoses, prevents and controls animal diseases, monitors new threats, responds to

emergencies and provides information to the public. This is done through close communication with producers, producer groups, veterinarians, veterinary diagnostic laboratories, other state veterinarians, the North Dakota State University Extension Service and state and federal agencies. The recently implemented Private Practitioner Portal is now used as a reporting tool for veterinarians in the field to report diseases or humane complaints. A 21-member Veterinary Reserve Corps has been organized and trained to assist the board's emergency coordinator and the state veterinarian in preparing for and carrying out emergency response-related activities.

BOAH regulates and supervises national animal disease eradication programs in the state (NDCC 36-01-12, 36-14, and 36-15). North Dakota is now considered brucellosis-free, tuberculosis-free and pseudorabies-free. This disease-free status allows the exportation of animals with a minimum amount of testing and health certification. It is necessary to review laboratory reports, field reports, test charts and certificates of veterinary inspection to maintain North Dakota's status in these programs. While the board must meet the requirements of the state in these state/federal disease eradication programs, it must also protect the livestock industry's interest in these programs. The board's staff veterinarians also supervise efforts in the national scrapie eradication program and the national John's disease control program.

The board enforces the law regarding humane treatment of animals (NDCC 36-21). During the 2005-2007 biennium, 90 reports were investigated either directly or indirectly with the cooperation of county sheriffs and practicing veterinarians. The board provides expertise when these cases were prosecuted.

The board supervises and enforces licensing and rules relative to nontraditional livestock, such as deer, indigenous birds and other exotic species. Currently, 133 nontraditional livestock premises are licensed. Elk are considered domestic animals under North Dakota law, but the elk premises and their inventories are approved by BOAH staff. The state currently has 108 approved elk premises.

The board is also responsible for ensuring that sanitation and inspection standards are met at the livestock auction markets in North Dakota. Sixteen livestock auction markets were operating within the state during the biennium. Maintenance and sanitation in auction market facilities are critical to the health and welfare of the animals. Regular inspections are critical in at-

tempting to fulfill the mandate of this section and to provide a safe environment for livestock. The inspections are conducted in cooperation with USDA/APHIS/Veterinary Services personnel and the NDDA Livestock Division. Inspection for disease prior to sale is the function of the auction market veterinarian, who acts as an agent of the board. The inspections are required to prevent spread of disease from farm to farm and to ensure the certificates of veterinary inspection are accurate. The BOAH approves the veterinary inspector recommended by the livestock auction agency. (NDCC 36-05-10)

The board licenses rendering plants in North Dakota under NDCC 36-07. There is currently only one licensed rendering plant in the state.

Any person or company selling products containing modified live germs, cultures or viruses for treatment or vaccination of domestic animals must have a permit from the board and four hours of continuing education per year. The permit also requires proper storage of products and restricts the sale of some products.

The state veterinarian cooperates with the North Dakota Department of Health on zoonotic diseases and with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department on wildlife diseases and nontraditional livestock issues. The office maintains a cooperative working relationship with the federal area-veterinarian-in-charge in North Dakota, collaborating in activities required in national disease eradication or control programs.

Emergency response

The BOAH has an assistant state veterinarian who acts as liaison between NDDA, the State Department of Health and the Division of Emergency Services, as well as other state and federal agencies. This person is responsible for the ongoing development of the animal health emergency plan and the animal emergency incident command system which includes developing standard operating procedures for quarantine, foreign animal disease diagnosis, animal euthanasia and



Photo by Becky Koch, NDSU Agriculture Communications

Members of the North Dakota Veterinary Reserve Corps practice decontamination techniques during a simulated animal disease outbreak

destruction, animal disposal and recovery. This person is responsible for animal health surveillance programs, educating veterinarians in identifying and diagnosing zoonotic and foreign animal diseases, as well as education of producers on protocols and methods to prevent introduction of foreign animal diseases. Funding is provided through a grant from the State Health Department's CDC funding.

Animal ID

Formal discussions on implementation of a National Animal Identification Plan have been taking place for over a decade. They have been facilitated by organizations such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) and the National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA). In 2002 NIAA initiated meetings that led to the development of the U.S. Animal Identification Plan (USAIP). That work provided the foundation for the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) in 2004. NAIS is administered by Veterinary Services (VS) a division of USDA-APHIS. States receive federal funds to implement the NAIS.

BOAH, the North Dakota Stockmen's Association (NDSA), and Dickinson Research Extension Service (DREC)/North Dakota State University (NDSU) have

worked together on animal identification issues. By law, the NDSA administers any federally-sponsored animal ID program for cattle, horses and mules. BOAH is responsible for all other species and is designated by USDA-APHIS to receive and manage the funds that support NAIS implementation and research.

The goals of the Voluntary NAIS include:

- Identifying all animals and premises that have had contact with a foreign or domestic animal disease of concern within 48 hours after discovery.
- Minimizing financial losses associated with foreign animal diseases.
- Improving access to export markets.
- Building public confidence in the products of animal agriculture.

The timelines for implementation of the Voluntary NAIS are:

- July 2005: all states capable of premises registration.
- July 2005: animal identification number system operational.
- January 2008: Premises registration and animal identification required.
- January 2009: Reporting of defined animal movements required.

Meat and poultry inspection

Prior to enactment of the State Meat Inspection Program by the 1999 Legislature, all meat processors in the state were regulated by the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). The Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) allows states to develop and administer state meat and/or poultry inspection programs. These programs must have laws, regulations and procedures that are “at least equal to” those of FMIA (NDCC 36-24). A FSIS-approved state program, receives up to 50 percent federal funding of total program costs. The program initially provided inspection service only for red meat products or livestock including cattle, swine, elk, buffalo and sheep. In 2005 the program was approved for poultry inspection and became the State Meat and Poultry Inspection Program.

Through product and site inspections, registration, product labeling and laboratory testing and in cooperation with other state and federal agencies, the state meat inspection program ensures that meat and meat products slaughtered, processed and/or stored in North

Dakota meet state and federal requirements.

The staff consists of a director/veterinarian, a half time administrative assistant, a senior inspector, a compliance officer/inspector, and six field inspectors.

Because state programs focus on regulating small and medium-sized businesses, they are generally more accessible and more flexible than their federal counterparts that now work almost exclusively with large processors. State programs also provide processors with practical information and technical assistance. North Dakota’s program makes it easier for the state’s meat producers to sell their homegrown beef, pork and other livestock products directly to consumers in state.

The program certifies smaller meat processors to handle meat for sale in state. This creates many new opportunities for small processors that previously, as custom exempt plants, were only able to sell their products at one in-store retail counter. They now have easier access to gaining the certification that allows them to expand their market base through wholesaling. By taking their livestock to smaller processors, producers receive more personal service and retain ownership of the meat.

The program currently regulates 113 processing plants located throughout North Dakota. Thirteen of these plants are “State Inspected” or Official State Establishments at which livestock is slaughtered and/or processed under regulated inspection. An inspector must perform both antemortem and postmortem examinations of each animal and perform various tasks during processing activities. An inspector will perform duties at the establishment anywhere from one hour to 40 hours a week, depending on the amount of work the plant does.

The final products from official establishments carry the state inspection mark with the establishment number. These products may be sold retail or wholesale, but only within North Dakota. An exception is certain nontraditional products, such as buffalo or elk that may be sold out of the state if they meet special criteria.

The other meat processing plants (100) inspected by the division are custom exempt establishments which offer slaughter and/or processing services to the public for a fee. The animal to be slaughtered or the meat to be processed belongs to the customer, not the establishment. All of the products derived from the custom operations must be returned to the owner of the animal. 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 inspect-

ed plant and further processes it for retail sale. Since the additional processing is not done under regulated inspection, the products may only be sold at the retail counter within the plant. The meat inspection division inspects these plants two to four times annually for sanitation and facility requirements.

Wildlife Services

The Wildlife Services program is administered by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture through cooperative agreements with the North Dakota agriculture commissioner, the North Dakota Game & Fish Department, the North Dakota State Health Department and the North Dakota State University Cooperative Extension Service.

A combination of federal and state funding was used to mitigate wildlife conflicts created by coyotes, beaver, and waterfowl. During the 2005-2007 biennium, Wildlife Services responded to 800 reports of predator damage to livestock resources. Actions taken by Wildlife Services protected approximately 12 percent of the state-wide calf inventory and 47 percent of the state's sheep inventory. Assistance was also provided to state and county highway departments, water resource districts, and landowners who reported 750 incidents of beaver damage. Wildlife Services trapped problem animals and removed 102 beaver dams with binary explosives. In cooperation with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, Wildlife Services also assisted farmers who reported Canada goose damage

to grain crops. A combination of frightening devices and special depredation permits were used to mitigate 200 occurrences of damage. Wildlife Services also continued its state-wide technical assistance program. Informational leaflets and specialized equipment were provided free of charge to landowners and homeowners to resolve their own specific wildlife conflicts. Assistance was provided to 3,000 individuals; more than 4,000 information leaflets were distributed, and 250 capture devices were lent out.

Federal funding was also used to manage blackbird damage to sunflower crops. Wildlife Services identified 8,900 acres of cattail-choked wetlands that served as roost sites for blackbirds. An EPA-approved aquatic herbicide was aerially applied to 421 roost sites. Dispersal of the birds from their roosts helped to minimize damage to surrounding sunflower fields. The cattail management program benefited 140 landowners in 37 counties. Frightening devices such as propane cannons and pyrotechnics were also distributed free of charge to sunflower producers.

Federal funding was also used by both Wildlife Services and the North Dakota Game and Fish Department for avian influenza surveillance. This collaborative effort was part of the national avian influenza surveillance project. Through a cooperative grant, Wildlife Services provided the NDGFD with federal funding to sample 1,000 birds. Wildlife Services also sampled 1,000 birds and collected another 1,000 environmental samples. The highly pathogenic strain of avian influen-

PLANT INDUSTRIES

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Noxious Weeds

Ken Eras

Rachel Seifert-Spilde

Pesticide Registration

Jim Gray

Feeds/Fertilizer/Anhydrous

Garry Wagner

Cindy Wooldridge

Apiary/Project Safe Send

Judy Carlson

Elaine Saylor

Plant Industries is responsible for North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) functions and duties related to crop production. These include pesticide enforcement and compliance assistance, plant protection, noxious weed control, apiary regulation, and the state Waterbank program. Other pesticide-related programs include the pesticide water quality program, the endangered species protection program, the Worker Protection Standard, and the pesticide registration program. Plant Industries administers several registration and licensing programs, including fertilizer, feed, pet foods, and veterinary medicines.

Pesticides

Pesticides protect the health and well-being of people, domestic animals and crops from insects, rodents, weeds, fungi and other pests. Used improperly, however, pesticides can endanger human health and the environment. The 1975 Legislature created the North Dakota Pesticide Control Board, chaired by the agriculture commissioner, to administer state pesticide laws and regulate the distribution, storage, transportation, disposal and application of pesticides.

In cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), NDDA developed and implemented the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) to better protect workers and pesticide handlers from pesticide exposures in farm, forest, greenhouse, and nursery settings. NDDA personnel provided outreach to help businesses and farms comply with the worker protection standard. Inspections were conducted to monitor compliance and provide additional education.

As part of the pesticide water quality program, NDDA works to protect groundwater and surface water from pesticide contamination. The department established the Water Quality Advisory Committee with partner state and federal agencies, to advise NDDA and prioritize resources. NDDA published "Protecting North Dakota's Groundwater from Pesticide Contamination", to educate the public on strategies and best management practices to protect groundwater from pesticides. The department also worked with the advisory committee to create the North Dakota Groundwater Sensitivity Mapping Program, a searchable, internet-based platform that enables pesticide users to identify those areas with groundwater resources especially susceptible to pesticide contamination and those pesticides that have the greatest potential to leach into groundwater.

North Dakota was the first state to establish an endangered species protection program. 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 department also contracted Bemidji State University to assess more than 80 pesticides to determine those that pose a risk to listed species. EPA funds 85 percent of NDDA's pesticide responsibilities. State funds provide the balance.



NDDA conducted 32 Project Safe Send collections during the 2005-07 biennium, enabling farmers, ranchers and others to dispose of banned, hazardous and unusable pesticides. More than 171 tons of unusable pesticides, including obsolete and dangerous products, such as Paris green and toxaphene (shown above), were collected from 880 participants. Since the program's inception in 1992, more than 2 millions pounds of unusable pesticides were collected, shipped out of North Dakota and destroyed.

Pesticide Enforcement

To ensure and improve compliance with pesticide laws and rules, Pesticide Enforcement randomly inspects pesticide dealers and commercial and private applicators. Pesticide Enforcement conducted 1,489 inspections during the 2005-2007 biennium. As a result of these inspections, NDDA issued 387 warnings and assessed civil penalties to 156 parties. 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 risks associated with pesticide misuse and to gain compliance with pesticide laws and rules.

Pesticide Registration

During the biennium, the Pesticide Registration program registered approximately 10,000 pesticides (NDCC 19-18). These pesticide products included 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 and that it 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 ten Section 24(c) Special Local Needs (SLN) registrations during the past biennium to address pests of local concern. There were 26 uses available in North Dakota in the past biennium under Section 18 emergency exemptions, including two Section 18 crisis exemptions.

Noxious Weeds

North Dakota's Noxious Weed Law (NDCC § 63-01.1) requires individuals to eradicate or control noxious weeds on land they own or control. The Noxious Weeds Division coordinates the efforts of county and city weed boards and state and federal land managers to implement integrated weed management programs.

Through NDDA's appropriations, county weed boards are able to offer cost-share funding to

landowners for noxious weed control. During the 2005-2007 biennium, 43 counties were reimbursed for chemical and biological control of noxious weeds through the Landowner Assistance Program (LAP). Seven county weed boards were reimbursed for biological control of noxious weeds through the Biological Control Non-LAP.

NDDA reimbursed 34 county weed boards for surveillance, mapping and control or eradication of new invasive weed species. Saltcedar funds were distributed to 29 counties for saltcedar survey, mapping and control work.

NDDA's Cooperative Weed Management Grant Program encourages and enhances cooperative weed management efforts between county and city weed boards, private landowners and state and federal agencies. In the 2005-2007 biennium, grants were awarded to Barnes, Renville and Ward County weed boards for surveying, mapping and controlling purple loosestrife plants, educating the public and growing native liatris plants to exchange for purple loosestrife plants.

NDDA funding enabled 40 county weed boards and the North Dakota Weed Control Association to buy data logger Global Positioning System units, software, laptop computers and technical assistance for mapping weed infestations within their jurisdictions.



Houndstongue (see inset) is a new, invasive weed found in North Dakota. Ward County weed officer Ferrill Fick and County Weed Board member Chuck Weiser show Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson the location of houndstongue infestations southeast of Minot.

NDDA and the Information Technology Department collaborated on the preliminary North Dakota Hub Explorer Weed Mapper that displays historical and current noxious and invasive weed locations and related information online. Users can create and print their own weed maps by selecting the years of weed data and weed species they would like to display. Additional information – transportation, water, geopolitical boundaries, etc. – can be displayed on additional layers.

NDDA administers a Weed Free Forage Program according to the North American Weed Management Association standards. Sixteen producers had 404 large round bales and 7,354 small square bales certified weed free during the last biennium.

The U.S. Forest Service granted NDDA \$325,914 during the 2005-2007 biennium to manage the USFS leafy spurge and cooperative weed management programs. Program funds are funneled through the NDDA to county and city weed boards, state agencies and private landowners through a cost-share program.

NDDA participates in both the Lake Oahe and Lake Sakakawea Noxious Weed Task Forces that focus on large-scale survey and control efforts for saltcedar along North Dakota's lakes and rivers.

North Dakota's Noxious Weeds

- Absinthe wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium* L.)
- Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis* L.)
- Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense* L.)
- Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans* L.)
- Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula* L.)
- Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria* L.)
- Russian knapsweed [*Acroptilon repens* (L.) DC.]
- Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe* spp. *micranthos*)
- Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa* Lam.)
- Saltcedar (*Tamarix* spp.)
- Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis* L.)
- Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria genistifolia* spp.)

Noxious weed control funding

Programs	General Funds	Special Funds
Grants to counties	\$94,044.10	\$1,094,983.80
Grants to cities		6,292.35
Grants to ND Weed Control Assn.		<u>5,718.84</u>
	\$94,044.10	\$1,106,994.99
Federal programs		
	Federal funds	
USFS Leafy Spurge	\$150,349.54	
USFS Co-op Management	175,564.40	
Invasive Plant	<u>6,919.51</u>	
	\$332,833.45	

Plant Protection

Safeguarding agronomic field crops, horticultural crops and grasses used for livestock production from plant pests is the responsibility of Plant Protection (NDCC 4-33). Plant Protection also facilitates the export of North Dakota plants and plant products by providing export certification services.

All 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. Plant Protection conducts annual inspections of nursery growers for insects and diseases, allowing for both in-state and out-of-state sale. Nursery stock at dealer locations is inspected to detect and prevent pest introductions and to enforce viability and hardiness requirements. Plant Protection works with the industry to prevent the introduction of stem rust-susceptible barberry and ensure compliance with state and federal black stem rust quarantines. Nursery inspections allow North Dakota to maintain its 'protected' status under the Federal Black Stem Rust Quarantine.

Plant Protection cooperates with USDA-APHIS under the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey Program. This program includes exotic pest surveys, pest surveys to generate data to enhance the exports of North Dakota agricultural products and pest surveys on other pests of mutual interest to state and federal government.

Plant Protection provides export certification services to exporters to satisfy the plant pest regulations of other states and foreign countries. A memorandum of understanding with USDA-APHIS allows issuance of federal phytosanitary certificates.

In-transit origin certificates are issued for wheat and barley grain moving through Canada to destinations in the U.S., and origin certificates are issued for wheat and barley rail shipments to California to meet California cereal leaf beetle quarantine requirements.

Plant Protection maintains compliance agreements with elevators to certify corn shipments for compliance with California European corn borer quarantine, evaluates federal permit applications to move plant pests into the state and reviews federal permit and notification applications to introduce genetically modified plants into the state.

Feeds/Fertilizer/Livestock Medicine Registration

Registration enforces state laws relating to commercial feeds (NDCC 19-13.1), livestock medicines (NDCC 19-14), fertilizers and soil conditioners (NDCC 19-20.1) and anhydrous ammonia facilities (NDCC 19-20.2).

Approximately 3,728 commercial feeds and 4,677 pet foods are registered in the state. During the 2005-07 biennium, 820 feeds and pet food samples were collected and tested. Between 5 and 10 percent of the samples showed discrepancies between labeling and actual content. Letters were sent to the manufacturers of these products, requesting corrections, and in a few instances, stop sale orders were issued. During the same period, 306 feed manufacturers and 246 feed retailers were licensed. As of the end of the biennium, 1,388 livestock medicines were registered in the state.

A total of 2,542 fertilizer products, ranging from home and garden fertilizers to commercial agricultural fertilizers and soil conditioners were registered in the biennium. During that time, 555 fertilizer samples were collected for testing. Approximately 14 percent of the samples revealed discrepancies between manufacturer claims and actual content. Letters were sent to manufacturers of the products, and in a few cases, stop sale orders were issued. There were 493 fertilizer distributors licensed in the state.

By the end of the biennium, 346 anhydrous ammonia facilities were licensed in the state.

Tonnages collected during the last biennium are Fertilizer 2,970,237 tons reported, and Feed 857,774 tons.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration contracted NDDA to conduct medicated feed plant inspections, tissue residue inspections, and bovine spongiform encephalopathy inspections.

Apiary

North Dakota was the nation's leading state in honey production in 2006, producing 25.9 million pounds of honey from 382,585 colonies.

The Department of Agriculture is responsible for licensing all beekeepers, registering bee yard sites and inspecting bee colonies for diseases and parasites.

NDDA licensed 183 beekeepers in 2005 and 179 in 2006, while 9,748 apiary locations were registered in 2006, compared to 9,717 in 2005. Most beekeepers are

migratory, moving their operations to warmer climates in winter.

A major activity of Apiary is the inspection of beehives for diseases, including American foulbrood (AFB) and European foulbrood (EFB), sacbrood and chalkbrood. Inspectors also check for varroa mites, an external parasite, and for small hive beetles.

Apiary inspectors also conduct pesticide inspections to ensure compliance with pesticide labeling. New bee pests have resulted in increased pesticide usage.

State Waterbank Program

A cooperative effort of five state and federal agencies, the State Waterbank Program provides participating landowners with financial incentives to preserve wetlands and adjacent habitat.

Created by the North Dakota Legislature (NDCC 61-31), the Waterbank Program is administered by the Department of Agriculture with participation by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, the State Water Commission, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The program provides 5- or 10-year leases to landowners who agree not to "drain, burn or fill or otherwise destroy the wetland character" of the leased property or use the land for agricultural purposes, including cultivation, grazing or haying.

No new funds were generated from state or federal sources, so there were no new leases this biennium.

STATE FAIR

Fair Manager
Bob Wagoner

North Dakota law (NDCC 4-02.1-26) requires that an annual report of the 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 North Dakota State Fair and the North Dakota State Fair Association for the 2005-07 biennium, please refer to the 2005 and 2006 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



Chef Dave Castillo serves up his award-winning cuisine during the Taste of Dakota contest during Pride of Dakota Day at the 2005 State Fair.

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

For the Period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2007

	Original Appropriation	Current Appropriation	Expenditures	Remaining	Percent remaining
Expenditures by Line Item					
Salaries and Wages	5,783,517.00	5,894,809.41	5,333,058.95	561,750.46	10%
Operating Expenses	4,255,875.00	4,403,499.11	3,993,724.07	409,775.04	9%
Capital Assets	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	100%
Grants	1,774,225.00	1,884,725.00	1,585,441.57	299,283.43	16%
Board Of Animal Health	2,036,027.00	2,251,665.00	2,056,926.62	194,738.38	9%
Wildlife Services	130,000.00	260,000.00	130,000.00	130,000.00	50%
Crop Harmonization Board	25,000.00	25,000.00	24,675.55	324.45	1%
Total Expenditures	14,009,644.00	14,724,698.52	13,123,826.76	1,600,871.76	11%
Expenditures by Funding Source					
General Fund	4,523,112.00	4,834,951.52	4,732,283.52	102,668.00	2%
Federal Funds	4,978,896.00	5,252,111.00	4,609,525.79	642,585.21	12%
Special Funds	4,507,636.00	4,637,636.00	3,782,017.45	855,618.55	18%
Total Expenditures by Source	14,009,644.00	14,724,698.52	13,123,826.76	1,600,871.76	11%