

NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Biennial Report
2011 - 2013



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

DOUG GOEHRING, COMMISSIONER

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A Message from the Commissioner

My Fellow North Dakotans,

All North Dakota can take pride in the achievements and contributions of the state's 31,000 family 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 more than a dozen important commodities, including spring wheat, durum, barley, sunflowers, canola, dry edible peas and beans, oats, flax, honey and more. North Dakota is now among the top 10 corn and soybean producing states.

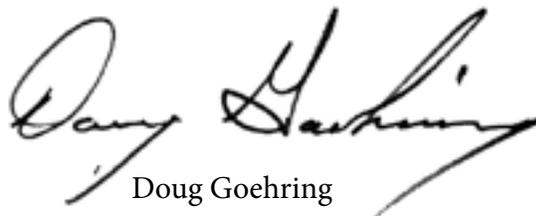
They have done this despite less than optimal growing conditions. Too much moisture in some parts of the state and severe drought in others significantly reduced yields for many producers and prevented the planting of hundreds of thousands of acres. Plant diseases, insects and other plant pests caused 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 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. 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Goehring". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Doug Goehring
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.

AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER

Doug Goehring

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
Tom Bodine

ASSISTANT TO THE COMMISSIONER
Jody Reinke

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Ken Junkert, Director

FISCAL MANAGEMENT

Account Budget Specialist
Lynette Baumiller
Administrative Officers
Lindsay Schatz Samantha McGrath
Grant & Procurement Specialist
Jeannie Jacobs-Kopp
Administrative Assistant
Hazel Hoger

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Computer & Network Specialist
Roberta Tjaden
Geographic Information System Specialist
Jim Hansen
NORTH DAKOTA MEDIATION SERVICE
Administrator
Vacant
Negotiators
Jim Hoffert (non-FTE) Jim Lost (non-FTE)
Vacant (2)
Administrative Officer
Betty Nelson

MARKETING & INFORMATION

Dana Pritschet, Director

Marketing Specialists
Jamie Good Sonia Mullaly
Kelly Wald Erin Markestad
Policy Analysts
Britt Aasmundstad Karl Doan
Public Information Officer
Ted Quanrud
Grant Administrator
Emily Edlund
Administrative Assistant
Bonnie Sundby

PESTICIDE & FERTILIZER

Jim Gray, Director

Environmental Scientist
Jerry Sauter
Enforcement Coordinator
Blake Schaan
Pesticide Program Specialist
Jon Krei
Pesticide Outreach
Jeremiah Lien
Fertilizer Specialist
Eric Deizer
Fertilizer Auditor
Patrick Hart
Inspectors
Sara Beaudrie Josh Odden
Kevin Coufal James Jeske
Ken MacDonaid Darrell Haseleu
Derek Woehl Vacant
Administrative Assistant
Brandy Kiefel

LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT

Wayne Carlson, Director

Livestock Development Specialists
Nathan Boehm Amber Boeshans
Livestock Pollution Prevention Specialist
Jason Wirtz
Feed Specialist
Dave Phillips
Administrative Assistant
Becky Gietzen Angela Rittmiller

DAIRY INSPECTION

Milk Surveillance Officer
John Ringsrud
Dairy Inspectors
Orville Payne

Gary Molstad

STATE MEAT & POULTRY INSPECTION

Director
Dr. Andrea Grondahl
Senior Inspectors
Shaun Quissell
Compliance Officer
David Slack
Information Coordinator
Nathan Kroh
Inspectors
Heather Andersen
Joshua Eperly
Whitney Vogel
Cami Metzger
Relief Inspector & Meat Grader
Julie Nilges

Cody Kretf

PLANT INDUSTRIES

Carrie Larson, Director

Plant Protection Specialists
Charles Elhard Lane Kozel
Samantha Brunner Vacant
Noxious Weed Specialist
Rachel Seifert-Spide
Administrative Assistant
Elaine Saylor

ANIMAL HEALTH

Dr. Susan Keller, State Veterinarian

Deputy State Veterinarian
Dr. Beth Carlson
Assistant State Veterinarian
Vacant
Livestock Field Investigator
Justin Maddock
Avian Influenza Coordinator
Jeanne David (non-FTE)
Administrative Assistant
Tammy Celley
Office Assistants
Kathy Hoffman Kimberly Spear

WILDLIFE SERVICES*

State Director
Phil Mastrangelo
* 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 memorandum of agreement with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and the North Dakota Game and Fish Department.

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, §4-01-19.
- 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.
- 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 honey and honey products, §4-12.1.
- Promoting the turkey industry, §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 pesticide sales, §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 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. State Seed Commission
- N.D. Pesticide Control Board
- N.D. Crop Protection Product Harmonization and Registration Board
- Northern Crops Council
- Soil Conservation Committee
- State Emergency Board
- 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
- Crop Insurance Development Board
- Ag in the Classroom Council
- State Board of Animal Health
- Food Export Association of the Midwest USA
- Natural Areas Acquisition 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

The 2011-13 Biennium: A Timeline

2011

July 5 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring urges North Dakota residents to check their storage areas for any unusable pesticides and then bring them to one of 12 sites in the upcoming Project Safe Send collections.

July 6 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring visits the emergency pet shelter in Minot and asks for more volunteers to help care for more than 400 animals temporarily housed there.

July 11 – Commissioner Doug Goehring cautions home and business owners, and especially agricultural producers in flooded areas, to have all flood- and moisture-damaged buildings inspected and properly treated for mold.

July 14 – Livestock producers along the Mouse and Missouri rivers are urged to consult their veterinarians about vaccinating their animals for anthrax. The state veterinarian, Dr. Susan Keller, asks producers to monitor their herds for unexpected deaths and report them immediately.

July 20 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring appoints Mike Martin, Forbes, and Gerald Melvin, Buffalo, to two-year terms on the North Dakota Credit Review Board (CRB). The CRB formulates policy for the North Dakota Mediation Service and advises the Industrial Commission on Bank of North Dakota farm loan programs.

July 21 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring approves \$54,000 in grants to develop and conduct Agriculture in the Classroom Council programs for the 2011-12 school year. The grants include: North Dakota Farm Bureau, \$34,500; North Dakota FFA Foundation, \$12,000; North Dakota State University, \$4,500, and the North Dakota Geographic Alliance, \$3,000.

July 26 – Commissioner Goehring says a draft environmental assessment and draft land protection plan for the proposed Dakota Grassland Conser-

vation Area show a marked bias against agriculture and rely on outdated information. “The statements made against agriculture are troublesome,” Goehring told the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). “I believe these statements are biased, and the documents fail to recognize agriculture’s many benefits to wildlife.”

July 27 – The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) will distribute more than \$1 million dollars among 49 counties and one city for noxious weed control during the 2011-13 biennium. Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring said NDDA and the North Dakota Weed Control Association have developed the Landowner Assistance Program and the Targeted Assistance Grants “to provide a fair and effective means of getting this money to local weed control boards.”

July 29 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring commends federal officials for allowing emergency haying and grazing of conservation acres in five North Dakota counties. “The North Dakota office of the USDA’s Farm Service Agency acted promptly and decisively in dealing with this situation,” Goehring said. “A lot of producers out there will need the additional hay and forage to keep their herds intact.”

Aug. 8 – Almost 95 tons of unusable pesticides are collected and transported out of North Dakota in 2011 through Project Safe Send. “More than 380 people brought in a total of 189,996 pounds,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “These numbers clearly indicate a continuing need for a program for farmers, dealers and homeowners to get rid of potentially dangerous chemicals.”

Aug. 8 – Farmers and ranchers in eight flood-impacted counties may be eligible for federal disaster unemployment assistance. “The temporary income assistance is available to workers, including farmers and ranchers, whose work has been lost or interrupted by a major disaster, and who may not qualify for regular unemployment benefits,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring.

Aug. 11 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring advises pesticide users and dealers that Rozol Prairie Dog Bait®, a rodenticide for managing black-tailed prairie dogs, has been cancelled by the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) because of a recent court decision. “The cancellation of Rozol will hurt our ranchers who use it to effectively control prairie dogs on their operations,” he said.

Aug. 17 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring calls a meeting of the agriculture community to discuss the farm bill. “With the recent passage of the budget control act, I believe there is a good chance that the 2012 farm bill will be decided this fall,” Goehring said. “Essentially we have until Oct. 14 to provide input on farm bill programs that we feel are priority when it comes to supporting our North Dakota farmers and ranchers.”

Aug. 18 – Organic producers can use the National Organic Cost Share Program to recoup 75 percent of their certification costs for fiscal year 2011. “Organic producers, processors and handlers can receive up to \$750 of their certification costs,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. Last year North Dakota was one of the five top recipients in the nation from this program with 147 producers and processors receiving \$105,651.

Aug. 18 – North Dakota food companies with overseas exports can use the the 2012 Branded Program to obtain financial assistance in promoting their brand name food and agricultural products in foreign markets. “This is a major opportunity for export companies to reach more overseas customers,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “Participants receive up to 50 percent reimbursement on eligible marketing and promotional activities.” The Branded Program is administered by the Food Export Midwest.

Aug. 24 – Organic crop and livestock producers can now use online classified advertising to find buyers for their products, while organic buyers can use the same service to locate producers. “The North Dakota Organic Farming website, www.ndorganics.nd.gov/, offers free, online classified advertisements to any farmer or company listed in the site’s online directory,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “Once listed in the

directory, individuals and companies can use the classified section to list products for sale or products they are looking to buy.”

Aug. 26 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring activates the North Dakota Harvest Hotline for farmers who need combining services and independent combiners looking for work. “Producers and combiners are already calling in,” he said. “Because of the delayed planting in many parts of the state, the harvest is spotty, and that’s putting a lot of pressure on both producers and combiners.”

Aug. 31 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring extends the special local needs (SLN) registration for pre-harvest use of Touchdown CT to help flax growers control Canada thistle and other weeds. Goehring also issues a new SLN registration to Monsanto Company for RT 3® herbicide, also for pre-harvest weed control in flax fields.

Sept. 6 – The State Board of Animal Health fines Donald and Brandon Hatzenbuhler of Solen, \$5,000 for violating North Dakota’s importation requirements. The Hatzenbuhlers said they believed the cattle were from South Dakota, but documentation proved all but one of the animals were from Texas. North Dakota requires additional tuberculosis and brucellosis testing of cattle from Texas.

Sept. 6 – Gardeners and growers are urged to donate extra produce to organizations helping those in need. “Donations for the Hunger Free ND Garden Project are making their way to food pantries, soup kitchens and charitable organizations across the state,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “Our goal is 500,000 pounds of fresh produce donated to food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and charitable organizations.”

Sept. 8 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring and 26 agricultural, financial and conservation organizations tell the state’s congressional delegation that crop insurance, agricultural research, trade and a strong safety net are the priority issues for North Dakota in the negotiations leading up to the 2012 Farm Bill. “The recommendations show significant support and consensus for programs that North Dakota producers find most impor-

tant to maintaining the health of the state's most important industry.”

Sept. 13 – Commissioner Goehring appoints Karri Stroh, LaMoure, and Twyla Stroh, Tappen, to two-year terms on the North Dakota Organic Advisory Board. He also reappointed Brad Brummond, Park River; David Podoll, Fullerton; Kevin Kvamme, Kindred; Grayson Hoberg, Harvey, and Lowell Kaul, Harvey, to two-year terms on the advisory board. The board provides the North Dakota Department of Agriculture with information and ideas to better identify and meet organic industry needs. The members represent organic producers, processors, retailers, consumers and certifiers.

Sept. 15 – The sixth annual Pride of Dakota Day at the State Capitol transforms the statehouse into a North Dakota products shopping mall. “It’s an opportunity for Capitol visitors and state employees alike to shop for high quality Pride of Dakota products and to meet the people who make them,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. More than 50 Pride of Dakota companies were selling and sampling foods and condiments, decorative items, jewelry, art and other products. The Capitol Cafe featured a menu made from Pride of Dakota products.

Sept. 21 – The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture unanimously adopts Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring’s policy amendment, supporting changes allowing producers dealing with excessively wet/flooding conditions to plant a cover crop or forage without a reduction in prevented planting payments. “This policy could help mitigate future prevented planting claims by utilizing surplus soil moisture, helping to reduce soil salinity and enhancing soil microbial activity, as well as providing much-needed forage and hay for livestock producers affected by flooding,” Goehring said.

Sept. 22 – Pride of Dakota, the North Dakota Department of Agriculture’s flagship marketing program, recently passed a major milestone, when The Master’s Hand, Mandan, became its 500th member company. “The hard work of member companies; the efforts of our marketing staff, and the patronage of thousands of loyal customers

have made Pride of the Dakota the successful and popular marketing program it is today,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring.

Oct. 4 – Commissioner Doug Goehring shares Pride of Dakota School Lunch with students at Sunrise Elementary School in Bismarck. An estimated 45,000 young people from 90 school districts across the state participated in the 10th annual event.

Oct. 6-7 – Commissioner Doug Goehring leads federal officials on an environmental and technology tour and conducts two agricultural group roundtable discussions. “We want to demonstrate the latest in agricultural production technology and techniques to leading Environmental Protection Agency officials,” Goehring said. “We also want to give farm groups an opportunity to discuss federal regulations and policy with the people who implement those policies.” The tour included stops in Morton, Burleigh and Cass Counties.

Oct. 5 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring awards 10 grants totaling more than \$640,000 to promote the development and cultivation of specialty crops in North Dakota. “Specialty crops, such as vegetables and fruits, are increasingly important in North Dakota, as more consumers look to local food sources, especially for fresh produce,” he said. Specialty crops are defined as “fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits and horticulture and nursery crops, including floriculture.”

Oct. 18 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says a declaration by federal officials that no plans are underway to regulate dust in agricultural operations is welcome news. “The very real possibility that the Environmental Protection Agency could use existing rules and regulations under the Clean Air Act to govern dust from farming and ranching operations was a matter of grave concern to our producers.”

Oct. 20 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says the new deadline for some farmers and ranchers to meet the Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) regulations is welcome, but does not address core problems with the rules. “I am pleased that the Environmental

Protection Agency has advanced the deadline for compliance deadline for farms and ranches that went into operation after August of 2002,” Goehring said. “Unfortunately, many if not most North Dakota operations were in existence before that.” SPCC requires operations storing less than 10,000 gallons of fuel and other petroleum productions to have approved plans in case of spillage. Farms storing more than 10,000 gallons must have an engineer certify the plan and containment structure.

Oct. 25 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring predicts North Dakota will benefit from the passage of the new trade agreements with South Korea, Columbia and Panama. “Most American products exported to these countries will become duty-free immediately on implementation of the agreements,” Goehring said. “This translates into increased export opportunities for North Dakota agricultural products, such as wheat, soybeans and pulse crops.” North Dakota’s agricultural exports, estimated at \$3.3 billion in 2010, support an estimated 27,700 on-farm and off-farm jobs.

Nov. 3 – The North Dakota Department of Agriculture website has a new look and a new address. “The new website is more attractive and much better organized,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “Users will find it easy to navigate and to locate the information they need.” The new website address is www.nd.gov/ndda.

Nov. 3 – The 2011 Commissioner’s Dairy Producers Award for Excellence is presented to Bryan and Vicki Hoesel and their son Russ of New Salem during during the 2011 North Dakota Dairy Convention in Mandan. “The Hoesels’ record of compliance with state and federal dairy laws and regulations for somatic cell counts, bacteria counts and overall quality standards is exemplary,” said Wayne Carlson, North Dakota Department of Agriculture livestock development division director, representing Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. The Hoesels milk 115 cows, and raise wheat, barley, sunflowers and corn.

Nov. 7 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring reappoints Kim Alberty, West Fargo, Agassiz Seed; Aaron Anderson, North Dakota Department of Career and Technical Education, Bismarck;

Nancy Jo Bateman, North Dakota Beef Commission, Bismarck; Sheri Coleman, Northern Canola Growers Association, Bismarck; Kirk Olson, McKenzie County Farm Bureau, Arnegard, and Wendi Stachler, North Dakota State University graduate student, Kindred, of the newly reorganized North Dakota Agriculture in the Classroom Council.

Nov. 22 – A form of an infectious and often fatal disease usually associated with deer has been found in North Dakota cattle. “Epizootic hemorrhagic disease has been confirmed in three head of cattle in Morton and Grant counties,” said Dr. Susan Keller, North Dakota state veterinarian, who urged livestock producers to contact their veterinarians if their animals display oral erosions or lameness. She emphasized the disease poses no threat to human health.

Nov. 22 – The Pride of Dakota website has a new look and is easier to use than ever. “When Pride of Dakota recently passed the 500 member mark, we thought it would be a good time to upgrade the website,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. The website’s address remains www.prideofdakota.com. It can also be accessed by clicking on the Pride of Dakota logo on the NDDA website, www.nd.gov/ndda.

Nov. 30 – The North Dakota Department of Agriculture and the North Dakota Agricultural Association present the 2011 North Dakota Outstanding Pesticide Dealer of the Year award to CHS Milton in Milton, and the 2011 Outstanding Applicator of the Year award to Rocky Rice from Hunter Grain Co. in Hunter. The awards were presented during the Northern Ag Expo at the FargoDome in Fargo. The winners were nominated by North Dakota Department of Agriculture pesticide inspectors.

Dec. 12 – More than 30,000 shoppers – an all-time record – took part in the 2011 Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcases. “The Bismarck, Fargo and Grand Forks showcases all posted record numbers,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “More and more North Dakotans are finding quality and value in Pride of Dakota products, while many Pride of Dakota companies see the Holiday Showcase as the best way of reaching a statewide market.” Attendance in Grand Forks,

Nov. 5-6, was up 600 to 6,200. In Fargo, 8,300 shoppers, up 800, took part in the Nov. 18-20 event, while 11,130 shoppers, an increase of 1,750, attended the Dec. 2-4 showcase in Bismarck.

Dec. 13 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring issues a special local needs registration to Y-TEX Corp., allowing sheep producers to use Python™ Insecticide Cattle Ear Tags to protect their animals from Cache Valley virus. The mosquito-borne disease can cause abortions, stillbirths, congenital abnormalities and weak lambs.

Dec. 14 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring asks the U.S. Forest Service to allow the use of mediation in all issues related to the agency's management of its lands. Goehring said most grazing agreements with the Forest Service in North Dakota are not with individual ranchers, but with grazing associations that obtain grazing agreements and then sublet tracts to individuals.

Dec. 14 – The North Dakota Department of Agriculture announces a series of public meetings in Bismarck, Devils Lake, Minot, Dickinson and Valley City in January to collect comments and suggestions regarding state regulation of animal feed. Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring said “The department is reviewing the feed regulatory program to determine if it meets the needs of today's industry and consumers.”

Dec. 15 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring issues a special local needs registration to Aceto Agricultural Chemicals Corp., giving North Dakota dry edible bean producers more flexibility in using Halomax 75™ herbicide to control common ragweed. “This registration allows post-emergent application, giving growers more flexibility when weather does not allow applications prior to the plants' emergence,” Goehring said. North Dakota leads the nation in dry edible bean production.

Dec, 27 – Inspections conducted by the North Dakota Department of Agriculture in 2011 show compliance with pesticide laws and regulations among the state's producers, pesticide applicators and dealers remains high. “By emphasizing education and a mix of regulatory and non-regulatory

approaches, we have helped users know and understand what they must do to comply with the law,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “As a result, compliance is almost 80 percent.”

Dec. 28 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring is asking corn growers to participate in a statewide, online survey on the extent of pheasant damage to their crop. “The survey results will help determine whether an emergency exemption is needed in 2012 allowing corn growers to use Avipel® to repel pheasants,” Goehring said. “The results to determine whether the use is needed statewide or just certain parts of the state.”

2012

Jan. 1 – Responsibility for inspecting anhydrous ammonia tanks and facilities is now with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA). “Until now, the Agriculture Department has been responsible for enforcing state laws and regulations regarding anhydrous ammonia and licensing facilities, while the Insurance Department has conducted the inspections,” said Commissioner Goehring. North Dakota currently has 337 licensed facilities.

Jan. 10 – Weed control officials from across the state met for the 2012 North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner's Weed Forum, held in conjunction with the North Dakota Weed Control Association annual meeting. “The forum is an opportunity for county and city weed officers and weed board members to network with North Dakota State University weed scientists, pesticide industry representatives and state and federal weed control personnel, and to gather information on the latest weed control issues,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring.

Jan. 11 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring presents the 2012 Commissioner's Weed Control Partner Award to Leon Pederson, Langdon, Cavalier County weed officer. “Mr. Pederson actively works with landowners, cooperative groups, such as the North Dakota Weed Control Association, and other agencies toward common

goals,” Goehring said. “He effectively uses state and federal funding to acquire new technology to improve Cavalier County’s weed control program.”

Jan. 24 – Commissioner Goehring schedules listening sessions in Bismarck and Fargo to gather public comment on priorities for the 2012 USDA Specialty Crop Grant Program and to provide information about the program’s application process. “The purpose of the specialty crop block grants is to give fruit, vegetable and other specialty crop producers a competitive edge in today’s marketplace,” Goehring said. “We want to hear from those producers and consumers on how we can best allocate these funds and to tell them how they can apply for a specialty crop grant.”

Jan. 26 – Commissioner Goehring and the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services honor a Minot animal shelter and four Minot residents for leading the effort to shelter pets during the 2011 Mouse River flood. Certificates of recognition were presented to: the Souris Valley Animal Shelter; Susan Wagers, director, and the staff; Jay Fisher, director of the North Dakota State University North Central Research Extension Center (NCREC), where the emergency shelter was located; Chad Anderson, a seed production specialist, NCREC; John Dhuyvetter, an extension livestock systems specialist, NCREC, and Lee Novak, NCREC agricultural research technician.

Jan. 31 – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has accepted North Dakota’s plan for protecting endangered species from harmful exposure to pesticides. EPA’s acceptance of the North Dakota Endangered Species Protection Plan for Pesticides provides a platform for exchanging information between the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) and EPA and provides that EPA decisions on pesticide use will be based on the latest and best-documented data.” The plan calls for NDDA to supply EPA with state specific information to use in risk assessments; stakeholders to offer input and recommendations, and enables NDDA to help plan and implement mitigation and management plans.

Feb. 9 – Larimore farmer David Rustebakke is elected chairman of the North Dakota Credit

Review Board (CRB). First appointed to the CRB by Gov. Edward Schafer in 1993, Rustebakke has been reappointed to nine consecutive terms on the six-member board. The CRB establishes policy for the North Dakota Mediation Service and advises the Industrial Commission on Bank of North Dakota farm lending programs.

Feb. 17 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announces the availability of up to \$75,000 to fund research related to the health of honeybees. “The State Legislature appropriated this money in response to both the importance of beekeeping in our state and the growing severity of bee health problems,” Goehring said. North Dakota leads the nation in honey production.

Feb. 23 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring establishes a new grant program to encourage the planting of community and school orchards. “Fruit and nut trees not only supply fresh food, but add considerably to the beauty of our communities and schools,” Goehring said. “We also hope this program will increase access to fresh, locally grown fruit and will foster a build-up of community spirit by bringing people together to plant and tend these orchards.” Goehring said communities and schools are eligible for grants of \$500 to \$7,000 dollars through the Local Foods Initiative.

Feb. 27 – The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) announces a statewide series of eight listening sessions to discuss and gather input on proposed changes to North Dakota’s pesticide rules. “Most of the proposed changes simply make the rules easier to read and understand, but some of the changes are more substantial,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “We especially want to hear from stakeholders – farmers, ranchers, applicators and pesticide dealers – before the department begins the actual rule-making process.” Goehring said the proposed rule changes include: adopting EPA container and containment regulations; requiring dealers to include EPA registration numbers on records; requiring bulk pesticide dealers to include their business name and address on bulk pesticide storage tanks, and eliminating posting requirements for private applicators and homeowners.

March 7 – Kim Alberty, co-founder and chairman of Agassiz Seed and Supply, West Fargo, is elected chair of the North Dakota Ag in the Classroom Council. The North Dakota Agriculture in the Classroom program helps teachers integrate agricultural information into the science, math, social studies, language arts and other classes they teach. The program offers a variety of curricula and class lesson development materials, training seminars, a magazine and other tools for teachers to use to make agriculture part of the school day.

March 8 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announces the winners of the 2012 Pride of Dakota essay and poster contests. “These essays and posters clearly explain and illustrate the theme ‘Why Is Agriculture Important to North Dakota.’” Winners are: Savannah Canen, 13, Hebron Public School, won the essay contest; Ari Jenson, 10, Dakota Elementary School at the Minot Air Force Base, won the poster contest; Paige Larson, 14, Larimore High School, and Ethan Horner, 14, Middle Valley School, Grand Forks, were the second and third-place winners in the essay contest; Ping Kuang, 10, Grimsrud Elementary School, Bismarck, and Andrew Marabella, 10, North Plains Elementary School, Minot Air Force Base, took second and third in the poster contest.

March 20 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says developing and expanding markets for North Dakota agricultural commodities, especially soybeans, is a major focus of the state’s, 10-day trade mission to China. In Beijing, Goehring, joined by representatives of the Northern Food Grade Soybean Association, met with officials of the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, the Chinese agency responsible for import-export food inspection and certification. “We want to introduce our hosts to our soybeans, particularly food-grade soybeans from the upper Midwest,” said Goehring, who grows soybeans on his Menoken farm and is a former director of the United Soybean Board. In Shanghai, North Dakota Department of Agriculture marketing specialist Stephanie Sinner coordinated the Food Export – Midwest pavilion at Food Ingredients China, the largest food ingredients trade show in Asia.

March 22 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring urges people who have and use pesticides to make sure these chemicals are kept out of the reach of children. “This is National Poison Prevention Week, a time for parents and caregivers to make sure their chemicals and pesticides are in locked cabinets and out of the reach of children,” Goehring said. “Poison centers across the country annually receive more than 150,000 calls involving pesticides and disinfectants.”

March 30 – More than 37,000 head of cattle have been enrolled in the first 18 months of a new age and source verification program. “Signing up for North Dakota Verified Livestock is easy and completely voluntary,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “Producers are finding that this program efficiently and effectively adds value to their cattle through age and source verification.”

April 16 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says agritourism holds promise for additional income to farmers and ranchers, while giving agriculture a powerful tool for telling its story. “Agritourism activities can put much-needed dollars into farmers’ pockets, extra income that can be crucial some years,” Goehring said. “At the same time, agritourism builds bridges between our rural and urban communities, helping city dwellers better understand what farmers and ranchers do and how agriculture affects all of us.”

April 23 – Citing a significant increase in rabies cases, North Dakota animal health officials are urging pet owners to make sure their animals are vaccinated against the disease. “We have already had 40 confirmed cases this year,” said Dr. Beth Carlson, deputy state veterinarian. “That’s double the 20 cases we had in 2011.” Carlson said the cases have been found in cattle, horses, sheep, cats, bats and a large number of skunks.

May 1 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring urges recently graduated veterinarians to consider a program that will repay a significant part of their student loans by establishing practice in certain areas of the state. Veterinarians who commit to practicing in these areas for at least three years may have up to \$25,000 of their student loan debt repaid per year through the national Veteri-

nary Medicine Loan Repayment Program.

May 9 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring awards nearly \$20,000 in grants to plant trees and orchards in communities and schools. “The North Dakota Community Orchard Project aims to increase access to fresh, locally grown fruit and foster community spirit by bringing people together to plant and tend these orchards,” he said. The grants were awarded to Aneta Specialty Crop Group - \$7,000; City of Sheyenne Tree Board - \$5,400; Elgin/New Leipzig Public School - \$800; Cankdeska Cikana Community College Land Grant Program, Fort Totten – \$4,000; and North Dakota State University - \$2,500.

May 11 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring urges McHenry County farmers and ranchers to document their damaged acreage from last year’s Mouse River flooding and to estimate the amount of forage that land would have produced. “This information is needed to address the issues of lost forage, damage to some land and debris covering the landscape in multiple areas,” he said. “If we know the extent of the damage and the lost production, we can make a better case for assistance.”

May 20-26 is Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week in North Dakota. “In just 10 years, emerald ash borer has spread across more than a dozen states, killing tens of millions of ash trees,” said Commissioner Goehring. “Now that it has reached Minnesota, it is more important than ever for North Dakota to take action to prevent it from coming here.” The state has approximately 78 million ash trees and ash is one of the primary trees species in many North Dakota communities as well as in rural plantings and native forest areas.

May 30 – Project Safe Send, North Dakota’s annual collection of unusable pesticides, will be conducted at 12 locations in July. The collections are scheduled for Harvey, Bottineau, Minot, Tioga, Killdeer, Hettinger, Bismarck, Jamestown, Lisbon, Langdon, Larimore and Casselton.

May 31 – North Dakota homeowners are encouraged to talk with a trusted nursery dealer, horticulturist or local extension agent before buying

and planting nursery stock for their property.

“This is the time of year many homeowners are planting trees and shrubs in their yards,” says Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “By planting hardy stock, they help ensure that they won’t be digging up the same trees and shrubs next year.” State law requires that all trees and shrubs, designated by the agriculture commissioner as non-hardy must be labeled “non-hardy in North Dakota.”

May 31 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring calls on gardeners and produce growers to help feed North Dakota’s needy – many of them children – by growing extra vegetables and fruit for the 2012 Hunger Free ND Garden Project. “One in nine North Dakotans seeks food assistance every year, and almost half of them are children,” Goehring said. “It is a sad reminder that even in a state that produces so much food for the world, people are going hungry among us.” Goehring said the goal for the garden project is a half million pounds of produce.

June 6 – The 2012-13 edition of the North Dakota Local Foods Directory is available both in print and online from the North Dakota Department of Agriculture. “This 54-page directory lists more than 160 farmers markets, roadside stands, pick-your-own gardens and home delivery produce operations,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “It’s your guide for finding fresh fruits and vegetables, eggs, jams and jellies, beef, goat, lamb, poultry and other locally-sourced products.”

June 11 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring appoints Velva farmer Tom Bodine as deputy commissioner in the North Dakota Department of Agriculture. As deputy commissioner, Bodine will oversee the organization of NDDA and its day-to-day operations. A Minot native, Bodine graduated from Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC. He returned to North Dakota in 1996 to work with his brother on the family farm. He has also been working with the North Dakota Farm Bureau as a leadership development assistant.

June 20 – The State Board of Animal Health relaxes importation requirements for cattle from all areas of Minnesota, except a small tract, formerly

known as the “Bovine TB Management Zone.”

“Dr. Susan Keller, North Dakota state veterinarian, said North Dakota will continue to require a negative, whole herd TB test and a 60-day, negative TB test for individual animals from herds within the former bovine TB management zone, a small area in northern Minnesota.

June 21 – The State Board of Animal Health has revised its importation order regarding bovine trichomoniasis. “The order now applies to open (non-pregnant) cows that may be a source of trichomoniasis introduction into herds in North Dakota,” said Dr. Susan Keller, the state veterinarian. The revised order now includes the statement: “No non-virgin and non-pregnant female cattle may be imported for breeding purposes into North Dakota.” A venereal disease of cattle, trichomoniasis can cause early pregnancy loss, abortion and infection of the reproductive system.

June 25 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring notifies North Dakota landowners with available pasture and grazing land that Wyoming livestock producers are in need of land available for leasing. “Wyoming farmers and ranchers have been dealing with severe to moderate drought in the eastern part of the state since early spring,” Goehring said. “The situation has reached a critical point, and many producers are looking elsewhere for grazing land for their animals.”

June 25 – North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring is elected president of the Midwest Association of State Departments of Agriculture (MASDA) during the group’s annual meeting in Indianapolis. “This is shaping up to be a very important year for American agriculture, especially in regard to the Farm Bill,” Goehring said. “I look forward to leading the discussion on policy issues significantly affecting Midwestern farmers and ranchers.” MASDA is comprised of the state agriculture commissioners, secretaries and directors of North Dakota, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Goehring said MASDA’s next annual meeting will be in June 2013 in Medora. Goehring was also elected vice president of the Food Export Association

of the Midwest USA., a non-profit organization that promotes the export of food and agricultural products from the midwestern region.

June 29 – The North Dakota Department of Agriculture conducts a workshop in Washburn to help weed control officials and landowners identify and control houndstongue. Native to Eurasia, houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale* L.) is a biennial herb reaching four feet in height. Houndstongue contains alkaloids that can cause irreversible and sometimes fatal liver damage in cattle and horses.

June 29 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring approves more than \$54,000 in grants to develop and conduct Agriculture in the Classroom Council programs in the 2012-13 school year. “These programs provide teachers with lesson materials and other tools to help them make agriculture part of everyday learning for their students,” said Goehring. The grants include North Dakota Farm Bureau, \$31,440; North Dakota FFA Foundation, \$14,000; North Dakota State University, \$4,900; North Dakota Geographic Alliance, \$3,500 and CropLife America, \$320.

July 3-5 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring meets with a 13-person delegation from Turkey visiting North Dakota to learn more about the state’s agriculture and higher education. The delegation visited the North Dakota Stockmen’s Association, the National Sunflower Association, the Northern Lights Dairy, the Sinner Brothers & Bresnahan farms at Casselton and Red River Commodities, the Northern Crops Institute and the NDSU Beef Research Center, all in Fargo.

June 10-15 – For the first time, Pride of Dakota has a pavilion at the Red River Valley Fair in West Fargo. Twenty-four companies took part.

July 12 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring urges McHenry County farmers and ranchers impacted by the 2011 Mouse River flood to learn if they qualify for special use grazing and haying permits on the J. Clark Salyer Refuge. “The regional director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has informed me that the agency is issuing special use permits to provide local ranchers with haying and grazing opportunities on the refuge,” he said.

July 23 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring asks federal authorities to allow early grazing of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres in Bowman and Hettinger Dakota counties. The State Technical Committee requested that the Farm Service Agency (FSA) allow emergency grazing on CRP acres in the two counties during the primary nesting and brood rearing season.

July 26 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says he is encouraged that the U.S. Department of Agriculture is streamlining the process to open Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres for emergency haying and grazing in drought-stricken counties. “It has been a difficult year for many of our North Dakota livestock producers to source feed, and this will certainly help,” he said.

July 30 – Dr. Susan Keller, the state veterinarian, reminds cattle producers who send their livestock to pastures in other states that those animals must meet state importation regulations on both departure and return. She said North Dakota landowners who are pasturing out-of-state livestock must likewise be sure those animals meet North Dakota importation requirements.

Aug. 1 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring activates the North Dakota Harvest Hotline for farmers who need combining services and independent combiners who are looking for work. “Thanks to an early start to the growing season, the small grains harvest is already well underway, and that’s putting a lot of pressure on producers and combiners to get the crops harvested quickly,” he said.

Aug. 8 – The Japanese beetle, a serious plant pest widely found in the eastern U.S. has been detected in North Dakota for the second time in 11 years. The insects defoliate a broad range of plants, including corn, soybeans, ornamentals, trees, and shrubs, especially roses and lindens.

Aug. 9 – North Dakota farmers, ranchers, homeowners and others bring in a record amount of old, unusable and banned pesticides – more than 145 tons – in the 2012 Project Safe Send collections. “This year’s total far exceeds the previous record of 108 tons in 2010,” said Agriculture

Commissioner Doug Goehring. The collections were conducted during July in 12 communities: Bismarck, Bottineau, Casselton, Harvey, Hettinger, Jamestown, Killdeer, Langdon, Larimore, Lisbon, Minot and Tioga.

Aug. 13 – Kristi Doll of New Salem is appointed to the North Dakota State Board of Animal Health, succeeding Nathan Boehm, Mandan, who served 14 years as the dairy representative on the nine-member board. A veterinary technician, Orr and her family operate a dairy and grain farm.

Aug. 14 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring orders that haying and grazing be immediately allowed on land contracted to the State Waterbank Program due to drought conditions. Goehring said the haying and grazing can now be conducted by the landowners without a reduction to their lease payment.

Aug. 15 – The state veterinarian is urging horse owners to have their animals vaccinated against West Nile virus (WNV) and to contact their veterinarian if their horses show symptoms of WNV. “It is very important to call your veterinarian immediately to collect samples for diagnostic testing,” said Dr. Susan Keller. “The symptoms of WNV infection may be similar to those of rabies.” Keller said North Dakota is experiencing a number of equine WNV cases, some fatal.

Aug. 16 – Applications are now being accepted for reimbursement of organic certification costs through the National Organic Cost Share Program for fiscal year 2012. “Organic farmers, ranchers, processors and handlers can receive up to \$750 of the organic certification costs they incurred between Oct. 1, 2011 and Sept. 30, 2012,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring.

Aug. 27 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says the Environmental Protection Agency has approved his request for a Section 18 emergency exemption for Hopguard, enabling North Dakota beekeepers to use the pesticide to control Varroa mites, a major parasite of bees. North Dakota leads the nation in the production of honey, producing 32.7 million pounds of honey in 2010.

Aug. 30 – The Environmental Protection Agency

has revised the labeling of Rozol Prairie Dog Bait®, and the product is now registered in North Dakota and nine other western states. Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring credited the EPA with seeing the need for effective tools for land managers to control black-tailed prairie dogs. “The agency stood firm against a lawsuit and petition to cancel the registration for Rozol,” Goehring said. “After a court eventually ordered them to cancel the use, they issued revised labeling, so our livestock producers could regain use of the product.”

Sept. 5 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says the North Dakota Mediation Service (NDMS) can help eligible North Dakota farmers and ranchers deal with necessary paperwork for federal disaster assistance. “Farmers and ranchers in drought-affected areas should keep good records of their losses and expenses related to the drought,” Goehring said. “These records will be necessary for any additional assistance in case a new Farm Bill takes a retroactive approach to livestock and crop disaster programs.”

Sept. 12 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring is encourages farmers and ranchers to look into a new, federal program to help them develop value-added enterprises that use agricultural products. “USDA’s Value-Added Producer Grant Program provides grants of up to \$100,000 for economic planning activities and up to \$300,000 for working capital,” Goehring said.

Sept. 12 – Commissioner Doug Goehring says new federal guidelines for school lunches do not address the nutritional needs of many children and should be revised especially in regard to restrictions on meat protein. “The guidelines are currently based on a “one-size-fits-all” formula without consideration of individual needs, especially those of physically active and growing students,” Goehring said. “The guidelines deprive these students of sufficient calories and protein for healthy growth and mental alertness.”

Sept. 14 – The North Dakota State Board of Animal Health clarifies the trichomoniasis requirements for cattle entering North Dakota, allowing female cattle, including cow/calf pairs, to enter the state unrestricted only if the cows are confirmed

pregnant or accompanied by their own calf prior to rebreeding. Non-pregnant females may only be imported if they are virgin heifers or if they are restricted to dry lot premises for feeding and slaughter only. A venereal disease of cattle caused by the protozoan *Trichomonas foetus*, trichomoniasis can result in widespread infertility and abortion.

Sept. 15-16 – More than 2,700 shoppers fill the Dickinson Recreation Center during the fourth annual Pride of Dakota Harvest Showcase. “The Harvest Showcase has obviously become an established event in Dickinson, drawing both local shoppers as well as people from out of town,” said Commissioner Goehring. A total of 79 Pride of Dakota companies participated in the event, selling and sampling foods, decorative items, jewelry, art, apparel and other North Dakota-made products.

Sept. 17 – The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) approves a policy statement declaring the group’s opposition to “restrictive dietary guidelines on meat protein and calories served through the National School Lunch and Breakfast program that do not take into consideration individual needs, especially those of physically active and growing students.” Introduced by North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring during NASDA’s annual meeting in Des Moines, the policy statement calls the new guidelines “well-intentioned, but falling short of providing a comprehensive policy for educating students in healthy living.”

Oct. 1 – A case of anthrax is found in a Stark County beef cow, the first confirmed in the state this year. The state veterinarian, Dr. Susan Keller said an effective anthrax vaccine is readily available through licensed veterinarians. She said dry pastures and short grass in some parts of the state are ideal conditions for livestock to ingest anthrax spores and develop the disease.

Oct. 2 – More than 31,000 students from 132 North Dakota schools lunch on food products from their own state during the 11th annual Pride of Dakota School Lunch Day. “Highlighting the North Dakota food products grown by our farmers and ranchers and that are processed by local businesses helps educate students on how their food is

raised and produced,” said Commissioner Doug Goehring, who shared lunch with students at St. Mary’s Elementary School in Bismarck.

Oct. 4 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring awards 10 grants totaling more than \$600,000 to promote the development and cultivation of specialty crops in North Dakota. “These grants are designed to increase production and sales of North Dakota specialty crops such as fresh fruits, vegetables, confection sunflowers, beans, peas, lentils, wine grapes, potatoes and more,” Goehring said. Organizations and agencies receiving grants include: Foundation for Rural Resource Management and Sustainability – \$40,996.30; National Sunflower Association – \$76,100; North Dakota Department of Agriculture – \$92,285.19 and \$20,000; Northern Plains Sustainable Agriculture Society – \$92,150; Northern Pulse Growers Association – \$93,320; North Dakota State University – \$27,000 and \$19,197; Williston Ag Diversification Group – \$93,320.

Oct. 8-12 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says North Dakota’s first trade mission to Colombia in four years shows promise for a long and profitable trade relationship. “This is the beginning of a new effort to establish a strong trading relationship with the goal of becoming a main supplier of quality products to Colombia,” said Goehring, who returned Sunday, with the North Dakota delegation. “We were able to identify a number of new trade opportunities.” The delegation also included the North Dakota Trade Office (NDTO), the U.S. Commercial Service and six North Dakota companies: Case New Holland, ECHO Bear Cat, JM Grain, Lura Enterprises, Northharvest Bean Growers and RDO Equipment. Delegates met with potential buyers in the cities of Bogota and Medellin. I

Oct. 16 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring encourages farmers and anhydrous ammonia dealers to get their anhydrous nurse tanks ready for next spring. Goehring said staff from the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) will visit businesses and farms on request to help tank owners get their tanks into compliance.

Nov. 5 – A public hearing is set for Dec. 4, to

gather comments on proposed changes in rules regarding dairy inspection, state meat and poultry inspection and anhydrous ammonia programs in the North Dakota Department of Agriculture. Commissioner Doug Goehring said the proposed amendments to the dairy and state meat and poultry inspection program rules harmonize them with federal standards as required by law.

Nov. 7 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring urges the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to reconsider proposed new regulations he says will adversely and unnecessarily impact North Dakota growers, exporters and government agencies. Goehring said he is especially concerned by the number of phytosanitary certificates that would be required. “The North Dakota Department of Agriculture issues about 2,500 certificates each year,” he said. “If the new CFIA rules go into effect, that number of certificates could potentially increase to more than 27,400.”

Nov. 13 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring presents the 2012 Commissioner’s Dairy Producers Award for Excellence to Corne and Conny Van Bedaf of Carrington during the 2012 North Dakota Dairy Convention, sponsored by the North Dakota Milk Producers Association. “The Van Bedafs have an exceptional record of compliance with state and federal dairy laws and regulations for somatic cell counts, bacteria counts and overall quality standards,” said Wayne Carlson, North Dakota Department of Agriculture livestock development division director, who represented Goehring. “Their farm has an outstanding inspection record.”

Nov. 28 – “Normalization of trade relations between the U.S. and Russia means the world’s fifth largest importer of agricultural products is now an open market for North Dakota,” says Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring who will be a member of a U.S.-Russia Agribusiness Trade Mission, Dec. 3-7. Other participants include the agriculture secretaries or directors of Idaho, Missouri and Oklahoma, and representatives of more than 20 U.S. agriculture businesses and commodity groups. During the mission to Moscow and St. Petersburg, the delegation will visit Russian farms,

processing facilities and food retail operations and meet with officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Economic Development.

Nov. 29 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says North Dakota is selling more commodities overseas. During the recently-ended fiscal year, North Dakota Department of Agriculture issued more than 2,500 phytosanitary certificates,” Goehring said. “That is 30 percent more than the previous year’s total.” Phytosanitary certificates track the inspection of agricultural commodities and certify compliance with the plant health standards of importing countries. The 2012 certificates indicate that North Dakota’s leading customers include Mexico, Canada, Taiwan, the Dominican Republic, India, Thailand, Pakistan, China, South Korea, Vietnam, Italy and Spain.

Dec. 4 – More than 34,000 shoppers – the most ever – participated in the four Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcases in November and December 2012. “The Bismarck and Fargo Showcases both posted all-time record attendance figures,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “The Bismarck Showcase was not only the largest ever in terms of attendance but also in the number of vendors and number of display booths.” Goehring said the new attendance total passed the previous mark by 3,084. “The Bismarck Showcase was up by almost 3,000 shoppers,” Goehring said. “The new total of 14,107 is the most for any Holiday Showcase ever.” In Fargo, 9,583 people exceeded the previous record by 1,194. Attendance at the Grand Forks Showcase, Nov.3-4, was 6,038, down about 160 from last year’s record number. The Minot Showcase, held Nov. 10-11, drew 4,283 customers.

Dec. 5 – 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. Wholesale Ag Products-West of Underwood, owned and managed by Chad Olson, was named the 2012 North Dakota Outstanding Pesticide Dealer of the Year. Dennis Horpestad, Langdon, an applicator with CHS Milton, was named 2012 Outstanding Pesticide Applicator of the Year.

Farmers Union Oil Co of Westhope, represented by Kevin Schroeder and Craig George, was named the 2012 Outstanding Anhydrous Ammonia Dealer of the Year.

Dec. 10 – A leading spokesperson for agribusiness company Monsanto is the featured speaker at the annual meeting of North Dakota commodity councils and agriculture associations. Janice Person, public affairs director for Monsanto, joined North Dakota farmer and blogger Val Wagner, Monango, in an afternoon panel discussion of digital strategy in issues management. Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring, who is hosting the meeting, welcomed the group. Representatives of each of the state’s 13 commodity councils gave brief presentations outlining their new or high priority issues for 2013. They also addressed what they see as priorities in the coming year for the North Dakota Department of Agriculture. The meeting of the commodity councils is mandated by state law.

Dec. 18 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says the Environmental Protection Agency has approved his request for a Section 18 specific exemption for amitraz,” Goehring said. “This exemption gives beekeepers another valuable tool to protect their beehives from Varroa mites.” Goehring said varroa mites are the most serious pest problem facing beekeepers, and can completely devastate bee colonies if left uncontrolled.

Dec. 27 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says pesticide manufacturers, dealers and applicators should review recent changes in North Dakota’s administrative rules related to pesticide use and storage. Goehring said the changes include clarifying commercial certification classes; adding military deferment provisions; adding language to meet equivalency for federal container/containment regulations; expanding spill kit requirements to include public applicators; exempting private pesticide users from storage signage requirements, and adding discretionary authority for pesticide certification applications.

Dec. 27 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring is urging North Dakota farmers and ranchers to participate in the 2012 Census of Agriculture.

“This is a major opportunity for farmers and ranchers to influence the decisions that will shape the future of their operations, their communities and the entire agricultural industry,” Goehring said. “Information gathered in the census impacts farm programs and rural services that support our communities.” The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is mailing out census forms in late December to collect data for the 2012 calendar year. Conducted every five years, the Census of Agriculture is a complete count of all U.S. farms, ranches and those who operate them. It examines land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and other topics.

2013

Jan. 3 – The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) has commenced a legal action in Cass County District Court seeking a \$49,000 judgment against the North American Bison Cooperative (NABC) for its failure to meet an agreement to pay for cattle it had purchased from six producers. “The cooperative agreed to pay the six producers a total of \$324,674 for cattle bought as far back as October 2010,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring.

Jan. 3 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says compliance with state and federal pesticide laws and regulations is at an all-time high in North Dakota. “The pesticide and fertilizer division of the North Dakota Department of Agriculture conducted a record 1,042 inspections of farms and businesses in 2012,” Goehring said. “More than 840 were found to be in compliance. That means 81 percent inspected by NDDA during the year were in compliance with the law.” Goehring credited the high compliance rate in large part to the department’s outreach and compliance assistance program.

Jan. 8-10 – Weed control officials from across the state gather in Mandan for the 2013 North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner’s Weed Forum and the annual meeting of the North Dakota Weed

Control Association (NDWCA). “This is an opportunity for the North Dakota Department of Agriculture to discuss issues and program updates with city and county weed officers and weed board members, as well as North Dakota State University weed scientists and federal weed control personnel,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “The event focuses on developing cooperative programs and strategies to provide weed control more efficiently and economically.”

Jan. 9 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring presents the 2013 Weed Control Partner Award to Ward County weed officer Derrill Fick. “Derrill is a real leader in North Dakota weed control efforts, especially in education,” Goehring said. “His county weed survey is one of the very best in the state.” Fick has served as Ward County weed officer since 1998.

Jan. 10 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring issues a special local needs registrations to Arkion Life Sciences LLC, allowing North Dakota corn farmers to use Avipel® Hopper Box Corn Seed Treatment and Avipel Liquid Seed Treatment to repel ring-necked pheasants. “Over the past 10 years, pheasant populations have risen to levels in some parts of the state to cause significant economic loss to corn growers,” Goehring said. The products are non-toxic to pheasants or other birds.

Jan. 15 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says the Environmental Protection Agency has approved his request for a Section 18 emergency exemption for Hopguard®, enabling North Dakota beekeepers to continue using the pesticide to control varroa mites. “Varroa mites are the most serious pest problem facing beekeepers. Left uncontrolled, they cause deep and widespread losses in bee colonies,” Goehring said. “The exemption gives North Dakota beekeepers another tool for protecting their hives and reducing their losses.

Jan. 18 – The North Dakota Department of Agriculture and North Dakota Game and Fish Department launch a cooperative project to connect coyote hunters and trappers with landowners who would like to reduce coyote populations in their areas. The “Coyote Catalog,” project creates an online database similar to what ND Game and

Fish has used for the past several years to match deer hunters with farmers/ranchers who have wanted to decrease deer populations on their land. Landowners will receive information on hunters interested in hunting and/or trapping in their county and will need to make the initial contact with prospective hunters. Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says, "This is a critical issue for livestock producers, especially entering calving and lambing season."

Feb. 7 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announces that volunteers in the Hunger Free ND Garden Project donated more than 222,800 pounds of fresh produce to food pantries, soup kitchens and other charitable community programs in 2012. "The project is a vital partnership between those who have produce to share and those who receive it," Goehring said. "It fosters stronger community ties by bringing people together and meeting real needs that exist on a daily basis." The statewide project encourages home gardeners and commercial growers to plant extra produce each year for donation to charitable organizations across the state.

Feb. 14 – The nation's leading state agriculture officials say their focus on a new Farm Bill will be on programs and services that enable farmers and ranchers to more efficiently produce and market commodities and livestock. Members of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture recently visited Capitol Hill to discuss their ideas about the new farm legislation with members of Congress. "One of our major concerns is continued funding for state-federal cooperative programs, such as dairy inspection, meat and poultry inspection, plant export inspection and animal health programs," said North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. "These programs, conducted by the states with federal funds, are critical to delivering services that maintain the safety of our food supply, protect the health and welfare of animal agriculture and ensure our commodities can be exported."

Feb. 21 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring says \$20,000 is available to help North Dakota communities and schools plant an orchard in

2013. "The Community Orchard Project provides funds to North Dakota communities and schools to raise locally grown fruit, while fostering community spirit that builds local service opportunities by bringing together people to plan, plant and tend to the orchard," he said. Communities and schools can apply for grants of \$500 to \$7,000.

March 6 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announces that applications are now being accepted for 2013 Specialty Crop Grants. "These grants underwrite projects that promote the production, processing and use of specialty crops in the North Dakota," Goehring said. USDA's Agriculture Marketing Service is expected to award North Dakota about \$600,000 for the grants. "Some of the eligible applications for this money include developing new and improved seed varieties, reducing distribution costs, investing in specialty crop research, enhancing food safety, pest and disease control and developing local and regional food systems," he said. USDA defines specialty crops as "fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits and horticulture and nursery crops, including floriculture."

March 16-23 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring leads 14 North Dakota companies on a trade mission to China, to showcase the state's high-quality agricultural commodities and food products to some of the China's largest food manufacturers and processors. The event includes a conference and exhibition designed to further introduce North Dakota's high-quality food ingredients to the Chinese food manufacturing market. China's growing middle class and appetite for higher quality foods are reflected in its growing demand for the types of commodities we produce in North Dakota," Goehring said. "We are well-positioned. This mission is also a great opportunity to emphasize the nutritional attributes of our commodities."

March 11 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring issues a special local needs (SLN) registration to FMC Corporation enabling North Dakota dry bean producers to manage kochia and ALS-resistant kochia with Broadaxe® Herbicide. "Kochia is among the most troublesome weeds for

dry bean producers,” Goehring said. “Left uncontrolled, it causes significant yield losses.” North Dakota leads the U.S. in production of dry beans.

March 28 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring urges livestock producers to take additional measures and if necessary seek advice to ensure their animals have proper nutrition and care during an especially challenging calving season. “This year’s late, wet and cold spring has put additional pressure on livestock and their owners,” he said. “We have heard reports of pneumonia and scours in young calves, as well as decreasing body condition scores in adult animals.”

April 2 – The largest-ever Pride of Dakota Member Directory is now available from the North Dakota Department of Agriculture. “With more than 100 pages, the 2013 directory reflects the continuing growth in the Pride of Dakota program,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “It is your guide to wide range of high quality, North Dakota-made products, such as foods, gift and decorative items, recordings and more.”

April 2 – The State Board of Animal Health has ordered additional testing requirements for all Idaho beef, dairy and rodeo cattle imported into North Dakota to prevent the introduction of brucellosis. The board took the action after learning that brucellosis continues to be reported in bison and elk herds, in Yellowstone National Park, part of which is within the state of Idaho.

April 4 – The annual Pride of Dakota Day at the State Capitol transforms the first floor of North Dakota’s statehouse into a North Dakota products shopping mall. “More than 30 Pride of Dakota companies will be selling and sampling foods and condiments, decorative items, jewelry, art and much more,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “It’s an opportunity for Capitol visitors, legislators and state employees to shop for high quality Pride of Dakota products and to meet the people who make them.”

April 17 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring is encouraging homeowners to seek expert advice before buying and planting nursery stock for their property. “Many varieties of trees

and shrubs adapt well to North Dakota’s climate and soils, but before you plant, talk with a trusted nursery dealer, horticulturist or local extension agent,” he said. “They will help you select nursery stock that you will enjoy for years to come.” State law requires that all trees and shrubs, designated by the agriculture commissioner as non-hardy must be labeled “non-hardy in North Dakota.”

April 22 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring has reappointed Tom Bodine as deputy commissioner in the North Dakota Department of Agriculture. First appointed deputy commissioner in June 2012, Bodine resigned in December to work as director of public policy for the North Dakota Farm Bureau. As deputy commissioner, Bodine oversees the organization of NDDA and its day-to-day operations.

April 24 – The North Dakota Department of Agriculture conducts a Weed Seed Free Forage Inspector Training and Refresher Course in Mandan. “Inspectors are needed to help producers of weed seed-free forage meet the growing demand for certified hay, straw and mulch,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. The course is required for anyone wanting certification as a forage inspector, as well as all current inspectors. NDDA has 18 forage inspectors under contract.

April 25 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring announces the 2013 Pride of Dakota Essay and Poster Contest winners. “These essays and posters demonstrate that these young people clearly understand the importance of agriculture,” Goehring said. “Their knowledge and their creativity in explaining the role of agriculture in our state economy is very impressive.” David Fletcher, 14, an eighth-grader at Barnes County North-West Campus in Wimbledon, was the author of the prize-winning written essay. Taryn Trueblood, 10, a fourth-grader at Edison Elementary School in Minot, created the first-place poster. Jonnah Lee, 14, Velva Public School, and Traci Lagein, 14, Munich Public School, were the second and third-place winners in the essay contest. Liam Hartman, 10, Roosevelt Elementary School, Bismarck, and Lindsey Galbreath, 9, Enderlin Public School, took second and third in the poster contest. The win-

ners received gift cards from the North Dakota Bankers Association.

May 6 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring awards grants totaling \$18,000 for projects to develop orchards and plant trees in eight communities. The grants were awarded to: James Valley Career and Tech Center, Jamestown - \$4,286; FARRMS, Medina - \$1,720; Century Elementary School, Grand Forks - \$1,430; Hettinger Park District, Hettinger - \$5,150; Elgin-New Leipzig Public School, Elgin - \$800; St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Leonard - \$2,214; Marion Horizons Beautification Committee, Marion - \$900, and United Tribes Technical College, Bismarck - \$1,500.

May 19-25 is Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week in North Dakota. "Emerald ash borer (EAB) is now found in 19 states, including our neighbor, Minnesota," said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. "Because ash is one of the primary tree species in many North Dakota communities as well as in rural plantings and native forest areas, it is more important than ever for North Dakotans to take action to prevent it from coming here." EAB only attacks ash trees. Native to Asia, it was first detected in the U.S. in 2002.

May 15 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring asks North Dakota gardeners and produce growers to grow an extra half million pounds of vegetables and fruit for donation to charitable organizations, such as food pantries, soup kitchens and homeless shelters, through the 2013 Hunger Free ND Garden Project. "Even in a state like North Dakota which produces so much food for the world, we have people going hungry," Goehring said. "More than 10 percent of North Dakotans – almost half of them children – seek food assistance every year."

May 20 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring is among North Dakota government and trade leaders traveling to Astana, Kazakhstan, to attend the Astana Economic Forum, an annual event for economists and government leaders from Eurasia and around the world to discuss Kazakhstan's growing economy and international trade opportunities. Kazakhstan is North Dakota's 17th largest trading partner. North Dakota exports

to Kazakhstan totaled \$18.7 million last year and exceeded \$274 million in the last decade.

June 5 – A case of anthrax in an unvaccinated beef cow in Hettinger County is the first confirmed case in the state this year. Dr. Susan Keller, the state veterinarian, urges producers to make sure their animals' vaccinations are up to date. She also said producers should monitor their herds for unexpected deaths and report them to their veterinarians.

June 10-14 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring is a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agribusiness Trade Mission to Turkey. "Turkey is the 10th largest market for U.S. agricultural exports," Goehring said. "Their agricultural imports include soy meal, feed ingredients, dry beans and pulses, and there is a growing demand for U.S. livestock and genetics to develop Turkey's domestic livestock industry." The mission agenda includes meetings between the governments of Turkey and the U.S., presentations by public and private sector experts; one-on-one business meetings and local site visits.

June 12 – Laboratory testing has identified tuberculosis in a beef cow in south central North Dakota. "The National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, IA, has reported that initial tests of the animal were positive for TB," said Dr. Susan Keller, state veterinarian. The animal was identified as a result of a trace-out investigation in Texas. An investigation is ongoing in North Dakota.

June 19 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring issues special local needs (SLN) registration to Bayer CropScience, allowing aerial application of Laudis® herbicide to control kochia, ALS-resistant kochia, and glyphosate-resistant weed species in cornfields. "North Dakota has had above-normal rainfall this spring, and in recent years has seen high levels of precipitation," Goehring said. "These wet conditions make it difficult or impossible for ground pesticide application equipment to be used in some fields, forcing growers to rely on aerial application of pesticides."

June 19-24 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring hosts the annual meeting of the Mid-

western Association of State Departments of Agriculture (MASDA) in Medora. “The schedule includes panel discussions on agriculture and water and on North Dakota’s oil industry,” Goehring said. “The field trips will include grain and livestock production facilities and an oil production field.” Goehring said Michael Scuse, the newly-appointed U.S. acting deputy secretary of agriculture, will address the group. MASDA is comprised of the agriculture commissioners, secretaries and directors of North Dakota, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

June 24 – Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring is elected president of the Food Export Association of the Midwest USA (Food Export Mid-

west). “Exports are vital to American agriculture, and especially to North Dakota,” Goehring said. “I will be working with the staff of Food Export Midwest to ensure that Midwestern food and commodity exporters have the necessary support to expand our foreign markets.” Created in 1969, as a cooperative effort between 12 state agricultural promotion agencies and USDA’s Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), the non-profit Food Export Association of the Midwest USA promotes the export of food and agricultural products from the U.S. Midwest. Through its member states, Food Export-Midwest provides a wide range of services, including export promotion, customized export assistance and a cost-share funding program, to develop trade between local food suppliers and importers around the world.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Director

Kenneth Junkert

Financial Management

Lynette Baumiller

Lindsey Schatz

Jeannie Jacobs-Kopp

Samantha McGrath

Information Technology

Jim Hansen

Roberta Tjaden

Mediation

Vacant

Jim Hoffert

Larry Smith

Betty Schneider

Reception

Hazel Hoger

Administrative Services includes fiscal management, information technology and the North Dakota Mediation Service

Fiscal Management

Fiscal management handles all accounting functions and grant management for the department. This includes payment of expenditures, receipting of revenue, monitoring almost 30 federal grants, preparing the biennial budget and processing payroll for 77 full-time employees and 30 part-time, hourly employees.

Fiscal management is also responsible for the department's human resources, including assistance in the hiring process, employee benefits, compensation and other employment issues.

North Dakota Mediation Service

The North Dakota Mediation Service (NDMS) was established in 1984 to help financially distressed farmers and ranchers through assistance with credit and financial matters and resolving disputes. In 2011, the Legislature expanded the agency's responsibilities to include dispute resolution of property issues related to energy development and landowner disputes. The NDMS can also provide resolution services disputes between landowners and the Game and Fish Department over deer depredation.

Mediation is a process in which a trained, impartial person helps people look at mutual problems, identify and consider options, and determine if they can agree on a solution. A mediator has no decision making authority. Unlike a judge or an arbitrator, a mediator cannot decide what is right or mandate an action. Successful mediation is almost always based on voluntary cooperation and participation of all the parties. All inquiries to NDMS remain confidential.

The six-member Credit Review Board establishes operating policy for NDMS. 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. Members serve two-year terms.

In the 2011-13 biennium, NDMS provided negotiation and financial analysis assistance to 101 new cli-

Credit Review Board

Members of the North Dakota Credit Review Board during the 2011-13 biennium included:

Paul Burtman, Wildrose

Barry Hanson, Cavalier

Gerald Horner, Dawson

Michael Martin, Forbes

Gerald Melvin, Buffalo

David Rustebakke, Larimore

ents. During that time, NDMS mediated 82 of 149 requests. Agreement between parties was reached in about 76 percent of cases.

Information Technology

Information Technology (IT) Provides the department's desktop support, network administration, web applications, database management, telecommunications, software training, wireless communications, software management, computers print-

ers and other peripherals. IT is also responsible for the department's Geographic Information System (GIS), including the training of field staff in the use of global positioning system (GPS) hardware and software. Maps produced 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.

MARKETING & INFORMATION

Director

Dana Pritschet

Marketing Specialists

Jamie Good
Erin Markestad
Sonia Mullally
Kelly Wald

Policy Development

Britt Aasmundstad
Kari Doan

Public Information Officer

Ted Quanrud

Grant Administrator

Emily Edlund

Administrative Assistant

Bonnie Sundby

The Marketing and Information Division promotes the sale of North Dakota agricultural commodities and value-added products in international, national, regional and local markets. The division prepares and publishes public information materials for the department and researches and prepares responses to public policy.

Pride of Dakota

With more than 500 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, an annual meeting, social media opportunities and online marketing newsletters. 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 – lists all Pride of Dakota members with descriptions of their businesses and products, pictures and contact information.

The most visible of Pride of Dakota activities are the Holiday Showcases, held annually in Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks and Minot. Attendance at the 2012 showcases was a record-breaking 34,000 people. Because of the popularity of the holiday showcases, two other showcase events have been added to the program. Harvest Showcases are held in Dickinson and Williston. Other events include the annual Pride of Dakota Day at the North Dakota State Fair, Pride of Dakota Days at the Capitol and the Pride of Dakota School Lunch Day in October during which schools are encouraged to include North Dakota food products on their school lunch menus.

Export

The division works closely with Food Export Association of the Midwest USA (Food Export – Midwest), a consortium of 12 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.

Local Foods

The division continues to work with the North Dakota Farmers Market and Growers Association (NDFMGA) to expand the presence of farmers markets around the state and to help educate growers and vendors who use the markets to sell produce. More than 55 farmers markets now operate in the state, reflecting an increasing demand and awareness for locally produced foods. Education programs to promote small farm fruit and vegetable production are successful.

Going Local North Dakota is a local foods initiative to produce, sell and consume more North Dakota products with an emphasis on fresh vegetables and fruits. Some of the initiative's activities include:

- North Dakota is recognized as a Farm to School state with several schools working with local growers to supply local foods for their meals.
- Local foods are promoted through social media and blogging opportunities.
- 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 "local foods" meals at special events, and taste testing activities.
- Annual publications include the farmers market and growers directory and a farm to market: North Dakota's guide to direct farm marketing.
- 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 ND FFA program received a grant in 2012 to kick start their program.
- Community orchard grants are awarded to 18 communities and schools throughout the region to encourage fruit production.
- An annual local foods conference brings

educational sessions to local growers across the state. NDDA and NDFMGA are joint sponsors.

Organics

North Dakota has more than 200,000 acres of certified organic acres. An Organic Advisory Board consults with and advises the commissioner on organic issues. A web site, www.ndorganics.nd.gov provides a directory of producers as well as helpful information both for the organic industry and the general public. A classified advertising section is available on the website to help producers sell their products. NDDA promotes the industry at trade shows throughout the state.

Policy Development

Reporting directly to the agriculture commissioner, policy development researches and analyzes proposed and existing state and federal policies regarding agriculture, and prepares material for public comment on public policies.

Policy development also prepares public presentation materials for the commissioner.

Public Information

Policy and Communications 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.

Public Information also responds to questions and requests for information from the public on agriculture and the department.

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 (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 – Biofuels, Wheat, Horticulture & Forestry, Beef, Pulse Crops and Dry Edible Beans and Weeds.

The ND FFA program awarded \$12,000 worth of mini-grants to school programs across the state. The money was used to enhance agriculture education throughout the state.

Honey Promotion

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. Marketing Services 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.

During the 2011-13 biennium, the Honey Fund was used for special promotions and research to benefit the honey industry.

Honey Promotion Fund

Revenue	
Honey promotion fees	92,534.41
Interest	59.62
2009-11 carry-over funds	35,660.35
Total revenue	\$128,254.38
Expenditures	
Operating expenses	\$60,040.23
Total expenditures	\$60,040.23

Turkey Promotion

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. Marketing Services administers the Turkey Promotion Fund with the advice of the North Dakota Turkey Federation.

During the 2007-09 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	\$36,256.65
Interest	<u>\$19.62</u>
Total revenue	\$41,078.36
Expenditures	
Operating expenses	\$38,900.33
Total expenditures	\$38,900.33

ANIMAL HEALTH

State Veterinarian/Director

Susan Keller, DVM

Deputy State Veterinarian

Beth Carlson, DVM

Assistant State Veterinarian

Vacant

Field Inspector

Justin Maddock

Support Staff

Tammy Celley

Kathleen Hoffman

Kimberley Spear

The state veterinarian is responsible for carrying out policies and orders of the State Board of Animal Health (BOAH).

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 and emerging animal health concerns. The state veterinarian is also the state tuberculosis and brucellosis epidemiologist.

The deputy state veterinarian oversees the nontraditional live-stock, 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.

The assistant state veterinarian oversees the division's emergency response planning, the North Dakota Voluntary Johne's disease control and the National Poultry Improvement programs, and coordinates the Reserve Veterinary Corps (RVC). The 20-member RVC assists the state veterinarian in preparing for and carrying out emergency responses. The assistant is the liaison to the Department of Emergency Services.

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.

The support staff reviews approximately 7,800 incoming and 12,000 outgoing certificates of veterinary inspection per year. They also review incoming 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 23 accredited tuberculosis-free herds, five certified brucellosis-free herds, and 10 *Brucella ovis* free flocks.

North Dakota is considered brucellosis-free, tuberculosis-free and pseudorabies free. This disease-free status allows export of animals with minimal testing and health certification. Reviewing laboratory reports, field reports, test charts and certificates of vet-

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.

Dr. Morgan Dallman, Beulah Veterinarian	Joel Olson, Almont Commercial Beef Cattle
Kristi Doll, New Salem Dairy	David Pearson, Hettinger Sheep
Daryl Dukart, Dunn Center Swine	Shawn Schafer, Turtle Lake Non-Traditional Livestock
Melvin Leland, Sidney, MT Purebred Cattle	Kenneth Throlson, New Rockford Bison

erinary inspection is necessary to maintain North Dakota's status. About 20,000 animals are tested for brucellosis annually, and more than 40,000 head are tested for bovine tuberculosis annually.

The 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, 175 beef and 22 dairy herds, two sheep flocks and a goat herd participated in the program.

The Private Practitioner Portal enables practicing veterinarians to report diseases or inhumane treatment complaints to the state via the internet. During the biennium, the system was improved to provide electronic reporting to and from the NDSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.

The division assists law enforcement in inhumane treatment of animal cases. About 105 reports were investigated during the 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, 59 nontraditional livestock premises are licensed and 66 elk premises are approved. The division issued 88 permits to possess, propagate or domesticate pheasants, quail, and chukar for the North Dakota Game and Fish Department.

Thirteen livestock auction markets were operating within the state during the biennium. Regular inspections are conducted to provide a safe environment for livestock. 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 2012, 62 permits were issued.

Registration of livestock medicine has been transferred to the Animal Health Division. Approximately 1,084 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-veterinarian-in-charge in North Dakota in activities required under national disease eradication or control programs. The office also works

with USDA's Wildlife Services Division 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 diseases that might otherwise go undiagnosed.

The division assists the Department of Emergency Services with establishing and stocking animal shelters if needed. The veterinarians and the support staff assist with sheltering when local staff is limited. The state veterinarian contracted with National Animal Rescue and Sheltering Coalition (NARSC), a national sheltering coalition for their additional expertise and ongoing 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.

North Dakota has its own animal tracking database (ATD). Producers can submit information that they wish to have held in the database. About 9,000 livestock premises have been registered.

LIVESTOCK SERVICES

Director

Wayne Carlson

Dairy/Poultry

John Ringsrud
Gary Molstad
Orville Paine
Becky Gietzen

State Meat Inspection

Andrea Grondahl, DVM
David Slack
Heather Anderson
Cody Kreft
Cami Metzger
Shawn Steffan
Whitney Vogel
Sherlynn Olson
Shaun Quissell
Joshua Epperle
Joslyn Roadstrom
Doug Tompkin
Nathan Kroh

Livestock Pollution Prevention

Jason Wirtz

Feed Registration

Dave Phillips

Livestock Development

Nathan Boehm
Amber Boeshans

Wildlife Services

Phil Mastrangelo - Director

Livestock Services includes duties and functions related to dairy production, feed registration, livestock sales, meat inspection, animal waste management and animal damage control.

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.

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 web site. Wool dealer licenses are \$10 and are valid from July 1 through June 30.

Dairy

The dairy inspection staff visited the state's 110 dairy farms an average of three 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 150 inspections of distribution facilities and more than 200 inspections of farm bulk trucks and samplers.

North Dakota's three 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.

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 26 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 eight such producers currently in the state to directly market eggs to institutions such as schools and nursing homes.

Livestock Pollution Prevention

NDDA is in the 13th year of the Livestock Pollution Prevention Program that provides educational, technical and financial assistance to livestock producers for manure containment systems. The program worked with about 110 livestock producers in the 2011-2013 biennium. An EPA 319 grant funds the program through September 2016.

NDDA is beginning its fourth 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 200 cattle producers and has an enrollment of approximately 47,000 calves.

Meat and poultry inspection

The State Meat and Poultry Inspection Program (SMPIP) currently regulates 97 processing plants. Thirteen plants are “state inspected” or official state establishments at which livestock is slaughtered and/or processed under regulated inspection. One plant is a “selected establishment” operating under the Cooperative Interstate Shipment (CIS) Program.

Inspectors perform both antemortem 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 83 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. SMPIP 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 SMPIP inspectors have 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 and chicken; ground beef, ground pork, ground lamb, ground goat and ground chicken; fish and shellfish; fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables; peanuts, pecans, macadamia nuts and ginseng.

Feed Registration

Approximately 4,445 commercial feeds and 7,185 pet foods are registered in the state. Labels are reviewed for all new products submitted for registration including 3123 pet foods and 429 commercial feed products during the 2011-13 biennium. Also 88 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, tissue residue inspections, and bovine spongiform encephalopathy inspections.

Wildlife Services

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 and the State Water Commission.

A combination of state and federal funds was used to mitigate problems with coyotes, beaver, and

waterfowl. During the 2011-2013 biennium, WS responded to 1,600 occurrences of coyote damage to livestock. Assistance was also provided to state and county highway departments, water resource districts, and landowners in response to \$1 million in damages caused by beaver. WS trapped problem animals on 481 properties and removed 90 beaver dams with explosives and 110 by hand.

In response to blackbird damage to sunflowers, WS loaned 880 propane cannons and distributed 52,700 rounds of pyrotechnics at no cost to 424 producers. Assistance was also provided to

480 farmers who reported problems with Canada geese. WS distributed 21,000 rounds of pyrotechnic devices, 525 propane cannons, 850 visual frightening devices and 100 electric fence units. The North Dakota Game and Fish Department issued special permits which allowed the lethal removal of problem geese.

WS consulted with 11,000 home and landowners who reported conflicts caused by 44 species of wildlife. Equipment such as live traps and frightening devices were provided free-of-charge and 7,200 information leaflets were distributed.

PESTICIDE & FERTILIZER

Director

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Project Safe Send

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Support Staff

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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 1,033 and 1,042 inspections in federal fiscal years 2011 and 2012, respectively. As a result of these inspections, NDDA issued 428 enforcement actions, including 336 warnings and 92 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 risks associated with pesticide misuse and to gain compliance with pesticide laws and rules. Staff reached approximately 7,500 people during public and private compliance assistance and outreach events in federal fiscal years 2011 and 2012.

Worker Protection Standard

The Worker Protection Standard 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 12,375 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 seven 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 38 SLN registrations during the biennium.

Three Section 18 emergency exemptions were issued during the biennium.

Fertilizer Registration

A total of 3,773 fertilizer products, ranging from home and garden fertilizers to commercial agricultural fertilizers and soil conditioners, were registered in the biennium. North Dakota currently licenses 564 fertilizer distributors and 344 anhydrous ammonia facilities.

During the biennium, 569 fertilizer samples, including 309 dry fertilizers, 149 liquids and 111 specialty fertilizer products, were tested to ensure that chemical composition matched label claims. NDDA collected tonnage fees on a total of 3,996,621 tons of fertilizer distributed in the state last biennium.

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 twelve Safe Send collection sites in both 2011 and 2012. More than 480,000 pounds of pesticides were collected. More than 800 people disposed of pesticides through Project Safe Send last biennium.

Pesticide Water Quality

NDDA worked with the North Dakota Department of Health in 2011 to sample 53 wetlands for 171 pesticides and pesticide degradates. There were six pesticide detections, one of which exceeded an aquatic life benchmark.

As part of its obligations to EPA, NDDA assessed twelve pesticides in 2011 and thirteen pesticides in

2013 for their potential to contaminate groundwater and surface water. As part of this assessment process, bentazon was identified as a pesticide of concern in 2012. 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

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Plant Protection

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Lane Kozel

Vacant

Noxious Weeds

Rachel Seifert-Spilde

Apiary

Samantha Brunner

Support Staff

Elaine Sayler

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 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 2011-2013 biennium, 46 counties were reimbursed a total of \$925,797 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 2011-2013 biennium, \$178,505 was reimbursed to local weed boards to buy equipment, software, and supplies to survey and map noxious weeds, conduct biocontrol activities and other activities.

2011-13 Noxious weed control funding

	General Funds	Special Funds
Landowner Assistance	\$112,602.25	\$813,194.54
Targeted Assistance	\$ 25,397.114	\$153,108.34

The U.S. Forest Service reimbursed NDDA \$102,864 during the 2011-2013 biennium. These funds enabled NDDA to survey, map and control yellow toadflax and houndstongue; rehabilitate flooded 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.

Fifty counties have weed mapping capability using a datalogger GPS supplied through a grant from the NDDA. 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 program that meets the North American Weed Management standards. From July 1, 2011 to the end of the 2011 growing season, eight certified forage inspectors inspected 1,431 acres producing approximately 5,931 certified bales

During the 2012 growing season, 10 of 20 certified inspectors inspected more than 8,500 acres in 11 counties and certified 25,722 bales of weed seed-free forage, which consisted of alfalfa, mixed hay, and wheat straw. During the 2013 growing season up to June 30, 2013, six out of 22 certified forage inspectors inspected 310 acres in seven counties certifying 1,845 bales of alfalfa/grass mix.

NDDA participates in the Lake Oahe and Lake Sakakawea Noxious Weed Task Forces that focus on survey and control efforts of noxious weeds along North Dakota's lakes and rivers.

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.)

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*)

Plant Plant Protection Program

The Plant Protection Program conducts a pest survey program for exotic plant pests and pests of phytosanitary export significance. Surveys included Karnal bunt, gypsy moth, exotic wood borers, emerald ash borer, small grain insects and diseases, potato cyst nematode, other plant parasitic nematodes and barberry.

Public education regarding exotic pest threats is accomplished through distribution of outreach materials and presentations. Emerald ash borer was the primary exotic threat that was 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 was maintained to allow issuance of federal phytosanitary certificates. More than 4,700 federal phytosanitary certificates were issued during the biennium involving 122 applicants, 23 grain crops, 16 seed crops including seed potatoes, milled products (wheat, durum, flax, buckwheat) and barley malt. Certificates were issued to 86 foreign countries.

Export certification documents issued to satisfy phytosanitary requirements of Canada and California included certification of cereal grain moving in-transit through Canada (36 compliance agreements – 727 certificates), cereal seed exported to Canada (two active compliance agreements – 78 certificates), grain corn exported to California for European Corn Borer quarantine (67 compliance agreements – 679 certificates), and cereal grain exported to California for cereal leaf beetle quarantine (181 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 (NDCC 4-21). In 2012 there were 36 licensed growers and 214 licensed dealers. In 2013 there were 34 licensed growers and 224 licensed dealers. Permits were issued to 129 dealers to import and sell stem rust resistant barberry from 20 approved out-of-state suppliers.

Nursery growers are inspected for insects and diseases, allowing for both in-state and out-of-state sale. 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 108 locations in 2012-2013 with non-hardy labeling violations at 61 locations.

Apiary Program

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

In 2011 NDDA licensed 197 beekeepers and registered 478,027 colonies at more than 10,252 locations. In 2012 NDDA licensed 201 beekeepers and registered 484,398 colonies on 10,618 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 climates 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.

STATE FAIR

Fair Manager

Renaë Korslien

North Dakota law (NDCC 4-02.1-26) 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 2009-011 biennium, please refer to the 2011 and 2012 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 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 2011-13

Expenditures by Line Item	Current Appropriation	Expenditures	Remaining	Percent remaining
Salaries and Wages	9,712,364.00	8,607,322.40	1,105,041.60	11%
Operating Expenses	6,451,453.00	4,722,880.83	1,728,572.17	27%
Capital Assets	17,000.00	16,854.80	145.20	1%
Grants	3206,828.00	2,711,936.13	494,891.87	15%
Board Of Animal Health	2,218,561.10	1,930,376.50	288,184.60	13%
Wildlife Services	1,417,400.00	1,417,400.00	0.00	0%
Crop Harmonization Board	75,000	69,846.12	5,133.88	7%
Total Expenditures	23,098,606.10	19,476,616.78	3,621,989.32	16%
Expenditures by Funding Source				
General Fund	8,261,355.10	6,216,166.23	45,188.87	1%
Federal Funds	7,479,497.00	5,151,208.88	2,328,288.12	31%
Special Funds	7,357,754.00	6,109,241.67	1,248,512.33	17%
Total Expenditures by Source	23,098,606.10	19,476,616.78	3,621,989.32	