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Check pages 4 & 5 for upcoming applicator testing/training dates and locations near you!



E-Newsletter!

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) is moving this newsletter to electronic distribution, but we need your help. We will be obtaining email addresses annually from the license training registrations of UNL Pesticide Safety Education Program. However, you can help by creating a newsletter account at bit.ly/NDAPPEltr – simply complete your information (name, email address, license type, and license number or mailing list number on the mailing label).

It is hoped this form of delivery will be easy to use and read, accessed by more readers, and reduce printing/ mailing costs so that the savings can be used elsewhere within our programs.

The e-version of this newsletter contains a hyperlinked table of contents and bookmarks, hyperlinks to much of the information presented, and can be seen in color. See the link above on how to subscribe to take advantage of this service, as well as help us save resources.

Update on Dicamba: Registration and Use on Soybeans in 2018

Tim Creger, NDA Pesticide/Fertilizer Program Manager

Dicamba registration might be the biggest issue the Pesticide Program has faced since the program began in 1994. Having been directly involved in the administration of Pesticide Program since the enabling legislation was signed by Governor Ben Nelson in 1993, nothing compares to what our agency and many soybean farmers experienced this past summer. The issues and concerns need to be fully understood in order for everyone to move into the 2018 growing season with their eyes wide open.

Perhaps the biggest question on the mind of many soybean growers is whether NDA will register the new dicamba herbicide formulations for 2018. The answer is yes, we have notified all three registrants (DuPont, BASF and Monsanto) that NDA will accept their revised labels for the 2018 growing season. All three products (Xtendimax® with Vapor Grip® Technology, Fexapan® with Vapor Grip® Technology and Engenia®) were conditionally registered by EPA for two years (2017 and 2018), and NDA cannot extend that time period without EPA doing so first.

A second frequently asked question is what did NDA experience this past growing season in the way of claims or complaints of potential dicamba damage. There were over 90 claims received by NDA beginning on June 20th, and NDA was able to begin full investigations of 23 of those claims. At this time, NDA continues to review the evidence collected in the full investigations, to detect common themes which can be addressed in applicator education, which leads me to the next very important point.

(continued next page)

Changes to RUP dicamba labels for late-season soybean applications

- Dicamba/auxin-specific training will be required for all applicators to purchase/use any of the RUP dicamba products;
- Label-mandated record-keeping for all users;
- Applications restricted to wind speeds between 3-10 mph;
- Applications limited to daytime hours between sunrise and sunset;
- Revised tank cleanout requirements;
- Additional requirements for sensitive crop scouting, including non-dicamba tolerant soybeans and specialty crops (see page 6 for tips).

A new “RUP Dicamba” page will be available by January, 2018, that will include a summary of these and other label changes and new information, including dealer requirements, the official dicamba-trained applicator database, the three RUP dicamba labels, a dicamba application record keeping form, an NDA dicamba technical interpretation, dicamba press releases, and links to other information and training sites.

nda.nebraska.gov.

Recently, EPA announced an agreement with the three dicamba registrants to classify the new dicamba formulations as Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs). The RUP classification will now require all applicators to possess a Nebraska Pesticide Applicator License before applying any of the three new dicamba products. For commercial and non-commercial applicators, that means your license must have the Ag Plant category (category 01). For private applicators, your license covers you for all agricultural uses. HOWEVER, there is one very important addition to applicator certification that MUST be completed before any applicator applies the RUP dicamba products, and that is the addition of dicamba/auxin-specific training.

Dicamba/auxin-specific training will be required for any applicator of the RUP dicamba products (private, commercial, or noncommercial). NDA is working closely with the University of Nebraska Pesticide Safety Education Program to develop NDA-authorized training, and NDA has notified the three dicamba registrants of our intention to require the UNL training components into all trainings offered in Nebraska. It will be the requirement of the applicator to obtain this training before they can apply the RUP dicamba. It will also be the responsibility of all pesticide dealers selling RUP dicamba to make sure any sales of RUP dicamba are to currently-licensed applicators who have taken the dicamba/auxin-specific training. NDA will maintain a database of all properly trained applicators, which will be accessible to dealers on NDA’s website.

In addition to classifying the three new dicamba products as RUPs, EPA required a number of changes to the labels for the 2018 growing season. The labels for the dicamba products now have mandatory record keeping, a reduced maximum wind speed (from 15 miles per hour down to 10 miles per hour), limited times of day applications can be made (between sunrise and sunset), revised tank clean-out language, and a revised list of susceptible crops and sensitive sites. The full list of what has changed on the new dicamba labels is rather large, and NDA will post the changes to our website by the end of December. The dicamba/auxin-specific training now required for all applicators will also cover these changes in detail.

As NDA and soybean growers move into the 2018 growing season, it is quite likely additional information and communications on dicamba-tolerant soybeans and the use of dicamba will be released. NDA is developing a dicamba-specific messaging page on its website for any updates, press releases or revised requirements for RUP dicamba applications. Please visit our website at nda.nebraska.gov and bookmark the page so that you can quickly check it when needed.

Pearson VUE Computer-Based Testing

NDA has contracted with Pearson VUE to offer our most popular exams at 12 computer-based testing sites across Nebraska. They charge \$55 per exam. More information about Pearson VUE testing can be found at bit.ly/NDAvuetest.

Exams Offered through Pearson VUE:

- General Standards (00)
- Ag-Plant Pest Control (01)
- Ornamental & Turf Pest Control (04)
- Right-of-Way Pest Control (07)
- Structural/Health Related Pest Control (08)
- Wood Destroying Organisms (08W)
- Public Health Pest Control (09)
- Structural Fumigation (11)
- Aerial Pest Control (12)

Advantages of Pearson VUE:

- Most testing sites are available 5-7 days a week.
- Scores are received prior to leaving the testing session.
- Failing scores generate a score report that provides percentage scores in different subject areas for each exam.

Testing Sites:

- Columbus
- Grand Island
- Lincoln (two sites)
- McCook
- Norfolk
- North Platte (two sites)
- Omaha (three sites)
- Scottsbluff

Revisions to the Worker Protection Standard (WPS)

The WPS requires employers of agricultural workers (who conduct hand labor in the production of agricultural plants) and pesticide handlers (who mix, load, or apply pesticides or do other tasks involving direct contact with pesticides) to take a number of prescribed steps to minimize pesticide exposure. In late 2015, EPA published the final revised WPS rule. Compliance with many of the requirements of the revised WPS were required Jan. 2, 2017, with a few requirements not taking effect until Jan. 1, 2018. The final provisions of the revised rule that take effect on Jan. 1, 2018 are:

- Application Exclusion Zone (AEZ), a 25-100 ft. area around spray equipment where applicators must suspend the application if a person is within the AEZ
- Additional training points required for workers and handlers
- Additional information required for display of pesticide safety information

It is recommended that employers obtain the *How to Comply Manual* to ensure full compliance with all of the provisions of the revised rule. For more information about the revised WPS, the *How to Comply Manual*, and training resources, please visit pesticideresources.org.

Pesticide/Fertilizer Program Staff Changes



After 24 years as the inspector for the Southeast Nebraska territory, Clayton Haman is retiring, effective February 28th, 2018. Clayton is well-known by the pesticide applicators and dealers in his territory, and has a great reputation as a trusted, reliable state employee; someone who can be counted on to help with regulatory questions for both pesticides and fertilizer. Clayton will be enjoying his retirement working with his son on a queen bee propagation venture, and taking the grandkids out for the occasional fishing trip. Congratulations!



In late May, Western area Pesticide/Fertilizer Inspector Jeff Elsen announced his departure from NDA, and took a similar job in Florida. In August, Taylor Speckmann filled this position. Taylor is originally from the Ashland, NE area, but was recently employed as a waste systems inspector for the oil and gas industry in Wyoming. Taylor will have a home office in the Ogallala area, and has been traveling his territory, getting to know the people he will be working with in the future. Welcome Taylor!

2018 Recertification/Renewal Meetings

Commercial and Non-Commercial

(No NDA Exams Offered)

Date	Meeting	Categories	City	Location
1-9	Nebraska Turf Conference	00, 04	Omaha	La Vista Conference Center
1-10	Nebraska Agri-Business Expo	00, 01	Omaha	CenturyLink Center
1-10	Crop Production Clinic	00, 01	Gering	Gering Civic Center
1-11	Crop Production Clinic	00, 01	North Platte	Sandhills Convention Center
1-15	Crop Production Clinic	00, 01	Norfolk	Lifelong Learning Center
1-16	Crop Production Clinic	00, 01	Norfolk	Lifelong Learning Center
1-18	Crop Production Clinic	00, 01	Lincoln	Embassy Suites
1-24; 25	Crop Management Conference	00, 01	Kearney	Younes Conference Center
2-6	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 07, 08, 08W, 09, 10, 14	Grand Island	College Park
2-6	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 05, 07, 08, 08W, 11	Lincoln	Lancaster County Extension
2-6	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 07, 08, 08W, 10, 11	Norfolk	Lifelong Learning Center
2-6	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 07, 08, 08W, 09, 11	Scottsbluff	Panhandle Res & Ext Cntr
2-13	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 07, 09	Holdrege	Phelps County Extension
2-13	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 05, 07, 11, 14	North Platte	UNL West Central Res & Ext Cntr
2-13	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 07, 08, 08W, 09, 11	Omaha	Douglas County Extension
2-13	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 07, 08, 14	O'Neill	Holt County Courthouse
2-13; 14	Urban Pest Mgmt. Conference	00, 08, 08W, 09, 11	Lincoln	Cornhusker Marriott
2-15	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 07, 09, 11	Beatrice	Gage County Extension
2-15	UNL Recertification	00, 01, 04, 05, 07, 08, 08W, 11	Grand Island	College Park
2-15	UNL Recertification	00, 01, 04, 05, 07, 08, 08W, 14	Norfolk	Lifelong Learning Center
2-15	UNL Recertification	00, 01, 04, 07, 09, 10, 14	North Platte	UNL West Central Res & Ext Cntr
2-20; 21	NE Aviation Trades Assn. (NATA)	00, 01, 07, 12	Lincoln	Cornhusker Hotel
2-22	UNL Recertification	00, 01, 04, 05, 07, 14	Columbus	Platte County Courthouse
2-22	Custom Applicator School	00, 01	Hastings	Central Community College
2-22	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 05, 07, 08, 08W, 11	Lincoln	Lancaster County Extension
2-22	UNL Recertification	00, 01, 04, 05, 07, 11, 14	Scottsbluff	Panhandle Res & Ext Cntr
2-22	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 05, 07, 14	Valentine	Cherry County Extension
3-13	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 07, 11, 14	Beatrice	Gage County Extension
3-13	UNL Recertification	00, 01, 04, 07, 08, 08W, 09, 14	Norfolk	Lifelong Learning Center
3-13	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 05, 07, 09, 11, 14	Scottsbluff	Panhandle Res & Ext Cntr
3-22	UNL Recertification	00, 01, 04, ,07, 09	Beatrice	Gage County Extension
3-22	UNL Recertification	00, 01, 04, 07	North Platte	UNL West Central Res & Ext Cntr
3-22	UNL Recertification	00, 01, 04, 05, 07, 09	O'Neill	Holt County Courthouse
3-27	UNL Recertification	00, 01, 04, 05, 07, 11	Holdrege	Phelps County Extension
3-27	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 07, 08, 08W, 09, 11	Omaha	Douglas County Extension
3-29	UNL Recertification	00, 01, 04, 07, 08, 08W, 11, 14	Lincoln	Lancaster County Extension
3-29	UNL Recertification	00, 04, 05, 07, 09, 10, 14	Omaha	Douglas County Extension

To register for all UNL Recertification meetings, go to the Pesticide Safety Education Program website (pested.unl.edu).

For the meetings bolded above and on page 5, see the corresponding webpage for more information:

- Nebraska Agri-Business Expo and Custom Applicator School (na-ba.com)
- Crop Production Clinics (agronomy.unl.edu/cpc) and Crop Management Conference (agronomy.unl.edu/NCMC).
- Nebraska Turf Conference (nebraskaturfgrass.com)
- NATA (gonata.net)
- Urban Pest Mgmt. Conference (nspca.org)

Recertification in the following categories will not be offered via training. See next page for testing options, or see (bit.ly/NDAPPdates) for walk-in testing sites.

Exams will need to be taken to recertify in:

- 01a (Soil Fumigation) • 03 (Forest) • 06 (Seed Treatment) • 02 (Ag Animal) • 05S (Sewer Root)

Please Post for Future Reference

2018 Initial Certification Meetings

Commercial and Non-Commercial

(UNL or Association Training plus NDA Exam)

Date	Meeting	Categories	City	Location
2-1	UNL Initial Certification	00, 01, 04, 05, 08, 08W, 10	Grand Island	College Park
2-1	UNL Initial Certification	00, 01, 04, 05, 07, 08, 08W, 09, 10, 14	Norfolk	Lifelong Learning Center
2-1	UNL Initial Certification	00, 03, 04, 06, 07, 09	Omaha	Douglas County Extension
2-8	UNL Initial Certification	00, 01, 04, 07, 09, 11, 14	Lincoln	Lancaster County Extension
2-8	UNL Initial Certification	00, 01, 03, 05, 09, 14	North Platte	UNL West Central Res & Ext Cntr
2-8	UNL Initial Certification	00, 01, 04, 09, 11	Scottsbluff	Panhandle Res & Ext Cntr
2-22	Custom Applicator School	00, 01	Hastings	Central Community College
2-27	UNL Initial Certification	00, 01, 04, 08, 08W	Columbus	Platte County Courthouse
2-27	UNL Initial Certification	00, 04, 06, 07, 09, 11, 14	Grand Island	College Park
2-27	UNL Initial Certification	00, 01, 04, 07, 08, 08W, 10	Lincoln	Lancaster County Extension
2-27	UNL Initial Certification	00, 04, 05, 07, 08, 08W	Scottsbluff	Panhandle Res & Ext Cntr
3-1	UNL Initial Certification	00, 04, 07, 08, 08W	North Platte	UNL West Central Res & Ext Cntr
3-1	UNL Initial Certification	00, 04, 08, 08W, 14	Omaha	Douglas County Extension
3-1	UNL Initial Certification	00, 01, 04, 07, 14	Scottsbluff	Panhandle Res & Ext Cntr
3-20	UNL Initial Certification	00, 01, 04, 06, 14	Beatrice	Gage County Extension
3-20	UNL Initial Certification	00, 01, 04, 05, 10, 14	Norfolk	Lifelong Learning Center
3-20	UNL Initial Certification	00, 01, 04, 07	North Platte	UNL West Central Res & Ext Cntr
3-20	UNL Initial Certification	00, 01, 07, 14	Valentine	Cherry County Extension
4-12	UNL Initial Certification	00, 04	Lincoln	Lancaster County Extension
4-12	UNL Initial Certification	00, 01, 04	North Platte	UNL West Central Res & Ext Cntr
4-12	UNL Initial Certification	00, 04, 07, 08, 08W	Omaha	Douglas County Extension
4-12	UNL Initial Certification	00, 04	Scottsbluff	Panhandle Res & Ext Cntr
4-19	UNL Initial Certification	00, 04, 09	O'Neill	Holt County Courthouse

Applicator Categories

1 Ag Plant*	8 Structural Health*
1a Soil Fumigation	8W Wood Destroying Organism*
2 Ag Animal	9 Public Health*
3 Forest	10 Wood Preservation
4 Ornamental and Turf*	11 Fumigation (grain)*
5 Aquatic	12 Aerial*
5S Sewer Root (<i>metam sodium</i>)	14 Wildlife Damage Control
6 Seed Treatment	REG Regulatory Subcategory
7 Right-of-Way*	D/R Demonstration/Research Subcategory

Categories with * at left are available through Pearson VUE testing (see article on page 2).

Numerous dates and locations for “walk-in testing” have been posted at bit.ly/NDAPPdates.

At “walk-in testing” sites, only testing is conducted for initial certification, adding categories, or recertification by exam.

NDA Certification Testing Policies

- The use of study materials is not allowed while taking the exam.
- Calculators may be used. However, all iPads, cell phones, or similar electronic devices which can store, send, or receive data or images must be turned off, kept in pockets or holsters, and will not be allowed on the tabletop.
- The exams are the property of the State of Nebraska. Removal of exams from examination rooms is prohibited. Copying or reproducing the contents of exams (in part or in whole) is unlawful.
- Persons with special needs or disabilities should notify NDA of accommodations they may require at least 10 days prior to date of the exam.

These policies and more certification information can be found on our certification page at bit.ly/NDAPPcert.

Please Post for Future Reference

DriftWatch for Applicators!







There are 3 ways you can utilize this service:

- Frequently visit the Public Map (free of charge) to see:
 - All crop sites
 - Most beehives (beekeepers have the option to display hives only to registered applicators)
- Register with FieldWatch as an applicator (free of charge) to see:
 - All crop sites
 - All beehives
 - And receive email alerts when new sites are added to your area
- Member data subscription (\$100)
 - All sites, including all beehives
 - Periodically download sites to your mapping software or receive live stream through your software provider
 - Government entities (state, city, county, university Extension, etc.) may download or stream the data for FREE.
 - Contact FieldWatch for more information.

See more at fieldwatch.com

Flag the Technology

Given the requirements specified on ‘over the top’ dicamba product labels (see article page 1), it is appropriate for the pesticide and agriculture industries, and individual farmers to do all they can to increase communication with one another. NDA encourages the use of “Flag the Technology”, started in a few southern states:

Preferred Flag Size	
6' x 1/4" fiberglass pole with minimum 11" x 17" flag for maximum visibility	
Color Codes	
<p>RED signifies conventional varieties with no herbicide technology traits, vineyards, apiaries, orchards, vegetable fields and organic crop production. <i>Extreme caution.</i></p> 	<p>YELLOW is the color chosen for Clearfield® rice, sunflower, wheat and canola technologies, STS® soybeans¹ and INZEN grain sorghum.</p> 
<p>WHITE represents technology that is tolerant to glyphosate herbicide. (e.g., Roundup Ready, Glytol)</p> 	<p>TEAL (with White Stripes) indicates tolerance to both 2,4-D and FOP (ACCase) herbicides. The white stripes indicate tolerance to glyphosate. Where glufosinate tolerant cotton and soybean are planted, a green flag should be added to denote tolerance to glufosinate².</p> 
<p>GREEN This technology is tolerant to glufosinate.</p> 	<p>BLACK & WHITE The black and white checks indicate tolerance to both dicamba and glyphosate. A green flag should be added for cotton to denote glufosinate tolerance².</p> 

¹ Although many herbicides are in the ALS family of herbicides, crops with this technology are not tolerant to all ALS herbicides.
² Stacked technologies may require more than 1 flag.

Produced by the Department of Soil & Crop Sciences
soilcrop.tamu.edu

More information can be found in this publication by Texas A&M University (bit.ly/TAMUFlag) as well as this short video by University of Tennessee (bit.ly/UTnFlag). Flag vendors can be found by asking your local dealer or searching online for “agricultural crop marking flag”.



Currently available in 14 states and 1 Canadian province, with more to come:



The infographic below can also be found at bit.ly/NDAPP.

FieldWatch
Communication. Cooperation. Collaboration.

driftwatch **beecheck**

Avoid Inadvertent Drift: View Specialty Crop and Beehive Site Locations. Utilize DriftWatch™ and BeeCheck™ to communicate more effectively with specialty crop growers to help prevent and manage drift effects. Easily locate registered sites before you spray.

It's as easy as 1-2-3!

Step 1: Visit the Map Registry
Become familiar with the sites in your area and check back regularly before spraying.

Step 2: Sign up for Free Site Alerts
Personalize your account to receive alerts when new sites are added to your area.

Step 3: Communicate with Others
Applicators can use this information to communicate with commercial specialty crop, organic crop and beehive owners.

APPLICATORS
GROWERS

Two-Way Communication
Use DriftWatch™ and BeeCheck™ to communicate plans with growers and work out a mutual understanding.

Communication + Cooperation + Collaboration

Please consult FieldWatch to access specialty crop and beehive information to compliment your ongoing stewardship activities.

Look and Be Aware
You may see these and similar signs near approved specialty crop, organic crops and beehive sites as you are driving or working in the area. Be aware of these and take precautions before you spray.

A One-Stop Shop
Farmers and other applicators can see specialty crops and beehives in neighboring states. Aerial applicators working in these states can benefit from this one-stop shop. Applicators can also receive mapped sites directly from select software providers or through a FieldWatch™ subscription.

NEBRASKA
DriftWatch™ and BeeCheck™ can be found online at fieldwatch.com. The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) monitors the DriftWatch™ website for Nebraska. For questions, contact NDA at (402) 471-2351.

Endangered Species Information at Your Fingertips

NDA encourages all applicators – private landowners and commercial/noncommercial applicators who apply pesticides outdoors - to consult threatened and endangered species information to reduce potential impacts from pesticides. Pesticides can have direct impacts on plant and animal species, or can impact their habitat (food or cover, for example).

Nebraska NRCS and the Nebraska Natural Heritage Program within the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission have made State and Federal threatened and endangered species information easy to access on the web. This species-by-county list will be helpful to know which species may be found in your area (bit.ly/NEspbyCO). This page (bit.ly/NGPCmapsTE) contains links to state range maps for each species to give you an idea of where in a county the species may be found.

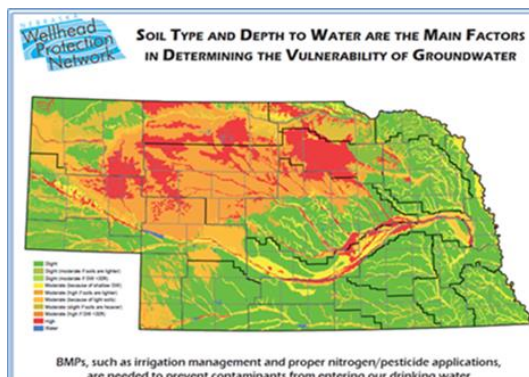
To determine if any species may potentially be found in your area, consult the species by county list. For a given county-species combination, the range of the given species covers some portion of the county (from all to very little). A quick check of the individual species map will let you know if it may be found near your application site.

Note that a species might be expected to occur anywhere within a mapped range having suitable habitat described in the species description. To learn more about the type of habitat where a species typically is found, and learn more about the life history, please see the pamphlets found at bit.ly/NGPCrareSP.

For applicators who want more high-tech information, please consult the Commission's Conservation and Environmental Review (CERT) Tool (cert.outdoornebraska.gov), for an interactive map where both species ranges and species occurrences by township can be seen or exported to a table as well as GIS map files.

For applicators without access to the Internet or wanting more information on potential endangered and threatened species in your area, please contact Craig at NDA (402-471-6883).

Learn more about ground water, potential contaminants, costs of treatment, and what we, as Nebraskans, are doing to help, with these 12 Nebraska ground water posters. See the Groundwater Foundation's file at bit.ly/NWHPNfacts2 (40MB PDF) or Nebraska SWCS' Facebook (bit.ly/NWHPNfacts3).



Did you know?

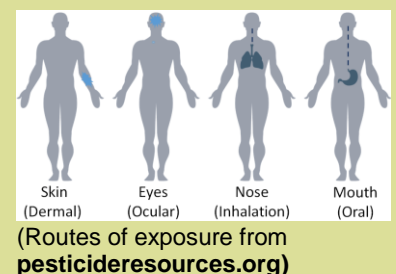
There are **native, non-invasive thistles** in Nebraska. See this recent native thistle article in the Nebraska Weed Watch newsletter to learn more about these beneficial plants (bit.ly/WWs2017).

In addition, take a look at the Xerces Society's *Native Thistles: A Conservation Practitioner's Guide* (bit.ly/NatvThistle), containing resources and information on the natural history and ecology of native thistle species.

Applicator PPE

This article from UNL (bit.ly/CWm17gloves) summarizes the health effects associated with not wearing proper PPE while using or handling pesticides. These effects were found through a large national study of pesticide applicators.

Also included are recommendations for the types of gloves and proper use of gloves for pesticide applications, as well as product label examples and links to more PPE resources for protecting yourself or workers.



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This newsletter is posted on NDA's website shortly after it is published. If you would rather view it on-line instead of receiving a hard copy, please follow the directions at the web address listed below, and we will notify you of the next publication.

Online at bit.ly/NDAPPnews2

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Readers are free to reprint, in whole or in part, information in this newsletter. However, NDA respectfully requests the following citation be used:

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Department of Agriculture's
Pesticide, Fertilizer & Noxious Weed
Newsletter (www.nda.nebraska.gov)*

Articles from other sources are often used in this newsletter, and should be cited accordingly.

This newsletter is available in other formats for persons with disabilities upon request. For an alternate format or for additional information on topics in this publication, please call the Nebraska Department of Agriculture at (402) 471-2351.

TDD users can contact the Department by first calling the Nebraska Relay System. Telephone (800) 833-7352 and asking the operator to call (402) 471-2351.

Mat Habrock, Interim Director
Craig Romary, Editor