

Nebraska Department of Agriculture  
Bureau of Plant Industry  
P.O. Box 94756  
Lincoln, NE 68509  
(402) 471-2394

Agenda Item # 17  
Date 1/27/21

# ACTIVITY REPORT

(DUE January 31 of each year.)

DODGE County, 201~~9~~<sup>20</sup>

Month and year weed superintendent started in this position: Jan. 2007

For the preceding year, indicate the following:

**1. Control authority employees:**

- a. Number of weeks weed superintendent was employed full-time as a weed superintendent..... 52
- b. Number of part-time or seasonal personnel employed annually .....  
1
- c. Number of full-time personnel..... 0
- d. Percent of time weed superintendent spent on required noxious weed activities. .... 50%

**2. County noxious weed budget:**

- a. Actual total weed budget spent for the previous fiscal year..... \$36733
- b. Total weed budget most recently adopted and approved (*total requirements*)..... \$46517
- c. Tax dollars required for weed control for last fiscal year ..... \$33300

**3. Public relations and education:**

- a. Number of public education and informational meetings presented by the control authority ..... 4
- b. Number of noxious weed articles published based on information provided by the control authority ..... 4
- c. Number of radio interviews conducted by the control authority regarding noxious weeds ..... 0
- d. Number of informational letters or brochures distributed by the control authority regarding noxious weeds. .... 125
- e. Number of events that informational noxious weed displays were presented by the control authority..... 1

**4. Number of inspections completed and documented with appropriate inspection reports (Spring) (Fall)**

- |                                      |           |          |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| a. Annual noxious weed inspection    | <u>47</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>32</u>                            |           |          |
| b. Special noxious weed inspection   | <u>1</u>  |          |
| <u>0</u>                             |           |          |
| c. Complaint noxious weed inspection | <u>0</u>  | <u>1</u> |
| <u>0</u>                             |           |          |
| d. Follow-up noxious weed inspection | <u>47</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>32</u>                            |           |          |
| e. Crop inspections                  | <u>1</u>  | <u>0</u> |
| <u>2</u>                             |           |          |
| f. Article inspections               | <u>0</u>  | <u>0</u> |

**5. Noxious weed notification and enforcement:**

- a. Number of reports received concerning uncontrolled noxious weed infestations (includes landowner complaints and Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) reports) ..... 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Number of requests made to individuals or other entities to control noxious weeds (excluding official notices). ..... 11 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. **Official 15-day notice results:**
  - a. Number of 15-day notices issued. .... 0 \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Number of 15-day notices which achieved acceptable compliance prior to notice expiration. .... 0 \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Number of notices prosecuted..... 0 \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Dollar value of fine notices collected. .... 0 \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. Number of 15-day notice disposition reports completed..... 0 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. **Official 10-day notice results:**
  - a. Number of 10-day notices issued. .... 2 \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Number of 10-day notices which achieved acceptable compliance prior to expiration..... 2 \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Number of parcels force controlled by the county. .... 0 \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Number of parcels force controlled by contractors. .... 0 \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. Total number of acres force controlled. .... 0 \_\_\_\_\_
  - f. Total number of liens filed for nonpayment..... 0 \_\_\_\_\_
  - g. Total number of 10-day notice disposition reports completed. .... 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. **Weed Superintendent Education and Training:**
  - a. Number of regional Nebraska Weed Control Association (NWCA) meetings attended. .... 1 \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Number of state NWCA meetings, workshops, or seminars attended..... 2 \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Number of university, state, or federal information or training sessions attended. .... 0 \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Number of private industry training sessions attended..... 0 \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. Other (list number of sessions attended). .... 0 \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. **Number of meetings weed superintendent held or attended with (other than those listed above):**
  - a. Control authority. .... 2 \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. County attorney. .... 1 \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. District NDA inspector..... 2 \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Railroad officials. .... 1 \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. Road departments. .... 4 \_\_\_\_\_
  - f. Municipalities. .... 3 \_\_\_\_\_
  - g. Federal officials..... 0 \_\_\_\_\_
  - h. Other or miscellaneous \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Weed Superintendent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Control Authority Chairperson/President Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Noxious Weed Control Plan**  
(Due January 31 of each year)  
Revised November, 2004

Nebraska Department of Agriculture  
Bureau of Plant Industry  
P.O. Box 94756  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4756  
(402) 471-2394

For: \_\_\_\_\_ DODGE \_\_\_\_\_ County For the year 2020

**Statement of Finding**

The failure to control noxious weeds on lands in this state is a serious problem which is detrimental to the production of crops and livestock and to the welfare of residents of this state and which may devalue land and reduce tax revenue (Neb. Rev. Stat. 2-945.02(1)).

**Section 2-954 of the Nebraska Noxious Weed Control Act requires each weed control authority to establish a coordinated program for the control of noxious weeds within the county.**

**Goals**

**List three goals outlining how your county plans to reduce the number of noxious weed infested acres in your county.** Also, explain how your county plans on achieving each goal. Be specific and provide as much detail as possible. If more space is needed, you may attach additional sheets. (You may use a computer generated plan that follows the same format.)

**PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF NOXIOUS WEEDS AND THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW INVADERS**

The Dodge County Weed Control Authority will continue to have the primary goal of the containment of the noxious weed infestations that primarily exist in the county. Musk, Plumeless, Canada Thistle, Leafy Spurge & Japanese/Bohemian Knotweed are not a serious threat at this time, and with a little hard work it should stay that way. Purple Loosestrife & Phragmites which are mostly found along stream beds are very challenging to control. There have not been any Knapweeds, Salt Cedar or Sericea Lespedeza found yet. We will continue to look for them and other weeds that are on the Dept. of Ag's watch list. We will continue to spray Noxious weeds along the county & township right-of-ways with limited custom spraying for the Dept. of Roads and the three railroads.

**DETERMINING RIPARIAN OWNERSHIPS AND PROPERTY LINES ALONG THE RIVER SYSTEMS** During the last 13 years, we have worked with the Lower Platte Weed Management Area in efforts to keep Purple Loosestrife & Phragmites under control. We have used backpack sprayers, airboats, ATV's and an Argo to achieve success. It appears that helicopter sprayers will be used to control Phragmites. Since State Law requires the landowner to control the noxious weeds on his or her property, we will need to determine who these people are & where their property lines are. We will also have to convince them that their property and control commitments extends to the center of the river (where applicable).

**ESTABLISHING CONTROL PLANS WITH THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ROADS.** Two years ago the NDOR started work on making Hwy 30 4 lanes through Dodge County. Whenever large amounts of dirt are moved you can bet on Noxious weeds showing up.

**General**

In this section, list how your county achieved last season's goals and were they successful? Explain.

Last year our first goal was to prevent the spread of noxious weeds and the introduction of new invaders. Musk Thistle, Plumeless Thistle & Leafy Spurge were controlled well. Canada Thistle was up slightly due to favorable weather. Purple Loosestrife and Phragmites acres have increased rapidly due to lower water levels in the Platte River. No Salt Cedar or Knotweeds have been

located yet.

Managing the existing infestations was our second goal and I think we have had great success at it. 2 Official 10 – Day Notices were issued, resulting in good compliance. We continue to spray Purple Loosestrife & Phragmites with an ATV, airboat and an Argo . With the help of the Dodge County Assessment Office I have been able to identify most of the land owners along the Platte River in Dodge County.

My third goal was to work with the NDOR. Progress with them has been very slow & limited, but I will keep trying.

**Noxious Weed Enforcement**

1. Which legal notice(s) will be utilized by the county weed control authority?  
\_\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_\_ 10 day \_\_\_\_\_ 15 day \_\_\_\_\_ Both
2. List the procedure that the control authority has adopted for the weed superintendent to follow when notifying landowners of uncontrolled noxious weed infestations.

A physical inspection of the land in violation is made, marked on maps in the vehicle and office, pictures taken and an inspection report made out. If the landowner is unknown, his name and address will be determined with the help of the offices of the County Assessor & Register of Deeds. It will be necessary to find out if the control of the land is with another agency such as a Farm Manager and if the tenant or operator is different than the owner. A personal call will be made to this person to inform him or her of the infestation and to determine if any weed control plan is in progress or planned. If an approved program is not in the works, the landowner will be notified of the legal ramifications for non – compliance, either in person or by mail.

3. List the guidelines or policy that the control authority has established for the weed superintendent to follow when **issuing and enforcing an individual notice**. (Include information regarding inspections, evidence, officials to be notified, etc.)

Re-inspect the infestation and verify that no control measures have been initiated. Complete the inspection report and take photographs and plant samples, if necessary. Double check the landowners name and address and send him or her a 10-day Notice by certified mail. File a copy of the notice with the Register of Deeds. Keep the infestation under surveillance during the 10-day interval. If no action is taken, inform the violator of the control measures that will be documented. Inform the County Attorney and the County Treasurer of the forced control and the expense incurred. Send or deliver a bill of services and material to the violator. If not paid within two month's time , have the County Treasurer attach a lien for the amount to the landowner's real estate taxes. Make out a Disposition report and attach it to the file copy of the notice.

**Public Awareness**

Explain the type of public relations activities that your county will use in the upcoming year to increase public awareness (newspaper articles, interviews, presentations given, weed tours, landowner contacts, etc.). **Do not include the required general notice in this section.**

**One on One contact with farmers and landowners to discuss weed control and the different methods of controlling noxious weeds on their property.**

**Distribute weed control articles for publication by the Fremont Tribune daily and the weekly newspapers in North Bend, Hooper and Dodge.**

**Meet with the following:**

- Commercial and Co-op agronomy departments and sprayer operators**
- Managers and employees at the State Lakes and Dead Timber SRA's**
- Municipal Officials**
- Local Highway Dept. personnel**
- County Extension Educators**
- FSA and NRCS managers, directors & staff**
- Nebraska Game & Parks Officials**
- Representatives from the BNSF, and the Union Pacific railroads**

**Cooperative Efforts**

Does your county actively support and participate in a weed management cooperative group?

NO \_\_\_\_\_ YES  Explain

Dodge County has been actively involved with the Lower Platte Weed Management Area since it's inception in December of 2002. We meet monthly at the Lower Platte North NRD office in Wahoo. Our primary emphasis continues to be the curtailment of Purple Loosestrife & Phragmites in the Platte River riparian area. Also we are on the watch for the appearance of Knot Weeds. There are 10 counties involved in the LPWMA.

How does being part of a weed management cooperative group benefit your county?

It is very important that we have cooperation from all adjoining counties and work together in trying to achieve weed control on the Platte River and its tributaries. Because we were able to have an interlocal agreement approved by all of the counties involved, we were able to contract with Sky Copters in 2009 , 2011, 2013, 2014 & 2015. In 2016 , 2017 and 2018 Provine was contracted to spray . In 2019 Nebraska-Iowa Helicopters were hired to spray Phragmites & Purple Loosestrife in Dodge County using Grant money that we greatly appreciate & contributions from landowners. A total of 359 acres were sprayed by helicopter this year in our Lower Platte Weed Management Area.

1. How many total hours does the control authority anticipate will be dedicated to the county noxious weed program? For the coming year? (Hours per quarter)

<u>  520  </u>	January - March
<u>  520  </u>	April - June
<u>  440  </u>	July - September
<u>  260  </u>	October - December

2. Has your county's noxious weed infestations increased or decreased in the past year?  
  increased   Explain.

Musk & Plumeless Thistle populations have remained steady, Canada Thistle acres are up slightly. Leafy Spurge acres are the same, with Purple Loosestrife and Phragmites acres increasing due to increased rain fall. Salt Cedar, Knapweed, Japanese/Bohemian Knotweed have not been found yet. One small infestation of Sericea Lespedeza along State right of way was found in 2017, but has not been locate since. " THANK GOD ! ".



Provide any other information or policy that the control authority has determined to be relevant to the noxious weed control program.

Pursuant to Revised Statutes 2-954 and 2-955, each county weed authority is authorized to serve individual notices to landowners to secure more prompt or definite control of noxious weeds. The weed control authority of Dodge County hereby authorizes the Dodge County Weed Superintendent to make the findings described in the statutes and to issue and deliver individual notices pursuant to the Noxious Weed Control Act.

4. Does your county have a resolution giving your county weed superintendent the authority to issue individual notices?  
NO \_\_\_ YES X

How often is this resolution presented and approved by the County Weed Control Authority?

Yearly – See Paragraph 3 above

Submitted, reviewed, and approved by the county noxious weed control authority at a regular board meeting

Dated 1-18<sup>21</sup>-2021\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Weed Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Control Authority Chairperson

Nebraska Department of Agriculture  
 Bureau of Plant Industry  
 P.O. Box 94756  
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## WEED CONTROL AUTHORITY BOARD ROSTER

(Due January 31st of each year.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Dodge \_\_\_\_\_ County, 2020 \_\_\_\_\_.

**NOTE:** (1) Roster should reflect current or upcoming members only; and (2) Ex-officio or weed liaison commissioners or supervisors designated to receive correspondence in lieu of the chairperson should be indicated as such.

Section 2-953 of the Noxious Weed Control Act defines the control authority as the county weed district board, or the county board.

This control authority is:             County board     Weed board

Name	Mailing Address	City/State/Zip	Telephone <i>(including area code)</i>	Board Type*	Date Current Term Ends	Years of Service
Chairperson/President: Bob Missel	427 Birchwood	Fremont, Ne. 68025	402-721-1531	B	Jan. 2023	17
Vice Chairperson/Vice President: Lon Strand	2239 Co. Rd. E	Hooper, NE 68031	402-654-2455	B	Jan. 2023	14
Treasurer: Bob Bendig	1309 Stanford Ave	Fremont, Ne. 68025	402-727-4959	B	Jan. 2023	2
Secretary: Dan Weddle	2534 Missouri Ave.	Fremont, Ne. 68025	402-721-2651	B	Jan. 2021	8
Member: Doug Backens	740 E. 5th	Fremont, Ne. 68025	402-306 -3420	B	Jan. 2023	2
Member: Greg Beam	1150 N. Ridge Rd	Fremont, NE 68025	402-721-2906	B	Jan. 2021	11
Member: David Saalfeld	684 Co. Rd. Q	North Bend, Ne 68649	402-317-1306	B	Jan. 2021	4
Superintendent: Larry Klahn	435 N. Park Ave.	Fremont, Ne. 68025	402-727-2718			14

\*Board types:    C    =    City representative, weed board  
                       R    =    Rural representative, weed board  
                       B    =    Board member, county commissioner/supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
 County Weed Superintendent signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Control Authority Chairperson/President signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

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**BUDGET REPORT**  
(DUE January 31 of each year)

DODGE County, 2020

**Current Year Budget:**

Available Funds: 46517  
Expenses: 46517 (projected)

**Prior Year Actual:**

Revenues: 46047  
Expenses: 36733

**Superintendent Salary:** 26817

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Weed Superintendent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Control Authority Chairperson/President Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Contact List**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission	Norfolk District III	402-471-0641
Nebraska Dept. of Roads	Kurt Peck	402-727-3292
BELF	Robert Schwartzkopf	308-372-3223
NRD Lower Platte / Elkhorn	Bob Heiman / Julie Wragge	402-443-4675 / 371-7313
RC&D Loess Hills / Great Plains	Kent Neuman / Scott Willet	402-846-5655 / 367-3331
FSA Fremont Office	Bryan Ralston	402-721-8455
NRCS Fremont Office	Becky Pieper	402-721-8455 EXT. 3
Rural Development	Rodney Verhoeff	402-476-0003 / 429-0334
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Gene Mack	308-236-5015
National Forests or Parks		
Railroads UP,BNSF,FEVR	Mike Graybeel	402-544-8007/ 317-571-9091/ 402-727-0615
Irrigation Districts		
Cities and Villages Hooper,Scribner, Fremont	Bruce Cate, Ken Thomas, Scott Getzschman	402-654-3649 / 664-3231 / 727- 2630
Local News Media Fremont Tribune	Gary Loftus	402-721-5000
Public Power District OPPD, Burt County Public Power		800-922-6773 / 402-374-2671
Other Dodge Co. – Sheriff, Attorney,Road Supt.	Steve Hespen,Oliver Glass, Scott Huppert	402-727-2700 / 727-2725 / 727- 2722

*If more space is needed, you may attach additional sheets.*

## **NOXIOUS WEEDS MUST BE CONTROLLED**

### **You are required to control noxious weeds on your property.**

The noxious weeds are: Musk Thistle, Plumeless Thistle, Canada Thistle, Leafy Spurge, Knapweed (spotted and diffuse), Purple Loosestrife, Saltcedar, and Phragmites. Notice is hereby given this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, pursuant to the Noxious Weed Control Act, section 2-955, subsection 1(a), to every person who owns or controls land in \_\_\_\_\_ DODGE \_\_\_\_\_ County, Nebraska, that noxious weeds being grown, or growing on, such land shall be controlled at such frequency as to prevent establishment, provide eradication, or reduce further propagation or dissemination of such weeds.

Upon failure to observe this notice, the county weed superintendent is required to:

1. Proceed pursuant to the law and issue legal notice to the landowner of property infested with noxious weeds and giving such landowner 15 days to control the noxious weed infestation. Conviction for noncompliance may result in a \$100 per day fine to the landowner, with a maximum fine of \$1,500; or
2. Should more immediate control be required, proceed pursuant to the law and have the weeds controlled by such method as he/she finds necessary, the expense of which shall constitute a lien and be entered as a tax against the land, and be collected as other real estate taxes are collected, or by other means, as provided by law.

Also, the public is notified that noxious weed seed and propagative parts may be disseminated through the movement of machinery and equipment, trucks, grain and seed, hay, straw, nursery stock, fencing materials, sod, manure, and soil as well as articles of similar nature. Methods of treatment have been prescribed by the Director of Agriculture and may be obtained from the county weed control authority.

By Order of \_\_\_\_\_ DODGE \_\_\_\_\_ County Weed Control  
Authority.

**NEBRASKA INVASIVE PLANT WATCH LIST  
INFESTATION REPORT (Due January 31, of each year)**

County: DODGE

Year: 2020

COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	Cropland	Pasture/ Range	Forest/ Woodland	Wetland	Rights of Way	Total Acres
Amur maple ( <i>Acer ginnala</i> )						
Australian beardgrass ( <i>Bothriochloa bladhii</i> )						
Black knapweed ( <i>Centaurea moncktonii</i> )						
*Brittle naiad ( <i>Najas minor</i> )						
Crown vetch ( <i>Securigera varia</i> )						
Cutleaf teasel ( <i>Dipsacus laciniatus</i> )						
Eurasian water-milfoil ( <i>Myriophyllum</i> )						
European alder-buckthorn ( <i>Frangula alnus</i> )						
Garlic mustard ( <i>Allaria petiolata</i> )						
*Giant reed ( <i>Arundo donax L.</i> )						
*Giant salvinia ( <i>Salvinia molesta</i> )						
Goat's rue ( <i>Galega officinalis</i> )						
Henbane ( <i>Hyoscyamus niger</i> )						
Hoary cress ( <i>Cardaria draba L.</i> )						
Houndstongue ( <i>Cynoglossum officinale</i> )						
*Hydrilla ( <i>Hydrilla verticillata</i> )						
Japanese honeysuckle ( <i>Lonicera japonica</i> )						
Kudzu ( <i>Pueraria montana var. lobata</i> )						
*Oriental bittersweet ( <i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i> )						
Perennial pepperweed ( <i>Lepidium latifolium</i> )						
Russian knapweed ( <i>Acroptilon repens</i> )						
Saltlover ( <i>Halogeton glomeratus</i> )						
Sickleweed ( <i>Falcaria vulgaris</i> )						
St. Johnswort ( <i>Hypericum perforatum</i> )					20	20
Sulphur cinquefoil ( <i>Potentilla recta L.</i> )						
Sweet autumn virgin's bower ( <i>Clematis terniflora</i> )						
*Water hyacinth ( <i>Eichhornia crassipes</i> )						
Yellow bedstraw ( <i>Galium verum</i> )					5	5
Yellow bluestem ( <i>Bothriochloa ischaemum</i> )						
Yellow star thistle ( <i>Centaurea solstitialis</i> )						
<b>Total Acres Infested</b>					25	25

Return completed report to: Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Animal & Plant Health Protection, PO Box 94756, Lincoln, NE 68509