



Mary Tarter, President
April, 2017

Vol. 31, Number 1

Association webpage <http://sdweedandpest.com/>

President's Message

Greetings to all my weed fighters! As you know, several years ago Gary Pribyl indicated that we needed to start looking for someone to take over his duties as Secretary\Treasurer for the Association as he wanted to try retirement. This past year we have been in the process and negotiations to hire an Executive Director. On April 3, 2017 at our executive meeting in Pierre, we finalized and signed a contract with Larry Kucker. Larry is from Sioux Falls\Ft.Pierre. He can tell you about himself. Welcome aboard Larry.

We cannot thank Gary enough for all the time, dedication, and passion he has given to the Association over the past 19 years. He will stay on to help Larry familiarize himself and get up to speed on time-sensitive issues and Association business for the coming year. We would be amiss if we failed to recognize the contributions of Gary's other half, too. Thank you so much, Nina!! We sincerely appreciate all they have done for the Association and wish them well as they hop in their camper and enjoy their retirement.

We had good discussion at our meeting and I am excited to see some of the ideas and suggestions materialize. In May, we will have 250 5th grade students making 3 farm visits. Mike Stensen will give a short presentation on noxious weeds to them.

SPRING TRAININGS

West River: The annual safety training will be held May 17, 9-4, at the Walt Taylor 4-H building at the Central States Fairground in Rapid City. No charge. For more information contact Scott Guffey [605-394-5320](tel:605-394-5320) scottg@pennco.org

East River: A field day and plant ID training will be held at the Codington Extension Center On May 24. I do not have a start time, but contact Steve Molengraff at [605-882-6300](tel:605-882-6300) or [605-880-2922](tel:605-880-2922) Eweed.codcoext@midconetwork.com for more information. Please bring a sack lunch.

Thanks to these fellows for organizing these trainings. They are not mandatory, but always informative.

Executive Director

I am pleased to be working with the Association and need to tell you that filling Gary's shoes will be a big job. He has been very helpful in the transition and will be around helping me in this first cycle.

Over the next few months I look forward to meeting many of the members of the Association and look forward to working with all of you. Based on the last Executive Board meeting the coming year should see some exciting activities and hope the membership enjoys them.

This is a busy time of year for agriculture and I want you to know that you can contact me at any time with questions and ideas. My contact information is cell: (605) 359-5333 or email: lkucker@me.com.

Noteworthy

If your county grant was denied by the Commission, it was because the criteria was not met. You must read all the guidelines. These are subject to change every year and the competitive and contractual grants are not the same.

We will be asking for volunteers to help in the booths at the various farm shows and fairs this year to take the pressure off the Dept. of Ag folks. So if you are asked and available, please consider helping out. Thanks.

If anyone has ideas or topics for the next conference, please contact the conference committee: Mary Tarter, Larry Kucker, Paul Johnson, Ralph Hammer, Brenda Sievers, Scott Guffey, or Nate Jagim.

WEED MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

Information from the SD Department of Agriculture

[Proper Application Timing Maximizes Invasive Plant Control](#)

Spring and early summer can be excellent times to control actively growing invasive plants with herbicides. The following guidelines provide information on the optimum application timing and rate to control key invasive plants. [READ MORE](#)

<http://techlinenews.com/articles/2015/proper-application-timing-maximizes-invasive-plant-control>

[Invasive Plant Inventory and Early Detection Prioritization Tool](#)

Utah State University partnered with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to develop the Invasive Plant Inventory and Early Detection Prioritization Tool (IPIEDT) and associated user's guide

[READ MORE](#)

<http://techlinenews.com/resources/2017/yfpyo83sulfitkdj8iti31m0v9g8>