



*Salt Cedar (Tamarix ramosissima)*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Greetings from my Desk*  
By President Mary Tarter

I don't have much to report in this issue. The district meetings are over and seemed to be well attended. The Department of Ag shared some good information to those in attendance.

The Annual Weed and Pest Conference will be held in Rapid City beginning February 14 through the 16th, 2018, at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel and Convention Center, so get your reservations in early. The supervisors training will be on February 14. There is a block of rooms reserved for us. Call 605-343-8550 for reservations.

Remember, the same rules for grant money from the Weed and Pest Commission still apply as they have in the past. To qualify for the whole grant, two people from each county must attend the whole conference. If only one person attends, you will only receive half of the grant money.

Those that have qualified for the Competitive grant will need to present twice, once before the Commission and again before the general assembly. A shortened presentation may be given to the Commission. Not all Commission members attend the whole conference, so they need to learn what you have done with your grant money. We will have an opportunity to see and learn how other counties are implementing their grant projects.

We will be having the gun raffle again with tickets for 2 guns. Remember this is for the scholarship fund. There will be 145 tickets sold for \$20 each. The drawings will be held during the conference. If you did not get your tickets at the district meeting, you can purchase them now by mail or you will have an opportunity to get them at conference before the drawing.

We will have the silent auction again. This money goes to the scholarship fund and is a lot of fun, so bring an item for the auction.

Be sure to register for the conference online on our new website at [sdweedandpest.com](http://sdweedandpest.com). If you don't have access online, get in touch with Larry Kucker.

In order to vote, your county or individual annual membership dues must be current.

***Have a wonderful holiday season. See you at the conference.*** ∞

## PROUD SPONSOR OF OUR ASSOCIATION



Wheat Growers is a grain and agronomy cooperative serving 5,100 member owners from 40 locations in the heart of North and South Dakota.

## SHOTGUN RAFFLE

Don't Miss this 2 Shotgun Raffle! Only 145 \$20 chances to be sold. Proceeds will support the Scholarship/Education Fund.



*Remington Model 870 Wingmaster 23/4 & 3", 26" barrel with choke tubes.*



*Remington Model 870 Express 23/4 & 3", 26" barrel.*

### ENTRY DETAILS

Drawing to be held at Annual Conference Feb 14, 2018.  
First name drawn will have choice of gun.

**Must be 18 to enter.**

**Entrants need not be present to win.**

**Mail check for \$20/ticket to:**  
WPA – 316 East Broadway, Pierre, SD 57501

**Tickets also available at Annual Conference.**

# 2018 ANNUAL WEED & PEST CONFERENCE

## VENUE:

Ramkota Conference Center  
2111 N Lacrosse St  
Rapid City, SD 57701

## REGISTRATION:

Registration is available for the following:

Individual Attendee - \$115

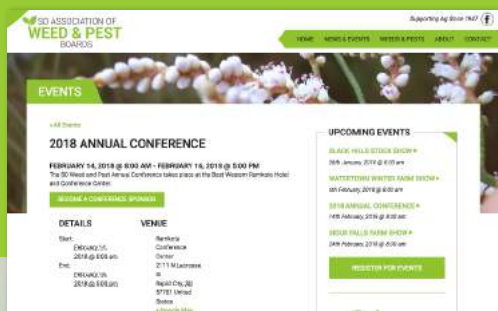
Supervisor Training - \$35

Exhibitor - \$215

## SPONSORSHIP:

*Paid sponsors will be listed on the agenda and/or sponsor board. All contributions will be used for the hospitality room and breaks.*

Visit our website at  
[SDWeedandPest.com](http://SDWeedandPest.com)  
for more details and  
online registration.



## TENTATIVE AGENDA

### TUESDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2018

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM – Registration – Foyer

### WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2018

7:00 AM – 9:00 AM Registration – Foyer

8:00 AM – Supervisors Training

NOON – Lunch

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM – Weed and Pest Commission Meeting

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM – Registration – Foyer

### THURSDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2018

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM Registration – Foyer

8:00 AM – Weed Free Gravel and Forage Forage Standards with Ron Moehring, SD Dept of Ag.

8:45 AM – Medusahead & Vententa Invasive Grasses: Brian Mealor, Univ. of WY

9:35 AM – Vendor Introductions: Larry Kucker, Executive Director Association of SD Weed & Pest Boards

10:15 AM – Break: Visit Exhibitors

10:30 AM – South Dakota Native Grassland Survey: Pete Bauman, SDSU Extension

11:15 AM – Federal Agencies Noxious Weed Program Roundtable

NOON – Lunch

1:15 PM – Paperless Spray Record Keeping: Nickholai O'Hara, SD GF&P

2:00 PM – Belle Fourche River Watershed Partnership with Matt Stoltenburg, Coordinator BFRWP

2:45 PM – Break: Visit Exhibitors

3:15 PM – State Agencies Noxious Weed Program Round Table

4:00 PM – Drift Complaints and Dicamba update by JD Farley, SD Dept. of Ag.

4:45 PM – Get ready for the Banquet and Awards Banquet. Visit Exhibitors. Last Chance for Silent Auction Bids, Gun Raffle

6:30 PM – Awards Banquet

### FRIDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2018

8:00 AM – Annual Association Meeting

9:00 AM – 2017 SD Weed and Pest Commission Grant Presentations

10:00 AM – Break: Visit Exhibitors

10:15 AM – County Noxious Weed Program Round Table

11:15 AM – SDSU with Paul Johnson, SDSU Extension Services

NOON – Adjourn

## CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

### Nikholai O'Hara

*GIS Program Specialist,  
SD Game, Fish and Parks*

*Title: 'Paperless Spray Record Keeping'*



Nikholai is a graduate of Minnesota State University – Moorhead majoring in Biology with an emphasis in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology while obtaining a certification in GIS. Nikholai has worked for the National Park Service & California Fish & Wildlife where he developed his GIS skills. He now works at the South Dakota Game, Fish, & Parks as a GIS specialist.

Mobile data collection has grown significantly in recent years and having a simple, intuitive workflow is critical for users. Survey123 offers a form based data collection solution that is easily customizable. In this session, he will be summarizing the capabilities of Survey123. We will visit different workflows and showcase features such as choice filters, relevancy, calculations, the pulldata function, etc. This session will also touch on survey creation tips and tricks, current limitations, and survey examples that South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks has created specifically looking at our Weed Spray Survey.

### Brian A Mealor

*Dir. of Research & Extension Center,  
University of Wyoming*

*Title: 'Wyoming's Work on Ventenata and  
Medusahead Invasive Grasses'*



Brian Mealor is the Director of the University of Wyoming's Research and Extension Center in Sheridan, and associate professor in the Department of Plant Sciences. His work focuses primarily on restoring rangeland ecosystems negatively impacted by invasive plants.

Brian has served as president of the Wyoming Section Society for Range Management (SRM), chaired the international SRM's rangeland invasive species committee, and currently serves on the greater sage grouse range-wide fire and invasive species working group.

Brian is the founder of the Wyoming Restoration Challenge and a founding member of the Northeast Wyoming Invasive Grass Working Group. He was named outstanding young range professional by SRM in 2013 and outstanding early career weed scientist by the Western Society of Weed Science in 2015.

### Matt Stoltenberg

*Program Coordinator,  
BFRWP*

*Title: 'Belle Fourche River Watershed Partnership'*



Matt Stoltenberg is the project coordinator for the Belle Fourche River Watershed Partnership. Matt has been working with the BFRWP for 11 years on various water quality improvement projects in the watershed including irrigation improvements and range/riparian improvements.

Matt also has a range consulting business that focuses on rangeland assessments, monitoring, and livestock grazing plans in Western South Dakota, Wyoming, and Nebraska.

Matt has an undergraduate degree in biology from Chadron State College, and a Master of Science degree in Range Management from South Dakota State University.

In addition to these speakers we will have presentations Thursday and Friday from people we are very familiar with:

- ▶ Paul Johnson and Pete Bauman from SDSU Extension Services
- ▶ Ron Moehring and JD Farley from the SD Department of Agriculture

***This an exceptional lineup of speakers so plan on attending this conference. ∞***

### PROUD SPONSOR OF OUR ASSOCIATION



Pennington Conservation District help farmers and ranchers face the problems of wind and water erosion, noxious weeds, and shortage of water for livestock and irrigation.

# CONFERENCE EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

*The upcoming annual conference will feature close to 200 attendees from South Dakota and surrounding states. Exhibitors can't afford to miss this premier exposure for their business.*

## IMPORTANT DEADLINES

### FOR PRINTED REGISTRATIONS:

Printed registration form with payment must be postmarked by February 2, 2018.

### FOR ONLINE REGISTRATIONS:

Payment for forms submitted electronically must be received by February 1, 2018.

Due to printing time constraints, if this deadline is not met or if your payment is not received, we can not list sponsors or your business in the program or on the conference signage.

## REQUIREMENTS:

We would like to receive a pdf or gif of your logo to include on signage listing vendors and sponsors via email to [wpassoc1@gmail.com](mailto:wpassoc1@gmail.com).

The exhibit area will have electricity, please bring an extension cord. Contact us if additional services are needed.

Remember that additional exhibitors (2nd or more) require their own Conference registration to participate.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ONLINE REGISTRATIONS, VISIT [SDWEEDANDPEST.COM](http://SDWEEDANDPEST.COM)

## PAYMENT:

Make checks payable to: Weed and Pest Conference. You can also register online for a direct bill option.

Return or submit registration online or by mail with payment to:

Weed and Pest Conference  
c/o Larry Kucker, Executive Director  
316 E Broadway  
Pierre, SD 57501



"Like" our Facebook page at [facebook.com/sdweedandpest](https://facebook.com/sdweedandpest)

Check back regularly for updates and current information.

**SPACE IS LIMITED AND ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.  
16 - 20 EXHIBITOR SLOTS ARE AVAILABLE.**

## TOM'S TURF TIPS

*Don't just "leave" your leaves!*

If you haven't been snowed on by the time this newsletter reaches you, here is some information for you to consider next spring and fall.

For your last pass across the lawn this fall, run your mower across without a bagger and simply mulch the leaves to shred them into little bits. Slow down the speed of your mower and the shredded bits will work their way down between grass blades and gradually decompose.



This will add nitrogen and other nutrients to improve health turf. If you garden, you can start a mulch pile of grass clippings and bagged leaves. Just add water to the compost pile, from time to time, and turn as needed. You can add finished compost to new gardens and vegetable plots about a month before planting!