

### Weed and Pest Newsletter

Fall 2013

1029 N. River St., Hot Springs, SD 57747 – (605) 745-5047

Issue 5

# GRANT **\$** for Reimbursement

**IF** you own land <u>adjacent to or in close proximity to **national grasslands or national forest lands**, you qualify for reimbursement for herbicides purchased from June 17, 2013 to October 25, 2013. This grant is from the Department of Ag, Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry.</u>

To participate in this reimbursement program you will need to do the following:

1. Make a copy of the receipt(s) of herbicides purchased from 6/17/13 to 10/25/13.

- 2. Complete the grant information worksheet which can be obtained from the Weed and Pest office .
- 3. Return the copy(s) of receipts and the worksheet to the Fall River Co. Weed and Pest office by October 28, 2013. If you have any questions, please call the Weed and Pest office at 745-5047.

## Time to Work On... Prairie Dog Invasions

Fall is the traditional time to start chasing prairie dogs in well established towns and finding those new holes that are just the beginning. If you don't do something NOW, your battle will only be greater next spring.

Here are FOUR proven methods of decreasing the prairie dog population:

- Zinc Phosphide Prairie Dog Bait (Poison Oats)
- Fumitoxin Pellets
- Rozol
- PERC (Pressurized Exhaust –Carbon monoxide)

Each has its own application period, cost per acre, effort of application and restriction. All applicators should read the full label of the product before applying. If you would like more information about any of the methods in more detail or where to purchase products, contact your local Weed and Pest Office.

## Salt Cedar.... Here We Come.... Again!!

Invasive noxious weeds like Salt Cedar may never be eradicated, but management and continuous control does make a difference. Through a grant opportunity with the SD Weed and Pest Commission, the Fall River County Weed and Pest Board has funds to spray the Salt Cedar growths throughout the county. We started to spray in September along the Cheyenne River, north of the Angostura Dam to Oral and a few sections east of Edgemont, but have delayed work till late October hoping that the river level might drop to increase accessibility on the river. If you know of any Salt Cedar growths outside of the river, a dam face, or a draw area that you suspect or know of Salt Cedar plant please call the Weed and Pest office and we will survey the area and apply herbicide to any plants found.

#### License ,..... For What ?

A private applicator certification is required before a producer can purchase or use a restricted-use pesticide. That includes many methods of prairie dog control. Take a quick look at your applicator license to check its expiration date. If it will be or is expired there will be recertification workshops held in January and February in the area. Contact the FRC Extension office, 745-5133, for dates and times. For this or more information contact the SD Department of Agriculture, Division of Ag. Services, 523 East Capital Ave.- Foss Building, Pierre, SD 57501 – Phone 605-773-4432. Or

If you have never had an applicator license or need to renew now, there is an on-line test at www.sdda.sd.gov/Ag\_Services or by completing a home study course provided by the local county Extension Cffice. There is no fee for a private applicator certification card, which is valid for five years.



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#### White horehound

**H**orehound (Marrubium vulgare L.) is native to Europe that was probably introduced into the US as a garden herb. It escaped cultivation and has become widely distributed along roadsides, dry waste areas, and in gardens. A weed of pastures and crops, it thrives on poor soil and in waste places. It invades poor pastures which provide little competition. Horehound contains a bitter alkaloid which makes it unpalatable for grazing livestock. The burrs contaminate wool, and reduce the value of the fleece. Meat of animals which are forced to eat horehound is tainted by the plant's strong flavor and it takes about seven grazing days on clean pasture for animals to lose this.

**M**anagement: Prescribed measures for the control of this noxious weed are an application of a registered herbicide with metsulfuron in the early growth stage and cultivation by pulling but regrowth may occur from left over root system.

#### 2013 Weed and Pest Board Members

Jerry Wyatt – President John Sides – Vice-President Nina Steinmetz – Secretary Joe Falkenberg – Co. Commissioner John Bogner Heath Greenough Wayne Hageman Wade Wilkins

#### **Regular Meetings:**

First Thursday of the month 2:00 PM – Fall River co. Jury Room Check the Fall River Co. Website, http://fallriver.sdcounties.org for any changes, agendas, and minutes from past meetings.

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#### Where Do You Find the Weed and Pest Spray Staff?

For the 2013 year the Weed and Pest staff has had opportunity to attend three community centered activities," The Spring Fling" in Hot Springs, The Fall River Co. Fair in Edgemont, and the "Fall Festival" in Hot Springs. Our booth is full of weed ID samples, visual posters, literature about invasive species to help in identifying and management, a display of a mountain pine beetle hit tree, and items that help eliminate a few flying pests (fly swatters). We, one spray employee, Ray P., and myself, are also found traveling along in the ROW truck or on UTVs on the 520 miles of county roads spot spraying for locally and state noxious weeds from May to October. We also travel to the national grasslands, forest service and Corp. of Engineer lands to help in the fight of invading weeds to adjacent landowner property. We visit landowners to assist in plant identifications and assist in management control plans for weeds and pest (prairie dogs). Office time is usually found late in the afternoons, but if it is raining or very winding, we may be in early if the repairs are simple. Karen J manages our communication system and will be glad take names and numbers for me to get back to you.

Thank you for another year of learning and seeing what is growing in Fall River County.

Nina Steinmetz, FRC Weed & Pest Supervisor

Fall River County Weed & Pest 1029 N. River St. Hot Springs, SD 57747