

Jefferson County Weed District Private Applicator Training

January 30, 2019 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
Madison-Jefferson County Extension Office, Whitehall

Register by calling Jill @ (406) 498-3052
or the Extension Office @ 287.3282

8:30 – 9:00 AM ***Registration Welcome & Introductions.***

9:00– 10:00 AM ***Bio-control of the Important Weeds in Our Area with Emphasis on the Best Combinations of Agents and New “Up and Coming” Critters—TODD BREITENFELDT-- Whitehall Project P.O. Box 883, Whitehall, MT 59759 Cell: 406.498.5236***

This presentation will cover how to tie biological weed control into an integrated weed control strategy. Items covered will include: Pros and cons of biological control, when to use and not use bio-control, knowing “the label” of a bio-control agent, insect economy, some specific information on the insects for spotted/diffuse knapweed, leafy spurge, and a bit about the new/potential agents for Russian knapweed, whitetop, and Canada thistle.

Todd Breitenfeldt taught 6-12 science at Whitehall High School for 30+ years and am newly retired. I have a B.S. in Forestry with an emphasis in recreation from the University of Montana. I have earned an M.S. in Entomology from Montana State University studying *Calophasia lunula*, a biological control agent for Dalmatian toadflax. I have been the Whitehall Biological Weed Control Project Coordinator since 1993. This project educates the public about bio-control of noxious weeds, mass rears, collects and redistributes thousands of bio-control insects every year with high school aged workers. From this project, I have taught numerous summer classes for teachers and others about how to start similar programs in Montana, Idaho, Utah and Nevada. I am a co-author of “Biological Weed Control Using Insects, A Field Guide for Montana” and the site supervisor of the mtwow.org web site.

10:00 -11:00 AM ***Getting To Know Your Grasses—NOELLE ORLOFF--Schutter Diagnostic Lab Montana State University Extension, 406-994-6297 noelleorloff@montana.edu <http://diagnostics.montana.edu/>***

Noelle will give land managers key information to identify different grass species.

Noelle Orloff is an Associate Extension Specialist at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana, where she focuses on weed science in the Schutter Diagnostic Lab. One of her responsibilities in the lab is identifying plants submitted by growers, ranchers and homeowners and providing management recommendations if needed. Another is diagnosing herbicide injury of crops and ornamental plants. Current and past research pursuits have included investigating perennial weed control in organic and diversified cropping systems, and exploring rangeland plant community response to weed control measures. She received her master’s degree in Land Resources and Environmental Sciences from Montana State University.

11:00—11:15 AM ***Break***

11:15 AM-12:15 PM ***Calibration Practices—CECIL THARP—Pesticide Extension Specialist Montana State University Extension 406-994-5067 ctharpf@montana.edu***

This presentation will include tricks for accurately calibrating prior to application of herbicides.

Cecil Tharp is the Pesticide Education Specialist for the Montana State University Extension Service. He received his PhD in Entomology with emphasis in Integrated Pest Management from MSU – Bozeman in 2014. From 1995 to 2007 Cecil conducted research on insect pests with the USDA / Agricultural Research Service and Montana State University. In that time, he led a team of two to five technicians in testing hundreds of experimental pesticide formulations, some of which are registered today. As the Pesticide Education Specialist, he coordinates the certification and training of Montana private applicators and assists in the training of general use and government / commercial applicators.

12:15-1:15

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:15-2:00 PM

Using EDDMapS West for Noxious Weed Management—JASMINE REIMER--

Website: <http://agr.mt.gov/Noxious-Weed-Trust-Fund-Grants>, Phone: 444-7882, jreimer@mt.gov

Early Detection Distribution Mapping System) is a fast, free, and simple way of reporting and mapping noxious weed infestations in Montana. This tool also serves as a mechanism for alerting appropriate individuals to new invaders, noxious weed identification, tracking management efficiency, and generating distribution maps on the state and county level. The reports are verified by your county weed coordinator, and can be submitted from any smartphone, tablet device, or from your home computer. EDDMapS West can help Montanan's stay ahead of new invaders before control becomes too technically and financially impossible.

Jasmine Reimer attended the University of Montana, where she pursued a bachelor's degree in sustainable agriculture and business. She has a background in secondary education teaching environmental studies for Boston University, and has worked in both the pesticide licensing and apiary programs with Montana's Department of Agriculture (MDA). Jasmine is currently the Noxious Weed Trust Fund coordinator for MDA, and says her favorite part of the job is getting to visit landowners and project coordinators across the state to see all the hard work that is being done to combat noxious weeds and improve native habitat.

2:00 –2:15 PM

Noxious Weed Seed Free Forage Program—RORY RUFFNER-- 406-444-7819

Rory.ruffner@mt.gov

Recreational users of all public lands in Montana, both state and federal, must feed pack animals a forage that is certified free of noxious weed seeds prior to and during their trips into the backcountry. Producers of hay and straw must have their fields certified by trained inspectors before each cutting in order to sell the forage as noxious weed seed free. The Montana Dept of Agriculture (MDA) provides the oversight and management of all aspects to ensure compliance with applicable forage laws and regulations. This effort helps to prevent new noxious weed infestations on public land and educates those who recreate on them.

Rory Ruffner attended Utah State University and earned a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies with an emphasis in GIS and Remote Sensing. He has over 20 years' experience dealing with natural resource management to include spraying weeds, land reclamation, and vegetation mapping. Before coming to work for the Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA) in October of 2018, Rory was a contract employee to the Department of Defense at Fort Harrison outside of Helena since 2001. He is currently the Noxious Weed Seed Free Forage Coordinator for MDA, and says his favorite part of the job is working with a dedicated and knowledgeable group of people who are concerned about the impact of noxious weeds on our state's natural resources.

2:15--3:15 PM

Rangeland Restoration: Renovating Winter Annual Plant Dominated Communities

Exceptional Bare Ground Weed Control with new Plainview SC Herbicide—STEVE SAUNDERS--Bridger AgVentures, LLC / Consultant for Bayer Crop Science in MT & WY 406-580-1027 yeehawmt@gmail.com

Season-long bare ground control is a tricky endeavor. However, with new Plainview SC herbicide (planned launch Spring 2019) will change the game for bare ground applicators. This 3-way herbicide formulation combines 3 modes of action in one container to provide incredible bare ground weed control. This complete package weed control system will tackle the toughest weeds like kochia, Russian thistle, brome grasses-both cheatgrass and smooth brome, quackgrass, prickly lettuce, sweet clover, curly dock, bindweed, salsify, maretail and sand dropseed.

Millions of acres of western rangelands are overrun by annual grasses and forbs. One application of Esplanade will provide 3-5 years control. Species like cheatgrass, Japanese brome, ventenata, medusahead, mustards, yellow alyssum and many more rob rangeland forage productivity, decrease native plant diversity, reduce quality of wildlife habitat, increases soil erosion, increases wildfire vulnerability, utilizes precious soil moisture and fertility. The bottom-line is that annuals degrade everything because of their incredible competition against the more desirable plants. Learn how Esplanade can renovate and restore roadside ROW's, wildlife areas and native rangelands in Montana and across the west.

Steve is the President of Bridger AgVentures, LLC and is currently working part-time as consulting sales rep for Bayer Environmental Service providing sales support and stewarding of their IVM and R&P businesses in Montana and Wyoming. He also provides consulting services to other entities conducting rangeland inventory, resource assessment, mediation of groups for operational management and practices, manage and oversee weed control and vegetation management applications and projects, provide natural resource site assessments and utilization/planning documentation. Steve is a retired Rangeland Management Specialist from Dow AgroSciences where he put in 32 years. He has worked

with County Weed Districts, state and federal land management agencies, dealers, commercial applicators and ranchers and farmers across Montana, Idaho and Wyoming providing sales support and product stewardship. Steve has a Bachelor of Science in Ag Production/Range Sciences from Montana State University where he graduated in 1977. Steve is also a Past-President of the Montana Weed Control Association (1997), a Certified Professional in Range Management - Society for Range Management, Past-Chair of Society for Range Management's Leadership Development Committee, and a Past-Member of Montana State University's Beef Advisory Committee representing Montana Stock Growers Association.

3:15--3:30 PM Break

3:30—4:15 PM ***Water Quality Solutions and Maximizing Herbicide Performance Using Adjuvants—CLINT SAUNDERS--MT & WY Territory Manager, Vegetation Management 17630 Rocky Mountain Road Belgrade, MT 59714 c 406-224-1077 clint.saunders@nutrien.com www.nutrienagsolutions.com***

We will discuss how to use Adjuvants to alter the negative effects of poor water quality, as well as maximize the herbicide's potential for many weed control programs.

Clint Saunders was born and raised in Montana. Growing up involved in agriculture and a passion for the outdoors, Clint continued on to study Agriculture Business at Montana State University. Currently Clint is a Sales Specialist with Nutrien Solutions Vegetation Management Division, striving to provide Montanan's with the product and knowledge they need to combat invasive weeds in the beautiful state of Montana.

4:15 PM **Wrap up and credit signup.**