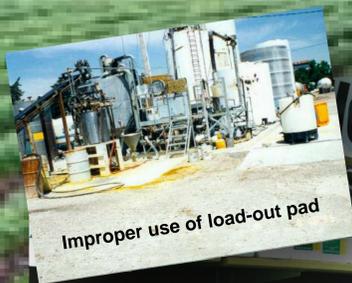


Pesticide Inspection Program

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) began the pesticide enforcement program in 1994 as a phased-in transfer of authority from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Pesticide Program is responsible for regulating the distribution, storage, and use of all pesticides in the state under the authority of the Nebraska Pesticide Act. The **goal** of the pesticide program is to protect the citizens of Nebraska and the environment from the harmful effects of pesticides by ensuring these products are handled, stored, and used properly, safely, and effectively. To carry out this goal, the pesticide program has made education and training a priority combined with a vigorous inspection program.

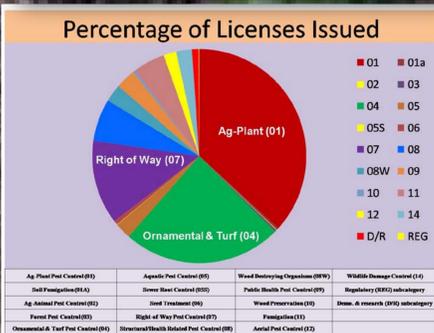
Applicator, Dealer, and Marketplace Inspections



Worker Protection

The **Worker Protection Standard (WPS)** requires **employers** of agricultural **workers** (conducting hand labor in the production of agricultural plants on farms, in greenhouses, in nurseries, in forests) and pesticide **handlers** (people mixing, loading, or applying pesticides or doing other tasks involving direct contact with pesticides) to take steps to minimize levels of occupational exposure to pesticides. One of the employer's responsibilities is to provide pesticide safety training.

Certification & Training



NDA Pesticide Program Applicator & Dealer Licenses

Certified Nebraska Applicators

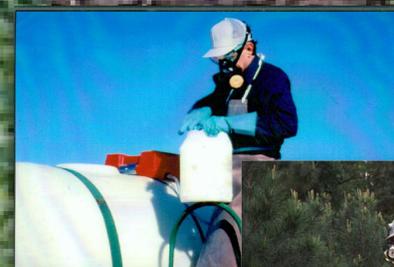
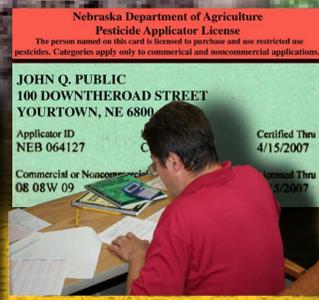
Private	23,170
Commercial	6,046
Noncommercial	2,543

Reciprocal licenses with other states:

Private	7
Commercial/ Noncommercial	509

Annual commercial/noncommercial exams taken.....3,482
 Annual 60-Day Rule Applicators.....195
 Licensed Pesticide Dealers.....690

* Approximately one-third of these numbers recertify their license annually, which is good for a three-year period.
 ** The Nebraska Pesticide Act allows for noncertified individuals to work under the direct supervision of a certified applicator for only one 60 day period. Approximately 25% go on to pass the needed exams to become fully certified.



Proper Waste Pesticide Disposal

Pesticide Container Recycling Program

Sponsored by University of Nebraska Extension and participating businesses, this program has approximately 35 collection sites across the state annually.

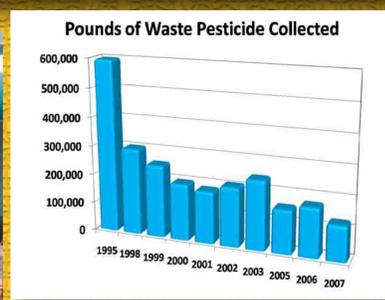


See pested.unl.edu for dates and locations of collection sites and specific program information.



Recycled plastic from these containers are used to create:

- Fence posts
- Landscape timbers
- Pallets
- "New" pesticide containers
- Drainage tiles
- Marine pilings
- Speed bumps
- Railroad ties
- Hazard waste drums
- Sound barriers
- Construction site mats
- Energy recovery (heat for a kiln)
- Commercial truck/manure spreader decker boards
- Commercial truck sub-floor support member
- Parking lot stops
- Scaffold nailing strips



To date, over **2,000,000 pounds** have been collected through this program. Future program funding is uncertain. Please watch for NDA, UNL Extension, or other media announcements.



Additional information on these programs and others can be found on NDA's web site at: <http://www.agr.ne.gov/>

Endangered Species Protection

One component of NDA's responsibilities under the Nebraska Pesticide Act is to administer a program to protect threatened and endangered (T&E) species from pesticide exposure. Shown here are several Nebraska T&E species that can be adversely affected by certain pesticides. All applicators - private, commercial/noncommercial, and homeowners - should read pesticide labels carefully, and follow any specific use directions for T&E species protection.



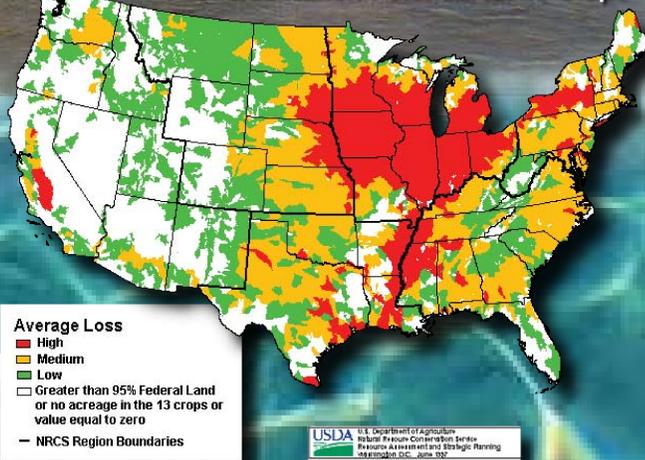
Colorado Butterfly Plant



Water Quality Protection

As the state lead agency on issues relating to pesticides and water quality, NDA is responsible for development and implementation of pesticide management plans for the prevention, evaluation, and mitigation of occurrences of pesticides, or pesticide breakdown products, in ground and surface water.

Pesticide Runoff Potential for 13 Crops

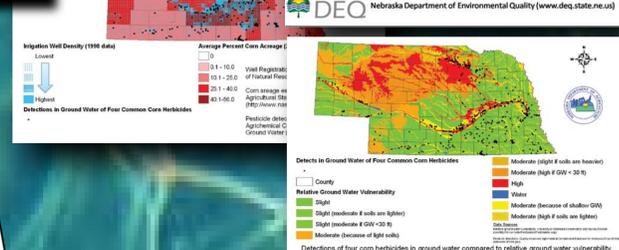
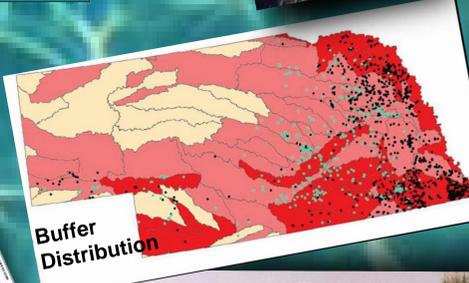
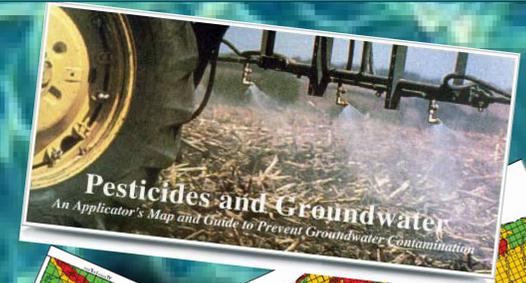


Activities

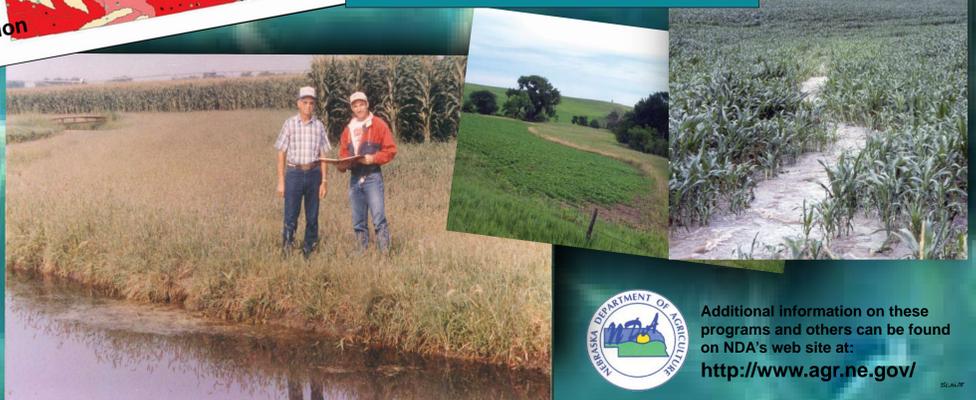
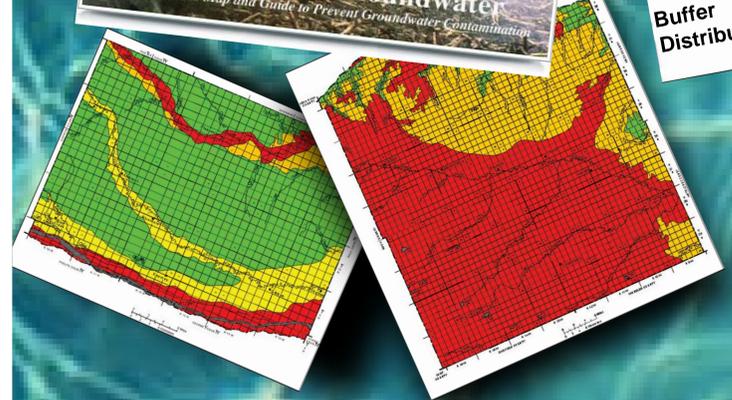
- Conduct water quality vulnerability assessment and evaluate monitoring data
- Promote educational materials, such as County Pesticides and Groundwater Guides and other UNL Extension publications
- Encourage the proper use, mixing/loading, and disposal of pesticides and pesticide containers
- Encourage the adoption of IPM and the implementation of BMPs for both agricultural and urban/residential use sites (such as filter strips, residue management, terraces, setbacks and buffer zones, irrigation management, rain gardens, etc.)
- Financially support the maintenance of the Quality-Assessed Agricultural Contaminant Database for Nebraska Ground Water (<http://dnrdata.dnr.ne.gov/Clearinghouse/>)
- Administer the Nebraska Buffer Strip Program, which is funded by pesticide registration fees



County Pesticides and Groundwater Guides



Nebraska Buffer Strip Program



Additional information on these programs and others can be found on NDA's web site at: <http://www.agr.ne.gov/>