

WEED INSPECTOR FOR RM OF LEROY #339

Who Am I?

My name is Bryce Moore and I grew up just north of the town of LeRoy. I attended the University of Saskatchewan in the College of Agriculture and Bio-resources and received my BSA (with distinction) in 2013 with a major in Agronomy and a Minor in Agribusiness. Since completing my formal education I have been practicing as an Agronomist through Western Ag Professional Agronomy specializing in fertility and crop planning as well as operating a grain and oilseed farm with my father Dave. I have my Professional Agrologist designation through the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists and became the Weed Inspector for the RM of LeRoy #339 in the spring of 2016.



What is a Weed Inspector and Why Do We Have One?

Weed Inspectors are appointed by RM's to enforce the Weed Control Act provincial legislation regarding Prohibited, Noxious, and Nuisance weeds. The Weed Inspector is primarily tasked with "issuing agreements or orders for the eradication of Prohibited Weeds and isolated Noxious Weeds, or containment and Integrated Control of established Noxious Weeds as well as Integrated Control measures of Nuisance Weeds" (1). In simpler terms, a Weed Inspector is a third party (not affiliated with the RM council, has complete authority on these issues) dedicated to controlling and preventing the spread of extremely troublesome weeds. The weeds we are concerned with spread rapidly, are difficult to control, may be toxic to wildlife and humans, present a major concern of contamination in agricultural products, or threaten native habitat and species. However these issues are difficult to control unless early detection and eradication/control is taken. A great analogy is putting out many little fires while they are small before the fire grows out of control.

What is the Weed Inspectors Role with RM Taxpayers/Residents?

The Weed Inspector as mentioned is third party. The Weed Inspector is a resource for all RM landowners, residents, and taxpayers to be utilized at no cost to them when a Prohibited, Noxious, or Nuisance weed problem is suspected on their own land or elsewhere. The Weed Inspector handles ANONYMOUS calls/complaints submitted to the RM office which are followed up with an inspection, weed identification, and suitable control strategies. The Weed Inspector does not punish those with designated weeds on their land, but instead works with landowners and farmers offering advice on possible ways to help control the issue before it spreads.

* Weed Control Act list of Prohibited, Noxious, and Nuisance Weeds can be found at: <http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/details.cfm?p=75172>

* Weed Control Act in its entirety is available at: <http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/details.cfm?p=31364>

What to Watch Out For?

This past year I have identified a number of Noxious weeds in the RM including, but not limited to:

- Narrow-Leaved Hawks Beard (SE Corner of RM)
- Scentless Chamomile (Across RM)
- Oxeye Daisy
- Nodding Thistle
- Cleavers
- Canada Thistle
- Sow Thistle
- Storks Bill

Nuisance weeds are quite common in most cropped land and have not been an issue to date, however massive infestations may need to be looked at going forward. While any and all weeds on the list are priority, our main focus this coming year will be identifying and controlling the spread of Narrow-Leaved Hawks Beard and Scentless Chamomile. If any producers or land owners know of or suspect these weeds are present on their own land or neighboring land and request information or an inspection please contact the RM office. As mentioned these are kept anonymous from myself, I am not informed of who called/wrote in the request, I simply look in to the matter. Again these infestations are much easier and far less costly to eradicate/control earlier rather than later.

How to Report/Request an Inspection?

Whether you are looking for an identification of certain weeds on your land to determine whether or not you have these problem weeds, or to report an issue occurring on neighboring land the method is the same. Please contact the RM office at:

Phone: (306) 286-3261

Fax: (306) 286-3400

Email: rm339@sasktel.net

The information required is as follows:

- Land Location or **THOROUGH DIRECTIONS** to problem area
- Suspected weeds if known
- Owner of land if known
- Date of call/complaint
- Brief description of how long the issue has been present, notes on issue, etc.

I have attached two fact sheets for the weeds that will be “WANTED” for this coming season with a brief description on why they are problematic, and how to identify. If you have any questions or concerns and would like to contact me directly you can do so at:

Bryce Moore

Phone: (306) 370-3002

Email: brycemoore17@gmail.com