



## Program Helps Producers and Gardeners Combat Pests, Weeds, Diseases

In North Dakota, decisions on controlling insect pests, weeds and crop diseases are an important and costly part of farming.

NDSU Extension's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program gathers current pest information through six trained scouts working out of North Dakota's Research Extension Centers. The scouts regularly monitor fields throughout the growing season to detect insect pests and diseases, and determine where they're concentrated and the damage they've caused.

NDSU Extension's IPM program shares this information through:

- Weekly Crop and Pest Report (online and email)
- Producer meetings, Research Extension Center field days and other educational events
- Extension specialists' and agents' news releases, columns and radio programs, social media and consultation
- Forecasting models that help producers determine pest or disease risks and when to take control measures

Extension agents and specialists also provide producers, gardeners and homeowners with control strategies aimed at reducing pesticide and herbicide

resistance, and protecting the environment and beneficial insects or pathogens.

When Finley homeowner Dennis Lindstrom brought a mud nest into Extension's Steele County office in Finley, Angie Johnson, agriculture and natural resources agent, worked with Janet Knodel, Extension entomologist, to identify it as a mud dauber (a kind of wasp) nest.

"The word 'wasp' directly places fear in the homeowner's eyes," Johnson says. "However, the mud dauber wasp is a beneficial insect as it is not your typical stinging wasp. With correct identification, we were able to prevent the homeowner from applying an insecticide to the wasp nest."

Producers play a role in this collaborative effort, too. For example, when Emerado-area farmer Jared Hagert found he had a soybean aphid problem year after year, he began hosting NDSU research trials on his farm.

"I feel it's important to provide some access to real-world growing conditions for research," he says.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Janet Knodel, 701-231-7915, [janet.knodel@nds.edu](mailto:janet.knodel@nds.edu)  
Patrick Beauzay, 701-231-7064, [patrick.beauzay@nds.edu](mailto:patrick.beauzay@nds.edu)  
[www.ag.ndsu.edu/ndipm](http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/ndipm)





North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station  
NDSU Extension Service

# 2016 Annual Highlights

