

**Sixty-fifth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 3, 2017**

SENATE BILL NO. 2027  
(Legislative Management)  
(Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee)

AN ACT to create and enact chapters 4.1-23, 4.1-33, 4.1-34, 4.1-35, 4.1-36, 4.1-37, 4.1-38, 4.1-39, and 4.1-40 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to revisions of agriculture laws regarding plant pests, pesticides, chemigation regulation, pesticide container disposal, anhydrous ammonia facilities, anhydrous ammonia risk management, crop protection products, and the fertilizer and soil conditioner law; to amend and reenact subsection 19 of section 19-02.1-01 and sections 23-01-01.1 and 23-01-25 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the definition of a pesticide chemical and the state department of health; to repeal chapters 19-18, 19-20.1, 19-20.2, and 19-20.3 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to pesticides, fertilizers and soil conditioners, anhydrous ammonia facilities, and anhydrous ammonia risk management; and to provide a penalty.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

**SECTION 1.** Chapter 4.1-23 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**4.1-23-01. Definitions.**

In this chapter, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:

1. "Certificate" means a document issued or authorized by the commissioner indicating a regulated article is not contaminated with a pest.
2. "Commissioner" means the agriculture commissioner or the commissioner's authorized representative.
3. "Host" means any plant or plant product upon which a pest is dependent for completion of any portion of its life cycle.
4. "Infested" means infected with a quantity of pests or so exposed to a quantity of pests that it would be reasonable to believe that potential for harm or threat to the health of the host exists.
5. "Move" means to ship, offer for shipment, receive for transportation, carry, or otherwise transport, or allow to be transported.
6. "Permit" means a document issued or authorized by the commissioner to provide for the movement of regulated articles to restricted destinations for limited handling, utilization, or processing.
7. "Person" means any individual, corporation, limited liability company, company, society, or association, or other business entity.
8. "Pest" means any invertebrate animal, pathogen, parasitic plant, or similar organism that can cause damage to a plant or part of a plant or any processed, manufactured, or other product of plants.
9. "Phytosanitary certificate" means an international document issued or authorized by the commissioner stating that a plant or plant product is considered free from quarantine pests and practically free from injurious pests and that the plant or plant product is considered to conform with the current phytosanitary regulations of the importing country.

10. "Plant" means any part of a plant, tree, aquatic plant, plant product, plant material, shrub, vine, fruit, rhizome, vegetable, seed, bulb, stolon, tuber, corm, pip, cutting, scion, bud, graft, fruit pit, or agricultural commodity.
11. "Regulated article" means any article of any character as described in a quarantine carrying or capable of carrying the plant pest against which the quarantine is directed.

#### **4.1-23-02. Administration - Rulemaking authority.**

The commissioner shall administer this chapter. The commissioner shall employ an individual who has a baccalaureate degree in entomology, plant pathology, or biological sciences. The commissioner may adopt rules to carry out this chapter.

#### **4.1-23-03. Authority for control measures.**

The commissioner, either independently or in cooperation with political subdivisions, farmers' associations or similar organizations, individuals, federal agencies, or agencies of other states, is authorized to carry out operations or measures to locate, suppress, control, eradicate, prevent, or retard the spread of pests with the consent of the owners of the property involved.

#### **4.1-23-04. Authority for plant quarantine.**

1. The commissioner is authorized to quarantine this state or any portion of the state if the commissioner determines that quarantine is necessary to prevent or retard the spread of a pest within or from this state, and to quarantine any other state or portion of another state if the commissioner determines a pest exists in another state and a quarantine is necessary to prevent or retard the spread of the pest into this state. Before determining that a quarantine is necessary, the commissioner, after due notice to interested parties, shall hold a public hearing under rules adopted by the commissioner.
2. Any interested party may appear and be heard either in person or by attorney at the public hearing, provided, the commissioner may impose a temporary quarantine for a period not to exceed ninety days during which time a public hearing, as provided for in this section, must be held if it appears the quarantine may require more than the ninety-day period to prevent or retard the spread of the pest. The commissioner shall give notice of the quarantine in those newspapers in the quarantined area selected by the commissioner. The commissioner may limit the application of the quarantine to the infested portion of the quarantined area and appropriate environs, to be known as the regulated area, and, without further hearing, may extend the regulated area to include additional portions of the quarantined area:
  - a. Upon publication of a notice in newspapers in the quarantined area selected by the commissioner; or
  - b. By direct written notice to those concerned.
3. Following establishment of the quarantine, a person may not move any regulated article described in the quarantine or move the pest against which the quarantine is established, within, from, into, or through this state contrary to rules adopted by the commissioner. Notice of the rules must be published in newspapers in the quarantined area selected by the commissioner.
4. The rules may restrict the movement of the pest and any regulated articles from the quarantined or regulated area in this state into or through other parts of this state or other states and from the quarantined or regulated area in other states into or through this state. The rules may impose inspections, disinfections, certifications, permits, and other requirements as the commissioner deems necessary to effectuate the purposes of this chapter.

**4.1-23-05. Authority for abatement and emergency measures.**

If the commissioner finds any article that is infested or reasonably believed to be infested or a host or pest exists on any premise or is in transit in this state, the commissioner, upon giving notice to the owner or the owner's agent in possession of the host or pest, may seize, quarantine, treat, or otherwise dispose of such pest, host, or article in the manner as the commissioner deems necessary to suppress, control, eradicate, or to prevent or retard the spread of the pest. The commissioner may order the owner or agent to treat or dispose of the pest, host, or article. If large areas or metropolitan areas, involving many people, are to be treated, notice may be given through newspaper, radio, or other news media. A notice must prominently appear, at least ten days prior to treatment, in at least three issues of a daily paper having local coverage.

**4.1-23-06. Authority for inspections - Warrants.**

1. The commissioner, with a warrant or the consent of the owner, may make reasonable inspection of any premises in this state and any property in or on the premises. The commissioner, without a warrant with the assistance of any law enforcement agency may stop and inspect, in a reasonable manner, any means of transportation moving in this state upon probable cause to believe it contains or carries any pest, host, or other article subject to this chapter. The commissioner may make any other reasonable inspection of any premises or means of transportation for which no warrant is required under the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of North Dakota.
2. District courts in this state may issue warrants for inspections of property or transportation upon a showing by the commissioner of probable cause to believe there exists in or on the property or transportation to be inspected a pest, host, or other article subject to this chapter.

**4.1-23-07. Cooperation.**

1. The commissioner is authorized to cooperate with any agency of the federal government in operations and measures the commissioner deems necessary to suppress, control, eradicate, prevent, or retard the spread of any plant pest including the right to expend state funds on federal lands.
2. The commissioner is authorized to cooperate with agencies of adjacent states in such operations and measures the commissioner deems necessary to locate; to suppress, control, eradicate, prevent, or retard the spread of any pest, provided, that the use of funds appropriated to carry out this chapter, for operations in adjacent states, must be approved in advance by the governor or the governor's designee.

**4.1-23-08. Penalties.**

1. It is a class A misdemeanor for:
  - a. Any person to violate any provision of this chapter or use without authority any certificate or permit or other document provided for in this chapter or in the rules of the commissioner provided for in this chapter; or
  - b. Any person to knowingly move any regulated article into this state from any quarantined area of any other state, when the article has not been treated or handled under provisions of the quarantine and rules at the point of origin.
2. In addition to criminal sanctions, a person found guilty of violating this chapter or rules is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars for each violation. The civil penalty may be adjudicated by the courts or by the commissioner through an administrative hearing pursuant to chapter 28-32. The commissioner may maintain an appropriate civil action in the name of the state against any person violating this chapter.

**4.1-23-09. Authority for compensation.**

The commissioner may authorize the payment of reasonable compensation to growers in infested areas for not planting host crops pursuant to instructions issued by the commissioner prior to the planting season, for losses resulting from the destruction of any regulated articles. A payment may not be authorized for the destruction of regulated articles moved in violation of any rule or any host planted contrary to instructions issued by the commissioner. Any compensation payment program authorized by the commissioner must be approved by the legislative assembly.

**4.1-23-10. Authority for local pest control and regulations.**

The governing body of any political subdivision, by ordinance or resolution, may adopt and enforce regulations to control and prevent the spread of pests. If state rules are in effect, any similar local regulations must be approved by the commissioner. State rules must be in effect if the commissioner finds that adequate measures are not being taken by the political subdivision. The commissioner shall notify the appropriate officials of the political subdivision before any action is taken by the commissioner. The rules may authorize appropriate officers and employees to enter and inspect any public or private place which might harbor pests.

**4.1-23-11. Authority for financing local control programs - County pest coordinator.**

1. The board of county commissioners may appropriate money for the control of pests under this chapter. If state funds are involved, the money must be expended according to control plans approved by the commissioner. The board of county commissioners shall determine the portion, if any, of control program costs to be paid by the county. Costs of the control program may be paid from revenues derived from general fund levy authority of the county or from the county noxious weed control levy authority under section 4.1-47-14.
2. The board of county commissioners for any county shall designate an individual to serve as county pest coordinator. The county pest coordinator shall administer local and private funds in cooperation with state and federal pest control programs. When state funds are involved, the county pest coordinator shall submit county and township control plans to the agriculture commissioner for approval.

**4.1-23-12. Authority for domestic and export certification.**

The commissioner may inspect and certify any plant and plant product, when offered for export or shipment from within the state and to certify, to shippers and interested parties as to the freedom of the products from injurious pests according to the phytosanitary requirements of other states and foreign countries. Authority for inspection and certification under this section is not limited to plants defined in section 4.1-23-01. The commissioner may make reasonable charges and use any means necessary to accomplish this objective. A portion of the fees collected may be deposited in the commissioner's operating fund equivalent to the amount that the United States department of agriculture assesses the department for federal plant export certificates issued by the commissioner. A certificate may be withheld or not issued if the product does not meet phytosanitary or import requirements and if all state licensing and bonding requirements have not been met. Consignee names and addresses on phytosanitary certificates are confidential.

**SECTION 2.** Chapter 4.1-33 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**4.1-33-01. Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

1. "Animal" means all vertebrate and invertebrate species, including humans and other mammals, birds, fish, and shellfish.
2. "Applicator" means any person who applies a pesticide to land.

3. "Certified applicator" means any individual who is certified under this chapter to purchase or use a restricted use pesticide.
4. "Commercial applicator" means a person who, by contract or for hire, engages in the business of applying pesticides for compensation.
5. "Defoliant" means any substance or mixture of substances intended to cause the leaves or foliage to drop from a plant, with or without causing abscission.
6. "Desiccant" means any substance or mixture of substances intended to artificially accelerate the drying of plant tissue.
7. "Device" means any instrument or contrivance, other than a firearm, which is intended for trapping, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest or any other form of plant or animal life, other than human and other than bacteria, virus, or other micro-organism on or in living humans or other living animals, but not including equipment used for the application of pesticides when sold separately from pesticide.
8. "Distribute" means to offer for sale, hold for sale, sell, barter, ship, deliver, or supply pesticides in this state.
9. "Environment" includes water, air, land, and all plants and humans and other animals living therein, and the interrelationships that exist among them.
10. "Equipment" means any type of ground, water, or aerial equipment or contrivance using motorized, mechanical, or pressurized power and used to apply any pesticide on land and anything that may be growing, inhabiting, or stored on or in that land. The term does not include any pressurized hand-held household apparatus used to apply any pesticide, or any equipment or contrivance of which the individual who is applying the pesticide is the source of power or energy to make the pesticide application.
11. "Fungus" means any non-chlorophyll-bearing thallophytes, that is, any non-chlorophyll-bearing plant of a lower order than mosses and liverworts as, for example, rust, smut, mildew, mold, yeast, and bacteria, except those on or in living humans or other living animals, and except those on or in processed food, beverages, or pharmaceuticals.
12. "Insect" means any of the numerous small invertebrate animals generally having the body more or less obviously segmented, for the most part belonging to the class of insecta, comprising six-legged, usually winged forms, and to other allied classes of arthropods whose members are wingless and usually have more than six legs.
13. "Label" means the written, printed, or graphic matter on, or attached to, the pesticide or device or any of its containers or wrappers.
14. "Labeling" means the label and all other written, printed, or graphic matter:
  - a. Accompanying the pesticide or device; or
  - b. To which reference is made on the label or in literature accompanying or referring to the pesticide, except when accurate nonmisleading references are made to current official publications of the board, the United States environmental protection agency, the United States departments of agriculture and interior, the United States department of health and human services, state agricultural colleges, and other similar federal or state institutions or agencies authorized by law to conduct research in the field of pesticides.
15. "Land" means all land and water areas, including airspace, and all plants, animals, structures, buildings, contrivances, and machinery, appurtenant to or situated on land, fixed or mobile, including any used for transportation.

16. "Nematode" means invertebrate animals of the phylum nemathelminthes, and class nematoda, i.e., unsegmented round worms with elongated, fusiform, or saclike bodies covered with cuticle, and inhabiting soil, water, plants, or plant parts, may also be called nemas or eelworms.
17. "Pest" means any insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, or weed; or any other form of terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal life, viruses, bacteria, or other micro-organism, except viruses, bacteria, or other micro-organisms on or in living humans or other living animals.
18. "Pesticide" means:
  - a. Any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest; and
  - b. Any substance or mixture of substances intended for use as a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant.
19. "Pesticide dealer" means any person, other than a pesticide wholesaler, distributing pesticides.
20. "Plant regulator" means any substance or mixture of substances intended, through physiological action, to accelerate or retard the rate of growth or rate of maturation, or to otherwise alter the behavior of plants or the produce thereof, but does not include substances to the extent that they are intended as plant nutrients, trace elements, nutritional chemicals, plant inoculants, or soil amendments.
21. "Private applicator" means an individual who is required to be a certified applicator to buy or use a restricted use pesticide on property owned or rented by the applicator or the applicator's employer or, if applied without compensation other than trading of personal services between producers of agricultural commodities, on the property of another person.
22. "Public applicator" means an applicator who applies pesticides, other than ready-to-use pesticides, as an employee of:
  - a. A governmental agency, municipal corporation, or public utility; or
  - b. A hospital, privately owned golf course, nursery, or greenhouse.
23. "Ready-to-use pesticide" means a pesticide other than a restricted use pesticide which is applied directly from its original container consistent with label directions, and includes aerosol spray cans, ready-to-use spray containers, bait packs, and other types of containers that do not require mixing or loading before application.
24. "Restricted use pesticide" means any pesticide formulation that is classified as restricted use by the United States environmental protection agency or the agriculture commissioner under section 4.1-34-06.
25. "Rinsate" means a diluted mixture of pesticide obtained from triple rinsing or pressure rinsing pesticide containers or from rinsing the inside and outside of spray equipment.
26. "Tank mix" means any pesticidal formulation used alone or in combination with another pesticide and mixed with a liquid carrier prior to application.
27. "Unreasonable adverse effects on the environment" means any unreasonable risk to humans or the environment, taking into account the economic, social, and environmental costs and benefits of the use of any pesticide.
28. "Weed" means any plant that grows where not wanted.

29. "Wildlife" means all living things that are neither human, domesticated, nor, as defined in this chapter, pests, including mammals, birds, and aquatic life.

**4.1-33-02. Pesticide control board - Enforcement by agriculture commissioner.**

1. The pesticide control board consists of the agriculture commissioner, the director of the cooperative extension division of the North Dakota state university of agriculture and applied science, and the director of the agricultural experiment station at North Dakota state university of agriculture and applied science. The agriculture commissioner is chairman of the board. The board shall meet at the call of the chairman.
2. The agriculture commissioner is responsible for the enforcement of this chapter. Any authority of the commissioner under this chapter may be executed by such employees or agents designated by the commissioner.
3. The members of the board must be compensated for their expenses in performing their duties under this chapter at the same rate as other state officials and the board's expenses must be paid from funds provided to the agriculture commissioner for the administration of this chapter. The board may act through the office of the agriculture commissioner and the commissioner's staff shall provide staff services for the board as directed by the commissioner.

**4.1-33-03. Pesticide control board to administer chapter and adopt rules.**

1. a. The pesticide control board shall administer this chapter and may adopt rules under chapter 28-32 to implement this chapter. The rules may prescribe methods to be used in the application of pesticides. The rules may relate to the time, place, manner, methods, materials, and amounts and concentrations, in connection with the application of the pesticide, and may restrict or prohibit use of pesticides in designated areas during specified periods of time and shall encompass all reasonable factors which the board deems necessary to prevent damage or injury by drift or misapplication to:
  - (1) Plants, including forage plants, on adjacent or nearby lands.
  - (2) Wildlife in the adjoining or nearby areas.
  - (3) Fish and other aquatic life in waters in proximity to the area to be treated.
  - (4) Persons, animals, or beneficial insects.
- b. In adopting rules, the board shall give consideration to pertinent research findings and recommendations of other agencies of this state, the federal government, or other reliable sources.
2. In adopting rules under this chapter, the board shall prescribe standards and requirements for the certification of applicators of pesticides. These standards and requirements must relate to the use and handling of pesticides. In determining these standards and requirements, the board shall take into consideration standards and requirements prescribed by the United States environmental protection agency.
3. Rules adopted under this chapter may not permit any pesticide use that is prohibited by the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act [7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.] or regulations or orders issued thereunder.
4. To comply with the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act [7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.], the board may make reports to the United States environmental protection agency in the form and containing the information as that agency requires.
5. Rules to implement this chapter may provide for:

- a. The collection, examination, and reporting of samples of pesticides.
- b. The safe handling, transportation, storage, display, distribution, and disposal of pesticides and pesticides containers.
- c. The identification of pests under this chapter when the board finds particular organisms to be annoying or otherwise injurious or harmful to agriculture, health, and the environment.

**4.1-33-04. Limitation on authority of political subdivisions regarding pesticides.**

A political subdivision, including a home rule city or county, may not adopt or continue in effect any ordinance, resolution, or home rule charter provision regarding the registration, labeling, distribution, sale, handling, use, application, transportation, or disposal of pesticides. This section does not apply to city zoning ordinances.

**4.1-33-05. Application to governmental entities and public utilities.**

All governmental agencies and public utilities are subject to this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter.

**4.1-33-06. Classification of commercial certificates.**

The board may classify commercial certificates to be issued under this chapter. The classifications may include pest control operators, wood treaters, ornamental or agricultural pesticide applicators, or right-of-way pesticide applicators. Separate classifications may be specified as to ground, aerial, or manual methods used by any applicator to apply pesticides or to the use of pesticides to control insects and plant diseases, rodents, or weeds. Each classification of certification may be subject to separate testing procedures and training requirements. A person may be required to pay an additional fee if the person desires to be certified in one or more of the classifications provided for by the board under this section.

**4.1-33-07. Commercial and public applicator's certification.**

1. A commercial or public applicator may not purchase, use, or supervise the use of a pesticide without first complying with the certification standards and requirements of this chapter, or other restrictions as may be determined by the board.
2. An individual may be certified as a commercial or public applicator within a classification if the individual successfully completes an examination for the classification as prescribed by the board and administered by the North Dakota state university extension service or the service's designee. An application for certification must be on a form prescribed by the board and accompanied by a reasonable examination fee set by the board.
3. If the North Dakota state university extension service, or its designee, finds, after examination as the board requires, the applicant qualified to apply pesticides in the classifications for which the applicant has applied and the applicant meets all other requirements of this chapter, the North Dakota state university extension service shall issue a commercial or a public applicator's certificate limited to the classifications in which the applicant is qualified.
4. If certification is not to be issued as applied for, the North Dakota state university extension service, or its designee, shall inform the applicant in writing of the reasons for not issuing the certification.

**4.1-33-08. Expiration of certification - Renewal.**

A certificate issued under section 4.1-33-07 expires as of the first day of April following two years from the date of issuance. A certificate is renewable every three years on April first. A certificate may be renewed upon completion of a seminar approved by the board or upon successfully completing an



examination required by the board, or both, if required by the board. The board shall require a person holding a current valid certificate to take an examination within the three-year period if the board determines additional knowledge related to classifications for which the applicant has applied makes a new examination necessary or that a new evaluation is necessary to assure a continuing level of competence and ability to safely and properly use pesticides.

**4.1-33-09. Nonresident application - Designation of agent for service of process.**

1. A nonresident applying for certification as an applicator or dealer under this chapter shall file a written power of attorney in a form as to render effective the jurisdiction of the courts of this state over the nonresident applicant designating either:
  - a. North Dakota state university extension service or its designee as the nonresident's agent upon whom service of process may be had in the event of any suit against that nonresident person; or
  - b. The duly appointed nonresident person's resident agent upon whom process may be served as provided by law.
2. The extension service is allowed such fees for service as a registered agent as provided by law for designating resident agents. The nonresident must be furnished with a copy of the designation of the extension service or of a resident agent. The copy must be duly certified by the extension service.

**4.1-33-10. Proof of financial responsibility - Exceptions.**

1. A commercial applicator certificate may not be issued unless the applicant furnishes proof of financial responsibility. Financial responsibility must be maintained in the amount of one hundred thousand dollars. Financial responsibility may be demonstrated by a notarized letter from an officer of a financial institution or from a certified public accountant attesting to the existence of net assets equal to at least one hundred thousand dollars, a performance bond, or a general liability insurance policy. The performance bond or insurance policy must contain a provision requiring the issuing company to notify the agriculture commissioner at least ten days before the effective date of cancellation, termination, or other modification of the bond or insurance policy. When requested by the agriculture commissioner, a commercial applicator immediately shall furnish proof of compliance with this section. If the applicator is unable to furnish the required proof, the commissioner may stop a pesticide application and not allow resumption until the applicator furnishes proof of compliance. The agriculture commissioner shall immediately suspend the certification of a commercial applicator who fails to maintain the financial responsibility standards of this section. If there is any recovery against the commercial applicator, the applicator shall demonstrate continued compliance with the requirements of this section. An application for reinstatement of a certificate suspended under this section must be accompanied by proof that any judgment previously rendered against the applicant has been satisfied.
2. This section does not apply to:
  - a. A rancher who must obtain a commercial applicator certificate for controlling noxious weeds on the leased federal acreage as a condition of a federal grasslands lease.
  - b. A grazing association and its members if either the association or any member must obtain a commercial applicator certificate for controlling noxious weeds on the leased federal acreage as a condition of a federal grasslands lease.
  - c. A person who must be certified in the right-of-way category.
  - d. A commercial applicator who controls noxious weeds on grassland, land producing tame hay, or other lands not devoted to the production of an annual crop.

- e. An employee of a commercial applicator if the commercial applicator complies with this section.

**4.1-33-11. Pesticide dealer certification - Employees - Requirements for purchase.**

1. A pesticide dealer may not distribute restricted use pesticides or act as a restricted use pesticide dealer, without first having obtained certification from the North Dakota state university extension service, or the service's designee. During hours the business is open, a certified person must be at any location or outlet from which restricted use pesticides are distributed. Any manufacturer or distributor that has no pesticide dealer outlet within this state and which distributes such pesticides directly into this state shall obtain a pesticide dealer certificate for its principal out-of-state location or outlet.
2. Application for a certificate must be on a form prescribed by the board accompanied by an examination fee set by the board. The application must include the address of each outlet, the principal business address of the applicant, the name of a person domiciled in this state authorized to receive and accept service of summons of legal notices of all kinds for the applicant, and any other necessary information prescribed by the board.
3. The board shall require each pesticide dealer to demonstrate to the North Dakota state university extension service or the service's designee knowledge of pesticide laws and regulations; pesticide hazards to humans, animals, and the environment; and the safe distribution, disposal, and use and application of pesticides by satisfactorily passing an examination or meeting other requirements as prescribed by the board within each classification for which certification is sought.
4. Each pesticide dealer is responsible for the acts of each individual employed by the dealer in the solicitation and sale of restricted use pesticides and all claims and recommendations for use of such pesticides. The dealer's certification is subject to suspension or revocation, after a hearing, for any violation of this chapter committed by the dealer or by the dealer's officer, agent, or employee.
5. A certificate issued under this section expires on the first day of April following two years from the date of issuance. A certificate is renewable every three years on April first. The board may condition renewal of a certificate upon completion of a seminar approved by the board or successful completion of an examination required by the board, or both. The board may require any person holding a current valid certificate to take an examination within the three-year period if the board determines additional knowledge related to pesticides makes an additional examination necessary or that a new evaluation is necessary to assure a continuing level of competence and ability to safely and properly distribute pesticides.
6. Restricted use pesticides may be sold only to:
  - a. Persons certified as applicators by this state; and
  - b. Persons certified to use restricted use pesticides by another state, provided the pesticide control board determines the certifying state's requirements are substantially similar to those of this state and that the person does not use the restricted use pesticide in this state.

**4.1-33-12. Private applicators - Certification.**

1.
  - a. An individual who would be a private applicator, if certified, may not buy any restricted use pesticide unless the individual first complies with the certification requirements established by the board.
  - b. An individual who would be a private applicator, if certified, may not use any restricted use pesticide unless the individual:

- (1) Complies with the certification requirements established by the board; or
  - (2) Is under the direct supervision of a certified applicator.
2. Certification standards to determine the individual's competency with respect to the use and handling of the pesticide or class of pesticides the private applicator is to be certified to use must be determined by the board. In determining these standards, the board shall consider similar standards of the United States environmental protection agency. The North Dakota state university extension service, or its designee, shall issue a certificate to any private applicator who has qualified as prescribed by the board. The North Dakota state university extension service, or its designee, may require any applicant required to be certified under this section to pay a reasonable fee, not greater than the cost to the North Dakota state university extension service, for materials provided to the applicant for training and education.

**4.1-33-13. Unlawful acts - Grounds for denial, suspension, or revocation of a certification.**

It is a violation of this chapter for any person to:

1. Make false or fraudulent claims through any media, misrepresenting the effect of materials or methods to be utilized, or advertise a pesticide without reference to its classification.
2. Make a pesticide recommendation, application, or use inconsistent with the labeling or other restrictions prescribed by the board.
3. Apply materials known by that person to be ineffective or improper.
4. Operate faulty or unsafe equipment.
5. Operate in a faulty, careless, or negligent manner.
6. Neglect or, after notice, refuse to comply with this chapter, the rules adopted to implement this chapter, or any lawful order of the commissioner.
7. Refuse or neglect to keep and maintain the records required by this chapter or to make reports when and as required.
8. Make false or fraudulent records, invoices, or reports.
9. Apply pesticide to the property of another, without the permission of the owner or lessee, unless the application is made under the direction of a governmental entity.
10. Use fraud or misrepresentation in making an application for, or for renewal of, certification.
11. Refuse or neglect to comply with any limitations or restrictions on or in a duly issued certification.
12. Aid or abet a person to evade this chapter, conspire with a person to evade this chapter, or allow the person's certification to be used by another person.
13. Knowingly make false statements during or after an inspection or an investigation.
14. Impersonate a federal, state, county, or city inspector or official.
15. Distribute any restricted use pesticide to any person who is not properly certified to use or purchase the pesticide.
16. Buy, use, or supervise the use of any pesticide without first complying with the certification requirements of this chapter, unless otherwise exempted.
17. Apply any pesticide that is not registered under chapter 4.1-34.

**4.1-33-14. Records - Retention - Submission to commissioner.**

The board shall require pesticide dealers, commercial applicators, and public applicators to maintain records of sales and purchases of restricted use and special exemption pesticides. The board shall require commercial applicators and public applicators to maintain records of all applications of pesticides. The board may require restricted use pesticide application records of private applicators. The records must be kept for a period of three years from the date of the application, sale, or purchase of the pesticide. Upon request, all or any requested part of these records must be submitted to the commissioner.

**4.1-33-15. Reciprocal agreement.**

The North Dakota state university extension service, or its designee, may issue a certification on a reciprocal basis, without examination, to a nonresident who is certified to buy, distribute, or use restricted use pesticides under a plan substantially similar to this chapter and after the applicant has paid a fee, set by the board, not greater than the fee or charge authorized under section 4.1-33-07, 4.1-33-11, or 4.1-33-12 if the applicant would have taken the appropriate examination. Such a certification may be suspended or revoked in the same manner and on the same grounds as certifications under this chapter, and must be suspended or revoked if the nonresident's home state certification is suspended or revoked.

**4.1-33-16. Certification exemptions.**

1. The certification requirements of this chapter do not apply to an individual applying nonrestricted use pesticides under the direct supervision of a commercial applicator, unless the pesticide label requires that a certified applicator personally apply the pesticide. A pesticide is applied under the direct supervision of a commercial applicator if the pesticide is applied by an individual acting under the instruction and control of a certified applicator who is physically available if needed. The certified applicator need not be present when the pesticide is applied. Direct supervision with respect to applications using aircraft requires that the pilot of the aircraft be appropriately certified. The certification requirements of this chapter do not apply to a competent person applying restricted use pesticides under the direct supervision of a private applicator, unless the pesticide label requires that a certified applicator personally apply the particular pesticide. A pesticide is deemed to be applied under the direct supervision of a private applicator if it is applied by a competent person acting under the instruction and control of a private applicator who is available if and when needed, even though the private applicator is not physically present at the time and place that the pesticide is applied.
2. The certification requirements of this chapter do not apply to any person conducting laboratory-type research using restricted use pesticides or to a doctor of medicine or a doctor of veterinary medicine applying a pesticide as a drug or as medication during the course of normal practice.

**4.1-33-17. Discarding and storing of pesticides, pesticide containers, and rinsate.**

A person may not discard, store, display, or permit the disposal of surplus pesticides, empty pesticide containers and devices, or rinsate in such a manner as to endanger the environment or to endanger food, feed, or any other products that may be stored, displayed, or distributed with such pesticides. The board shall adopt rules governing the discarding, storage, display, or disposal of any pesticide, rinsate, pesticide containers, or devices.

**4.1-33-18. Pesticide application - Alleged property damage - Notification of applicator.**

1. a. Before a person may file a civil action seeking reimbursement for property damage allegedly stemming from the application of a pesticide, the person shall notify by certified mail the pesticide applicator of the alleged damage within the earlier of:

- (1) Twenty-eight days from the date the person first knew or should have known of the alleged damage; or
  - (2) Before twenty percent of the crop or field allegedly damaged is harvested or destroyed.
- b. Subdivision a does not apply if the person seeking reimbursement for property damage was the applicator of the pesticide.
2. Upon notifying the applicator as required under subsection 1, the person seeking reimbursement for the alleged property damage shall permit the applicator and up to four representatives of the applicator to enter the person's property for the purpose of observing and examining the alleged damage. If the person fails to allow entry, the person is barred from asserting a claim against the applicator.

#### **4.1-33-19. Subpoenas.**

In any hearing to enforce this chapter, the commissioner may issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses or production of books, documents, and records pertaining to pesticide applications, sales, and purchases in the state.

#### **4.1-33-20. Penalties.**

1. Any person other than a private applicator who knowingly violates this chapter is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.
2. Any private applicator who knowingly violates this chapter is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.
3. When construing and enforcing the provisions of this chapter, the act, omission, or failure of any officer, agent, or other person acting for or employed by any person must in every case be also deemed to be the act, omission, or failure of such person as well as that of the person employed.
4. A person who violates this chapter or the rules adopted under this chapter is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars for each violation. The civil penalty may be imposed by a court in a civil proceeding or by the agriculture commissioner through an adjudicative proceeding pursuant to chapter 28-32. The assessment of a civil penalty does not preclude the imposition of other sanctions authorized by law, this chapter, or rules adopted under this chapter.
5. After providing an opportunity for a hearing, the commissioner may deny, suspend, revoke, or modify the provision of any certification issued under this chapter, if the commissioner determines that the applicant for certification or the holder of a certificate has violated this chapter or any rules adopted under this chapter.

#### **4.1-33-21. Enforcement.**

1. The commissioner shall enforce the requirements of this chapter and any rules adopted under this chapter.
2. The commissioner may bring an action to enjoin the violation or threatened violation of this chapter, or any rule adopted under this chapter, in the district court of the county in which the violation occurs or is about to occur.
3. If any person violates this chapter, the commissioner may issue an order requiring the person to cease and desist from the unlawful activity. If the violator fails to obey, the commissioner shall cause the appropriate criminal complaint to be filed.
4. The commissioner may enter upon any public or private premises at reasonable times, to:

- a. Inspect any equipment subject to this chapter and the premises on which the equipment is stored or used.
  - b. Inspect or sample lands actually or reported to be exposed to pesticides.
  - c. Inspect storage or disposal areas.
  - d. Inspect or investigate complaints of injury to humans or land.
  - e. Draw samples of a reasonable amount of tank mix pesticides and tank mixes without compensation to the owner for values less than three dollars.
  - f. Observe the use and application of a pesticide.
  - g. Inspect any place where pesticides or devices are stored or held for distribution, sale, or use, and obtain samples of any pesticides packaged, labeled, and released for shipment and samples of any containers or labeling for the pesticides.
5. a. At any reasonable time, the commissioner may access records pertaining to the pesticide application, sales, purchases, and repackaging by any person. The commissioner may copy or make copies of the records for the purpose of this chapter. These records are confidential. However, the commissioner may use these records in any way to enforce this chapter. Any record the commissioner uses as an exhibit in an enforcement action is no longer a confidential record.
- b. If an individual alleges exposure to pesticides and if the individual's medical provider requests that the commissioner reveal the name of the pesticide, the commissioner may reveal the name of the pesticide to the individual making the request, together with the registration number assigned by the United States environmental protection agency. The commissioner may require a request under this section be made in writing.
6. If access is refused or if the commissioner determines critical enforcement documentation may be lost, the commissioner may apply to any court for a search warrant authorizing access to land or records. Upon compliance with chapter 29-29.1, the court may issue the search warrant for the purposes requested.
7. The commissioner may suspend or revoke a certification issued under this chapter for failure to pay a civil penalty within thirty days after a final determination is made that the civil penalty is owed.

#### **4.1-33-22. Stop-sale orders.**

If the commissioner has reason to believe on the basis of inspection or tests that any pesticide or device is in violation of any provision of this chapter, or if the registration of the pesticide has been canceled or suspended by the state or United States environmental protection agency, the commissioner may issue a written or printed "stop-sale, use, or removal" order to any person who owns, controls, or has custody of the pesticide or device. After receipt of the order, a person may not sell, use, or remove the pesticide or device described in the order except in accordance with the provisions of the order.

#### **4.1-33-23. Information and instruction.**

In cooperation with private, local, state, or federal agencies, the board may publish information and conduct short courses of instruction in the areas of knowledge required by this chapter.

**4.1-33-24. Cooperation by the board with other entities.**

The board may cooperate, receive grants-in-aid, and enter cooperative agreements with any agency of the federal government, of this state or its subdivisions, or with any agency of another state, to:

1. Secure uniformity of regulations.
2. Enter cooperative agreements with and submit plans to the United States environmental protection agency for approval to issue experimental use permits under the authority of this chapter and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act [7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.].
3. Cooperate in the enforcement of the federal pesticide control laws and state laws through the use of state or federal personnel and facilities and to implement cooperative enforcement programs.
4. Enter contracts with other agencies, including federal agencies, for the purpose of training pesticide applicators, managers, dealers, and pesticide consultants.
5. Gain assistance in implementation of this chapter.
6. Regulate certified applicators.
7. Comply with other purposes prescribed by rules of the commissioner.

**4.1-33-25. Disposition of funds - Certification and training fund.**

All moneys received by the pesticide control board under this chapter must be deposited to the credit of the certification and training fund under the control of the board.

**SECTION 3.** Chapter 4.1-34 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**4.1-34-01. Definitions.**

For the purposes of this chapter, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:

1. "Active ingredient" means:
  - a. In the case of a pesticide other than a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant, any ingredient that will prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate pests.
  - b. In the case of a plant regulator, any ingredient that, through physiological action, will accelerate or retard the rate of growth or rate of maturation or otherwise alter the behavior of ornamental or crop plants or the product thereof.
  - c. In the case of a defoliant, any ingredient that will cause the leaves or foliage to drop from a plant.
  - d. In the case of a desiccant, any ingredient that will artificially accelerate the drying of plant tissue.
2. "Adulterated" applies to any pesticide if its strength or purity falls below the professed standard or quality as expressed on labeling or under which it is sold, or if any substance has been substituted wholly or in part for the pesticide, or if any valuable constituent of the pesticide has been wholly or in part abstracted.
3. "Antidote" means the most practical immediate treatment in case of poisoning and includes first-aid treatment.

4. "Commissioner" means the agriculture commissioner and includes any employee or agent designated by the commissioner.
5. "Defoliant" means any substance or mixture of substances intended to cause the leaves or foliage to drop from a plant with or without causing abscission.
6. "Desiccant" means any substance or mixture of substances intended to artificially accelerate the drying of plant tissues.
7. "Device" means any instrument or contrivance intended for trapping, destroying, repelling, or mitigating pests but does not include equipment used for the application of pesticides when sold separately therefrom, or rodent traps.
8. "Environment" means air, water, land, and all plants and man and other animals living therein and the interrelationships that exist among these.
9. "Federal Act" means the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act [7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.].
10. "Fungi" means all non-chlorophyll-bearing thallophytes, that is, all non-chlorophyll-bearing plants of a lower order than mosses and liverworts, as, for example, rusts, smuts, mildews, molds, yeasts, and bacteria, except those on or in humans or other animals, and those on or in processed food, beverages, or pharmaceuticals.
11. "Fungicide" means any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any fungi.
12. "Herbicide" means any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any weed.
13. "Inert ingredient" means an ingredient that is not an active ingredient.
14. "Ingredient statement" means:
  - a. A statement of the name and percentage of each active ingredient, together with the total percentage of the inert ingredients, in the pesticide; or
  - b. A statement of the name of all active ingredients in the order of their predominance in the product, together with the name of each and total percentage of any inert ingredients in the pesticide, except subdivision a applies if the preparation is highly toxic to humans, determined as provided in section 4.1-34-06, and in addition to subsections 1 and 2 of section 4.1-34-06. If the pesticide contains arsenic in any form, a statement must contain the percentages of total and water-soluble arsenic, each calculated as elemental arsenic.
15. "Insect" means any of the numerous small invertebrate animals generally having the body more or less obviously segmented, for the most part belonging to the class insecta, comprising six-legged, usually winged forms, as for example, beetles, bugs, bees, flies, and to other allied classes of arthropods whose members are wingless and usually have more than six legs, as, for example, spiders, mites, ticks, centipedes, and wood lice.
16. "Insecticide" means any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any insects that may be present in any environment.
17. "Label" means the written, printed, or graphic matter on, or attached to, the pesticide or device, or any of its containers or wrappers.
18. "Labeling" means all labels and other written, printed, or graphic matter:
  - a. Upon the pesticide or device or any of its containers or wrappers;



- b. Accompanying the pesticide or device at any time; or
- c. To which reference is made on the label or in literature accompanying the pesticide or device, except when accurate, nonmisleading reference is made to current official publications of a state or federal agency, state agricultural experiment station, or state agricultural college.

19. "Misbranded" applies:

- a. To any pesticide or device if its labeling bears any statement, design, or graphic representation relative to the pesticide or device or to its ingredients which is false or misleading in any particular; and
- b. To any pesticide:
  - (1) If the pesticide is an imitation of or is offered for sale under the name of another pesticide;
  - (2) If the pesticide's labeling bears any reference to registration under this chapter;
  - (3) If the labeling accompanying the pesticide does not contain directions for use which are necessary and, if complied with, adequate to protect health and the environment;
  - (4) If the label does not contain a warning or caution statement that may be necessary and, if complied with, adequate to protect health and the environment;
  - (5) If the label does not bear an ingredient statement on that part of the immediate container and, if there is an outside container or wrapper, if the outside container or wrapper does not have affixed a correct copy of the required labeling information from the immediate container or does not contain an opening through which the ingredient statement on the immediate container can be clearly read, of the retail package that is presented or displayed under customary conditions of purchase; except that a pesticide is not misbranded under this subsection if:
    - (a) The size or form of the immediate container, or the outside container or wrapper of the retail package, makes it impracticable to place the ingredient statement on the part that is presented or displayed under customary conditions of purchase; and
    - (b) The ingredient statement appears prominently on another part of the immediate container, or outside container or wrapper, permitted by the commissioner;
  - (6) The labeling does not contain a statement of the use classification under which the product is registered if the product is a restricted use pesticide;
  - (7) There is no label information affixed to its container, and, if there is an outside container or wrapper of the retail package, there is no label information affixed to the outside container or wrapper and the outside container or wrapper does not contain an opening through which the label information on the immediate container can be clearly read. The label information must include:
    - (a) The name and address of the producer, registrant, or person for whom produced;
    - (b) The name, brand, or trademark under which the pesticide is sold; and
    - (c) The net weight or measure of the content;

- (8) The pesticide contains any substance or substances in quantities highly toxic to humans, unless the label bears, in addition to any other matter required by this chapter:
    - (a) The skull and crossbones;
    - (b) The word "poison" prominently in red on a background of distinctly contrasting color; and
    - (c) A statement of a first aid or other practical treatment in case of poisoning by the pesticide;
  - (9) If any word, statement, or other information required under this chapter to appear on the labeling is not prominently placed thereon with such conspicuousness, as compared with other words, statements, designs, or graphic matter in the labeling, and in such terms as to render it likely to be read and understood by the ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase and use;
  - (10) If in the case of an insecticide, nematocide, fungicide, or herbicide, when used as directed or in accordance with commonly recognized practice, it is injurious to humans or vertebrate animals or vegetation, except weeds to which it is applied, or to the individual applying the pesticide; or
  - (11) If a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant when used as directed is injurious to humans or vertebrate animals, or the vegetation to which it is applied. The physical or physiological effect on plants may not be deemed injurious when this is the purpose for which the plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant is applied in accordance with label claims and recommendations.
20. "Nematocide" means any substance intended to prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate nematodes.
21. "Nematode" means any of the nonsegmented roundworms harmful to agricultural plants.
22. "Person" means any individual, partnership, association, corporation, limited liability company, or organized group of persons whether incorporated or not.
23. "Pest" means any insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, weed, or any other form of terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal life, viruses, bacteria, or other micro-organisms except viruses, bacteria, or other micro-organisms on or in living humans or animals.
24. "Pesticide" means any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pests and any substance or mixture of substances intended for use as a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant.
25. "Plant regulator" means any substance or mixture of substances intended, through physiological action, to accelerate or retard the rate of growth or maturation, or to otherwise alter the behavior of ornamental or crop plants or the produce thereof, but does not include substances insofar as they are intended to be used as plant nutrients, trace elements, nutritional chemicals, plant inoculants, or soil amendments. The term "plant regulator" does not include any of such of those nutrient mixtures or soil amendments as are commonly known as vitamin-hormone horticultural products, intended for improvement, maintenance, survival, health, and propagation of plants, and as are not for pest destruction and are nontoxic and nonpoisonous in the undiluted packaged concentration.
26. "Protect health and environment" means protection against any unreasonable adverse effects on the environment.
27. "Registrant" means the person registering any pesticide pursuant to this chapter.

28. "Restricted use pesticides" means any pesticide formulation that is classified for restricted use by the United States environmental protection agency. The term also includes a pesticide formulation classified for restricted use by the commissioner under section 4.1-34-06.
29. "Rodenticide" means any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating rodents or any other vertebrate animal that the commissioner declares to be a pest.
30. "Snails" or "slugs" includes all harmful agricultural mollusks.
31. "Unreasonable adverse effects on the environment" means any unreasonable risk to humans or the environment, taking into account the economic, social, and environmental costs and benefits of the use of any pesticide.
32. "Weed" means any plant that grows where not wanted.

**4.1-34-02. Prohibited acts.**

1. A person may not distribute, sell, or offer for sale within this state or deliver for transportation or transport in intrastate commerce or between points within this state through any point outside this state any of the following:
  - a. Any pesticide that has not been registered under section 4.1-34-03, or any pesticide if any of the claims made for it or any of the directions for its use differ in substance from the representations made in connection with its registration, or if the composition of a pesticide differs from its composition as represented in connection with its registration. The commissioner may allow a change in the labeling or formula of a pesticide to be made within a registration period without requiring reregistration of the product.
  - b. Any pesticide unless the pesticide is in:
    - (1) The registrant's or the manufacturer's unbroken immediate container; or
    - (2) A container repackaged by a facility or person with a United States environmental protection agency issued establishment number, and there is affixed to such container, and to any outside container or wrapper of the retail package, a correct copy of the required labeling information from the immediate container or there is in the outside container or wrapper an opening through which the required labeling information on the immediate container can be clearly read.
  - c. The pesticide commonly known as standard lead arsenate, basic lead arsenate, calcium arsenate, magnesium arsenate, zinc arsenate, zinc arsenite, sodium fluoride, sodium fluosilicate, and barium fluosilicate unless the pesticide has been distinctly colored or discolored as provided by rules issued in accordance with this chapter, or any other white powder pesticide that the commissioner, after investigation of and after public hearing on the necessity for the action for the protection of the public health and the feasibility of the coloration or discoloration, by rule, requires to be distinctly colored or discolored; unless it has been so colored or discolored. The commissioner may exempt any pesticide to the extent it is intended for a particular use or uses from the coloring or discoloring required or authorized by this section if the commissioner determines the coloring or discoloring for the use is not necessary for the protection of the public health.
  - d. Any pesticide that is adulterated or misbranded, or any device that is misbranded.
2. A person may not detach, alter, deface, or destroy, in whole or in part, any label or labeling provided for in this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter, or to add any substance to, or take any substance from, a pesticide in a manner that may defeat the purpose of this chapter.

3. A person may not use for the person's own advantage or reveal other than in response to a proper subpoena, except to a physician or other qualified person for use in the preparation of an antidote, any information relative to the formula of any product acquired by authority of this chapter.

#### **4.1-34-03. Registration - Fees - Deposit of collections.**

1. Before selling or offering for sale any pesticide for use within this state, a person shall file biennially with the commissioner an application for registration of the pesticide. The application must:
  - a. Give the name and address of each manufacturer or distributor.
  - b. Give the name and brand of each product to be registered.
  - c. Be accompanied by a current label of each product to be registered.
  - d. Be accompanied by a registration fee of three hundred fifty dollars for each product to be registered.
  - e. Be accompanied by a material safety data sheet for each product to be registered.
2. The commissioner may require an applicant or registrant to provide efficacy, toxicity, residue, and any other data necessary to determine if the pesticide will perform its intended function without unreasonable adverse effects on the environment. If the commissioner finds the application conforms to law, the commissioner shall issue to the applicant a certificate of registration of the product.
3. Each registration covers a designated two-year period beginning January first of each even-numbered year and expiring December thirty-first of the following year. A certificate of registration may not be issued for a term longer than two years, and is not transferable from one person to another, or from the ownership to which it is issued to another ownership. A penalty of fifty percent of the license or registration fee must be imposed if the license or certificate of registration is not applied for on or before January thirty-first following the expiration date. Each product must go through a two-year discontinuance period in order to clear all outstanding products in the channel of trade.
4. This section does not apply to a pesticide sold by a retail dealer if the registration fee has been paid by the manufacturer, jobber, or any other person, as required by this section.
5. At the close of each calendar month, the commissioner shall transmit to the state treasurer all moneys received for the registrations under this section. The state treasurer shall credit the registration fees to the environment and rangeland protection fund.

#### **4.1-34-04. Reporting requirements.**

Within thirty days after request by the commissioner, a registrant shall report the amount and type of each registered pesticide sold, offered for sale, or otherwise distributed in the state. The information required must include the brand name, amount, and formulation of each pesticide sold, offered for sale, or otherwise distributed in the state. However, specific brand names may not be identified in any report or otherwise made public.

#### **4.1-34-05. Protection of trade secrets.**

1. In submitting data required by this chapter, the applicant may:
  - a. Clearly mark any portions that the applicant requests the commissioner to determine to be trade secrets or commercial or financial information; and

- b. Submit the marked material separately from other material.
2. After consideration of the applicant's request submitted under subsection 1, the commissioner may not make any information public which in the commissioner's judgment contains or relates to trade secrets or to commercial or financial information obtained from an applicant. When necessary, information relating to formulas of products may be revealed to any state or federal agency consulted with similar protection of trade secret authority and may be revealed at a public hearing or in findings of facts issued by the commissioner.
3. If the commissioner proposes to release information that the applicant or registrant believes to be protected from disclosure under this section, the commissioner shall notify the applicant or registrant by certified mail. The commissioner may not make the information available for inspection until thirty days after receipt of the notice by the applicant or registrant. During this period, the applicant or registrant may institute an action in an appropriate court for a declaratory judgment as to whether the information is subject to protection under this section.

#### **4.1-34-06. Determinations - Rules - Uniformity.**

1. After providing an opportunity for a hearing, the commissioner may:
  - a. Declare as a pest any form of plant or animal life or virus which is injurious to plants, humans, domestic animals, articles, or substances.
  - b. Determine whether pesticides are highly toxic to humans and whether their use should be restricted.
  - c. Determine standards of coloring or discoloring for pesticides and to subject pesticides to the requirements of subdivision c of subsection 1 of section 4.1-34-02.
2. The commissioner may adopt appropriate rules for carrying out this chapter, including rules providing for the collection and examination of samples of pesticides or devices. The commissioner also may adopt rules, applicable to and in conformity with the primary standards established by this chapter, prescribed by the United States environmental protection agency with respect to pesticides to provide uniformity among the requirements of the several states and the federal government.

#### **4.1-34-07. Enforcement.**

The commissioner shall examine pesticides or devices for compliance with this chapter. If after examination the commissioner intends to initiate criminal proceedings against any person, the commissioner shall cause appropriate notice to be given to the person. Any person notified must be given an opportunity to present the person's views, either orally or in writing, with regard to the contemplated proceedings and if thereafter in the opinion of the commissioner it appears the chapter has been violated by the person, the commissioner shall refer the facts to the state's attorney for the county in which the violation has occurred with a copy of the results of the analysis or the examination of the article. The commissioner is not required to report for prosecution or for the institution of libel proceedings minor violations of this chapter if the commissioner believes the public interests will be best served by a suitable written notice of warning. A state's attorney to whom any violation is reported under this section, without delay, shall cause appropriate proceedings to be instituted and prosecuted in the proper court of jurisdiction. The commissioner, by publication in the manner the commissioner prescribes, shall give notice of all judgments entered in actions instituted under the authority of this chapter.

#### **4.1-34-08. Stop-sale orders.**

The commissioner may issue and enforce a stop-sale order to the owner or custodian of any pesticide when the commissioner finds that the product is being offered for sale in violation of this chapter. The order must direct the product be held at a designated place until released in writing by the

commissioner. The owner or custodian of the product has the right to petition a court of competent jurisdiction in the county where the product is found for an order releasing the product for sale in accordance with the findings of the court.

**4.1-34-09. Exemptions.**

1. The penalties provided for violations of section 4.1-34-02 do not apply to:
  - a. A carrier while lawfully engaged in transporting a pesticide within this state, if the carrier, upon request, permits the commissioner to copy all records showing the transactions in and movement of the articles.
  - b. A public official of this state or the federal government engaged in the performance of official duties.
  - c. The manufacturer or shipper of a pesticide for experimental use only:
    - (1) By or under the supervision of an agency of this state or of the federal government authorized by law to conduct research in the field of pesticides; or
    - (2) By others if the pesticide is not sold and if the pesticide container is plainly and conspicuously marked "For experimental use only - Not to be sold", together with the manufacturer's name and address.
  - c. A person using, distributing, selling, or offering for sale an unregistered pesticide for which the United States environmental protection agency has granted an emergency exemption for at least one use in North Dakota under section 18 of the federal Act.
2. An article may not be deemed in violation of this chapter when intended solely for export to a foreign country and when prepared or packed according to the specifications or directions of the purchaser. If not so exported, all the provisions of this chapter apply.

**4.1-34-10. Minimum-risk pesticide exemption.**

1. Section 4.1-34-02 does not apply to any person who distributes, sells, or offers for sale within this state or delivers for transportation or transports in intrastate commerce or between points within this state through any point outside this state a minimum-risk pesticide exempt from registration under the federal Act, provided the person has obtained a certificate of exemption from the commissioner.
2. To obtain a certificate of exemption for a minimum-risk pesticide, a person shall file an application with the commissioner. The application must include:
  - a. The name and address of the product's manufacturer or distributor;
  - b. The name and brand name of the product;
  - c. A current label for the product; and
  - d. A fee equal in amount to the fee set under section 4.1-34-03 for the registration of a pesticide.
3. The commissioner shall remit any fees collected under this section to the state treasurer for deposit in the environment and rangeland protection fund.
4. Each exemption from registration covers a designated two-year period beginning January first of each even-numbered year and expiring December thirty-first of the following year.

**4.1-34-11. Penalties.**

Any person violating this chapter is guilty of an infraction. If a registrant was issued a warning by the commissioner under this chapter, upon violating this chapter, other than subdivision a of subsection 1 of section 4.1-34-02, that registrant is guilty of a class A misdemeanor and the registration of the article with which the violation occurred automatically terminates. A pesticide for which the registration has been terminated may not again be registered unless the pesticide, its labeling, and other material required to be submitted appear to the commissioner to comply with the requirements of this chapter. In addition to any criminal penalty, a person found guilty of violating this chapter or the rules adopted under this chapter is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed one thousand dollars for each violation. The civil penalty may be imposed by a court in a civil proceeding or by the commissioner through an administrative hearing under chapter 28-32.

**4.1-34-12. Seizures.**

1. Any pesticide or device that is distributed, sold, or offered for sale within this state or delivered for transportation or transported in intrastate commerce or between points within this state through any point outside this state is liable to be proceeded against in any proper court of jurisdiction in any county of the state where it may be found and seized for confiscation by process of libel for condemnation:
  - a. In the case of a pesticide:
    - (1) If it is adulterated or misbranded;
    - (2) If it has not been registered under section 4.1-34-03;
    - (3) If it fails to bear on its label the information required by this chapter; or
    - (4) If it is a white powder pesticide and is not colored as required under this chapter.
  - b. In the case of a device, if it is misbranded.
2. If the pesticide is condemned, after entry of decree, the pesticide must be disposed of by destruction or sale as the court may direct and any proceeds, less legal costs, must be paid to the state treasurer. The pesticide may not be sold contrary to the provisions of this chapter. Upon payment of cost and execution and delivery of a good and sufficient bond conditioned that the pesticide may not be disposed of unlawfully, the court may direct the pesticide be delivered to its owner for relabeling or reprocessing. When a decree of condemnation is entered against the pesticide, court costs and fees and storage and other proper expenses must be awarded against any person intervening as claimant of the pesticide.

**4.1-34-13. Cooperation.**

The commissioner may cooperate and enter agreements with any other agency of this state or of the federal government or any other state or agency thereof for the purpose of carrying out this chapter and securing uniformity of regulations.

**4.1-34-14. Experimental use permits.**

If the state is authorized by the administrator of the United States environmental protection agency to issue experimental use permits, the commissioner may:

1. Issue an experimental use permit to an applicant if the commissioner determines that the applicant requires the permit to accumulate information necessary to register a pesticide use. An application for an experimental use permit may be filed when an application for registration is filed or before or after filing the application.
2. Prescribe terms, conditions, and the period of time for use under the experimental use permit.

3. Revoke an experimental use permit if the commissioner finds the permit's terms or conditions are being violated or that the permit's terms and conditions are inadequate to avoid unreasonable adverse effects to human health or the environment.

**4.1-34-15. Minimum-risk pesticide - Certificate of exemption.**

1. Section 4.1-34-02 does not apply to any person who distributes, sells, or offers for sale within this state or delivers for transportation or transports in intrastate commerce or between points within this state through any point outside this state a minimum-risk pesticide exempt from registration under the federal Act, provided the person has obtained a certificate of exemption from the commissioner.
2. To obtain a certificate of exemption for a minimum-risk pesticide, a person shall file an application with the commissioner. The application must include:
  - a. The name and address of the product's manufacturer or distributor;
  - b. The name and brand name of the product;
  - c. A current label for the product; and
  - d. A fee equal in amount to the fee set under section 4.1-34-03 for the registration of a pesticide.
3. The commissioner shall remit any fees collected under this section to the state treasurer for deposit in the environment and rangeland protection fund.
4. Each exemption from registration covers a designated two-year period beginning January first of each even-numbered year and expiring December thirty-first of the following year.

**SECTION 4.** Chapter 4.1-35 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**4.1-35-01. Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

1. "Chemigation" means any process by which chemicals, including pesticides and fertilizers, are applied to land or crops through an irrigation system.
2. "Commissioner" means the agriculture commissioner and includes any employee or agent designated by the commissioner.
3. "Fertilizer" means any fertilizer as defined by section 4.1-40-01.
4. "Pesticide" means that term defined in section 4.1-33-01.
5. "State engineer" means the state engineer appointed by the state water commission under section 61-03-01.

**4.1-35-02. Compliance with rules.**

Farm irrigation systems used for chemigation which are designed, constructed, and operated in compliance with rules adopted under this chapter are considered to be in compliance with this chapter.

**4.1-35-03. Rules - Standards for chemigation, installation, maintenance, and modifications.**

The commissioner shall adopt rules regulating chemigation through irrigation systems in this state to minimize the possibility of chemical, pesticide, fertilizer, or other contamination of irrigation water supply and other rules as necessary to implement this chapter. The commissioner may establish by rule standards for application of pesticides and fertilizers through irrigation systems; for installation and



maintenance of all equipment and devices used for chemigation purposes; modifications or changes in design, technology, or irrigation practices; or other purposes relating to the use or placement of equipment or devices. The commissioner may adopt rules requiring periodic calibration and inspection of equipment and system operation during periods of chemigation.

**4.1-35-04. Inspections - Assistance of state engineer.**

The state engineer shall cooperate with the commissioner in the inspection of any irrigation system using chemigation. The state engineer shall inform the commissioner of any violation of this chapter which is discovered in the course of the state engineer's regular inspections of irrigation systems using chemigation.

**4.1-35-05. Enforcement.**

1. The commissioner shall enforce this chapter and any rules adopted under this chapter.
2. The commissioner may seek an injunction in the district court in the county in which a violation occurs or may issue a cease and desist order to any person for any alleged violation of this chapter or any rules adopted under this chapter.
3. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this chapter, the commissioner and the state engineer may enter upon any public or private premises at reasonable times in order to:
  - a. Have access for the purpose of inspecting any equipment subject to this chapter and the premises on which the equipment is stored or used.
  - b. Inspect or sample lands actually, or reported to be, exposed to pesticides or fertilizers through chemigation.
  - c. Inspect storage or disposal areas.
  - d. Inspect or investigate complaints of injury to humans or animals.
  - e. Sample pesticides and fertilizers and pesticide or fertilizer mixes being applied or to be applied.
  - f. Observe the use and application of a pesticide or fertilizer through chemigation.
  - g. Have access for the purpose of inspecting a premise or other place where equipment or devices used for chemigation are held for distribution, sale, or use.

**4.1-35-06. Penalties.**

1. Any person who violates a provision of this chapter or any rule adopted under this chapter is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.
2. When construing and enforcing the provisions of this chapter or any rules adopted under this chapter, the act, omission, or failure of any officer, agent, or other person acting for or employed by any person must in every case also be deemed to be the act, omission, or failure of such person as well as that of the person employed.
3. Any person found to have violated a provision of this chapter or rule adopted under this chapter is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars for each violation. The civil penalty may be imposed by a court in a civil proceeding or by the commissioner through an administrative hearing under chapter 28-32.

**SECTION 5.** Chapter 4.1-36 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**4.1-36-01. Pesticide and pesticide container disposal program - Pesticide container management - Compensation.**

1. The definitions contained in section 4.1-33-01 apply to this chapter.
2. In consultation with an advisory board consisting of the state health officer and director of the North Dakota state university extension service, two individuals selected by the agriculture commissioner representing agribusiness organizations, and two individuals selected by the agriculture commissioner representing farm organizations, the commissioner shall continue to implement project safe send. The purpose of the project is to:
  - a. Collect and either recycle or dispose of unusable pesticides and unusable pesticide containers. The commissioner shall provide for the establishment and operation of temporary collection sites for the pesticides and pesticide containers. The commissioner may limit the type and quantity of pesticides and pesticide containers acceptable for collection.
  - b. Promote proper pesticide container management. In consultation with the director of the North Dakota state university extension service, the commissioner shall evaluate and promote proper methods of pesticide container management, including information on the variety of pesticide containers available.
3. Any entity collecting pesticide containers or unusable pesticides shall manage and dispose of the containers and pesticides in compliance with applicable federal and state requirements. When called upon, any state agency shall assist the commissioner in implementing the project.
4. For services rendered in connection with the design and implementation of this project, the advisory board members selected by the commissioner are entitled to reimbursement for mileage and travel expenses in the same manner and for the same amounts provided for state employees and officials. Compensation and expense reimbursement must be paid from the environment and rangeland protection fund.

**4.1-36-02. Project scope and evaluation.**

The project described in section 4.1-36-01 must occur in areas to be determined by the agriculture commissioner in consultation with the advisory board described in section 4.1-36-01.

**4.1-36-03. Project safe send pesticide and pesticide container collection - User fees.**

The agriculture commissioner, in consultation with the advisory board for the project safe send pesticide and pesticide container disposal program, may charge a fee for collection of rinsate. The fees must be established at a level that will generate enough revenue to cover the cost of disposal associated with the rinsate that is collected. Collections from this fee must be deposited in the environment and rangeland protection fund.

**4.1-36-04. Report on pesticide container disposal program.**

The agriculture commissioner shall submit a biennial report to a joint meeting of the house of representatives and senate agriculture committees on the status of the pesticide container disposal program.

**SECTION 6.** Chapter 4.1-37 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**4.1-37-01. Anhydrous ammonia safety rules.**

The agriculture commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to implement this chapter and adopt the 2014 American national standard safety requirements for the storage and handling of anhydrous ammonia. The commissioner may adopt rules that deviate from the 2014 American national standard

safety requirements if certain provisions of the standard impose undue hardship or if literal adherence to the provisions fails to provide adequate safety.

**4.1-37-02. Definition.**

As used in this chapter, "anhydrous ammonia storage facility" means a bulk anhydrous ammonia storage facility with a capacity exceeding six thousand gallons [22712.47 liters] which is owned or operated by a user or vendor of anhydrous ammonia.

**4.1-37-03. License required - Anhydrous ammonia facilities constructed after June 30, 1985.**

The owner or operator of an anhydrous ammonia storage facility shall apply to the agriculture commissioner and to the board of county commissioners for a license to site and operate the facility. An anhydrous ammonia storage facility may not be operated without a license issued by the agriculture commissioner and the board of county commissioners of the county in which the facility is located. Any permanent anhydrous ammonia storage facility constructed before July 1, 1985, is exempt from the siting requirements of this chapter and may receive a license under this chapter regardless of noncompliance with the siting requirements. The commissioner or the board may deny a license for failure to remit the proper fee for failure to comply with the siting requirements of this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter if constructed after June 30, 1985, or for failure to comply with local siting requirements. The agriculture commissioner also may deny a license if the facility does not meet the initial inspection standards required by this chapter and by any rules adopted under this chapter. To obtain a license, an applicant shall submit with the application two sets of drawings or photographs showing, and two signed affidavits stating, the facility has been measured and meets the siting requirements. The drawings or photographs must show the proposed location of the tank and the surroundings in all directions. A set of drawings or photographs must be provided to the agriculture commissioner and a set must be provided to the board of county commissioners.

**4.1-37-04. State license fee.**

The agriculture commissioner shall charge a one-time twenty-five dollar fee for a license for each anhydrous ammonia storage facility and an additional one hundred dollars for each retail and storage site. Expansion of an existing anhydrous ammonia storage facility does not require reapplication for licensing, but all siting requirements must be met. The license is valid indefinitely but may not be transferred. A new license is required when an anhydrous ammonia storage facility changes ownership.

**4.1-37-05. State siting requirements - Anhydrous ammonia storage facilities constructed after June 30, 1985.**

For facilities constructed after June 30, 1985:

1. Any anhydrous ammonia storage facility with a container nominal capacity of less than one hundred thousand gallons [378541.2 liters] must be located at least:
  - a. Fifty feet [15.24 meters] from the line of any adjoining property, which may be built upon, or any highway or railroad mainline.
  - b. Four hundred fifty feet [137.16 meters] from any place of public assembly or residence, other than the company's business office.
  - c. Seven hundred fifty feet [213.36 meters] from any institutional residence.
2. Any anhydrous ammonia storage facility with container nominal capacity of one hundred thousand gallons [378541.2 liters] or more must be located at least:
  - a. Fifty feet [15.24 meters] from the property line of adjoining property, which may be built upon, or any highway or railroad mainline.

- b. Six hundred feet [182.88 meters] from any place of public assembly or residence, other than the company's business office.
- c. One thousand feet [300.48 meters] from any institutional residence.
- 3. Upon relocation of any permanent storage container to an anhydrous ammonia storage facility, the container must be hydrostatically pressure tested at the maximum allowable working pressure of the vessel, wet fluorescent magnetic particle tested, also referred to as black light tested, or any other acceptable testing method as determined by the agriculture commissioner. Before the container may be put into service and before licensing may occur, proof of testing must be supplied to the board of county commissioners and the agriculture commissioner.
- 4. All valves and other appurtenances to any anhydrous ammonia storage facility must be protected against physical damage. All shutoff valves must be kept closed and locked when not in use and when the facility is unattended.
- 5. Any anhydrous ammonia storage facility relocated or constructed after August 1, 1995, may not be located within city limits, unless approved by the city.

**4.1-37-06. Transfer hose requirements.**

- 1. Any transfer hose utilized at an anhydrous ammonia storage facility:
  - a. Which is a liquid transfer hose and is not drained of liquid upon completion of transfer operations must be equipped with an approved shutoff valve at the discharge end.
  - b. Must have a hydrostatic relief valve or equivalent must be installed in each section of hose or pipe in which liquid ammonia can be isolated between shutoff valves to relieve the pressure that could develop from the trapped liquid. If an equivalent pressure relief device is used, the maximum accumulated pressure possible within the system may not exceed the limits of the system. A hydrostatic relief valve must be installed between each pair of valves in which liquid is trapped. The start-to-discharge pressure setting of the relief valve must not be less than three hundred fifty pounds per square inch [2413.18 kilopascals] gauge nor more than four hundred pounds per square inch [2757.92 kilopascals] gauge.
  - c. Must have etched, cast, or impressed on the outer coating all of the following:
    - (1) The words "ANHYDROUS AMMONIA".
    - (2) The maximum working pressure of the transfer hose.
    - (3) The name of the manufacturer of the hose.
    - (4) The date of manufacture or the expiration date of the hose.
  - d. Which is cut, scraped, cracked, or weathered so that the inner white cord is visible must be replaced. A transfer hose with an expiration date printed on the hose must be replaced prior to that date. Transfer hoses without an expiration date must be replaced as follows:
    - (1) Rayon hoses must be replaced within two years of the date of manufacture.
    - (2) Nylon hoses must be replaced within four years of the date of manufacture.
    - (3) Steel-reinforced hoses must be replaced within six years of the date of manufacture.

2. Notwithstanding the replacement dates determined under subdivision d of subsection 1 for transfer hoses with or without an expiration date, an additional year must be allowed for replacement of transfer hoses in order to take into account delays in the original installation of transfer hoses.

**4.1-37-07. Pressure relief devices.**

Bulk storage containers constructed according to the American society of mechanical engineers code, and all nurse tanks, must be equipped with pressure relief valves constructed according to the American society of mechanical engineers code and capacity certified by the national board of boiler and pressure vessel inspectors. A pressure relief valve using nonmetallic seats must be replaced every five years with a new valve meeting the standards specified in this section. A pressure relief valve using metallic seats must be tested, and repaired if deemed necessary, every five years in lieu of replacement. Repairs deemed necessary must be made by the valve manufacturer or by a safety valve repair organization having a valid "VR" certificate of authorization for the repairs from the national board of boiler and pressure vessel inspectors.

**4.1-37-08. Inspection.**

1. The agriculture commissioner shall develop and implement an initial and periodic inspection program for anhydrous ammonia storage facilities.
2. The agriculture commissioner shall inspect each anhydrous ammonia storage facility at least once every five years and may inspect any implement of husbandry designed to apply anhydrous ammonia which is in the vicinity of an anhydrous ammonia storage facility.
3. The agriculture commissioner may inspect any anhydrous ammonia storage facility if the commissioner has reason to believe violations of safety standards exist.
4. The agriculture commissioner may revoke or suspend the license of any anhydrous ammonia storage facility for a violation of this chapter or the rules adopted under this chapter. The commissioner may order the discontinuance of use of any implement of husbandry designed to apply anhydrous ammonia which is found unsafe or hazardous.

**4.1-37-09. Reinstalled and secondhand anhydrous ammonia storage containers - Requirement.**

1. A person intending to store anhydrous ammonia in a reinstalled or secondhand container, including a nurse tank, shall furnish the agriculture commissioner with:
  - a. Evidence that the container is registered with the national board of boiler and pressure vessel inspectors; or
  - b. The manufacturer's data report for the container.
2. Subsection 1 is only applicable to the owner of an anhydrous ammonia storage container installed in this state before November 1, 1987, if the storage container is reinstalled at another location.

**4.1-37-10. Use of fees - Safety promotion - Administration - Inspections.**

All fees collected under this chapter must be used by the agriculture commissioner to promote safety in anhydrous ammonia use and storage, administer the program, and inspect facilities.

**4.1-37-11. Prohibitions.**

The following actions are prohibited:

1. Filling a nurse tank directly from a railcar;

2. Filling or using a nurse tank that has an outdated hose;
3. Filling or using a nurse tank that has outdated relief valves;
4. Towing more than two nurse tanks on a public road;
5. Filling department of transportation transport containers not meeting the requirements of the department of transportation;
6. Filling anhydrous ammonia storage containers not meeting the requirements of this chapter;
7. Filling a storage container or nurse tank while unattended;
8. Making repairs or additions of appurtenances directly to pressurized storage containers or nurse tanks by any individual not authorized under rules adopted by the commissioner;
9. Painting or obscuring the American society of mechanical engineers data plates on storage containers or nurse tanks;
10. Painting hydrostatic safety and safety relief valves on storage containers or nurse tanks;
11. Filling nonrefrigerated storage containers or nurse tanks beyond the filling densities permitted by the American national standards institute K61.1, section 5.9.1; and
12. Using the American society for testing and materials A-53 type f piping for anhydrous ammonia piping systems.

**4.1-37-12. Anhydrous ammonia - Bulk delivery.**

Upon obtaining a commercial driver's license with an endorsement for hazardous materials, an individual may transport anhydrous ammonia in a bulk delivery vehicle and fill nurse tanks with anhydrous ammonia from the bulk delivery vehicle.

**4.1-37-13. Hydrostatic test procedures.**

Any hydrostatic test conducted under section 4.1-37-05 must comply with the requirements of the national board inspection code (ANSI-NB 23) and be conducted in a manner approved by the agriculture commissioner.

**4.1-37-14. Wet fluorescent magnetic particle test procedures.**

Any wet fluorescent magnetic particle test of a pressure vessel weld conducted under section 4.1-37-05 must comply with the requirements of the society for nondestructive testing SNT-TC-1A standard and must be conducted by a person certified as a level II technician by the society.

**4.1-37-15. Enforcement.**

1. The agriculture commissioner shall enforce the requirements of this chapter and any rules issued under it.
2. The commissioner may bring an action to enjoin the violation or threatened violation of this chapter, or any rule issued pursuant to this chapter, in the district court of the county in which the violation occurs or may occur.
3. The agriculture commissioner may issue a cease and desist order to any person allegedly violating this chapter. If any person violates the cease and desist order, the commissioner shall file the appropriate criminal complaint.
4. The agriculture commissioner may enter upon any public or private premises at reasonable times to:

- a. Inspect any equipment subject to this chapter and the premises on which the equipment is stored or used;
  - b. Inspect or investigate complaints; or
  - c. Inspect any premises or other place where anhydrous ammonia or related devices are held for distribution, sale, or use.
5. If a civil penalty is imposed under section 4.1-37-16 by the agriculture commissioner through an administrative hearing and the civil penalty is not paid, the commissioner may initiate a civil action in any appropriate court. Additionally, the commissioner may suspend or revoke a license issued under this chapter for failure to pay a civil penalty within thirty days after a final determination is made.

**4.1-37-16. Penalty.**

1. Any person violating this chapter is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.
2. When construing and enforcing this chapter, the act, omission, or failure of any officer, agent, or other person acting for or employed by any person is deemed to be the act, omission, or failure of the person as well as that of the person employed.
3. In addition to the criminal sanctions that may be imposed, a person found guilty of violating this chapter or the rules adopted under this chapter is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars for each violation. The civil penalty may be imposed by a court in a civil proceeding or by the agriculture commissioner through an administrative hearing.

**SECTION 7.** Chapter 4.1-38 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**4.1-38-01. Risk management program - Anhydrous ammonia.**

To determine compliance with the risk management program requirements set forth in section 112 of the Clean Air Act of 1990 [42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.], as amended through June 30, 2011, the agriculture commissioner may:

1. Request information from any person that:
  - a. Sells, stores, or handles anhydrous ammonia for agricultural purposes; and
  - b. Is required to comply with the risk management program requirements;
2. Conduct inspections of any person that:
  - a. Sells, stores, or handles anhydrous ammonia for agricultural purposes; and
  - b. Is required to comply with the risk management program requirements; and
3. Obtain and review risk management plans required under 40 Code of Federal Regulations, part 68, as amended through June 30, 2011, and other records applicable to any person that:
  - a. Sells, stores, or handles anhydrous ammonia for agricultural purposes; and
  - b. Is required to comply with the risk management program requirements.

**4.1-38-02. Risk management program - Enforcement authority.**

If the agriculture commissioner determines there is noncompliance on the part of any person that sells, stores, or handles anhydrous ammonia for agricultural purposes and that is required to comply with the risk management program requirements referenced in section 4.1-38-01, the agriculture commissioner may:

1. Bring an action to enjoin a violation or a threatened violation;
2. Issue a cease and desist order; and
3. Impose a civil penalty through an administrative hearing in an amount not exceeding ten thousand dollars per day for each violation.

**SECTION 8.** Chapter 4.1-39 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**4.1-39-01. Crop protection product harmonization and registration board - Recovery of funds.**

The crop protection product harmonization and registration board may accept funds for expenses paid relating to the registration of pesticides or donations offered to or for the benefit of the board. All moneys received under this section must be deposited in the minor use pesticide fund to pay expenses relating to the registration of pesticides or for the specific purpose for which they are given. Whenever possible, the board shall attempt to recover funds expended relating to the registration of pesticide. The board shall adopt rules to administer this section.

**4.1-39-02. Crop protection product harmonization and registration board - Membership - Duties - Grants.**

1. The crop protection product harmonization and registration board consists of:
  - a. The governor or the governor's designee;
  - b. The agriculture commissioner or the commissioner's designee;
  - c. The chairman of the house agriculture committee or the chairman's designee;
  - d. The chairman of the senate agriculture committee or the chairman's designee;
  - e. A member of the house or senate agriculture committee who is not a member of the faction in which the committee chairman is a member, appointed by the legislative management chairman;
  - f. A crop protection product dealer in the state appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the North Dakota agricultural association;
  - g. A consumer of crop protection products appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the North Dakota grain growers association;
  - h. A consumer of crop protection products appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the North Dakota oilseed council;
  - i. A representative of the crop protection product manufacturing industry appointed by the chairman of the legislative management; and
  - j. The director of the North Dakota state university agricultural experiment station.
2. The representative of the crop protection product manufacturing industry and the director of the agricultural experiment station shall serve as nonvoting members. The governor or the governor's designee shall serve as chairman of the board.
3. The board shall:
  - a. Identify and prioritize crop protection product labeling needs;
  - b. Explore the extent of authority given to this state under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act [7 U.S.C. 136a];



- c. Identify the data necessary to enable registration of a use to occur in a timely manner;
  - d. Determine necessary research to fulfill the data requirements for activities listed in this section;
  - e. Request the agriculture commissioner to pursue specific research funding options from public and private sources;
  - f. Request the North Dakota state university agricultural experiment station to pursue specific research to coordinate registration efforts; and
  - g. Pursue opportunities to make more crop protection product options available to state agricultural producers through any means the board determines advisable.
4. The board may contract with a consultant to provide studies, research, or information regarding crop protection product registration and labeling needs.
  5. The board may administer a grant program through which agriculture commodity groups may apply for funds to be used to address issues related to the registration of crop protection products. To be eligible for a grant, an applicant must submit an application to the board requesting a specific amount of funds, specifying the exact purposes for which the grant would be used, and providing a detailed timetable for the use of the grant funds. The board may impose any additional conditions it determines appropriate for grant recipients, including requiring periodic reports and furnishing of matching funds. The board may terminate funding of a previously approved grant at any time if the board is dissatisfied with the performance of the grant recipient.
  6. The board may use not more than fifteen percent of the funds under its supervision for administrative purposes, including the cost of contracting for administrative services and reimbursement of board member expenses. The members of the board who are members of the legislative assembly are entitled to compensation and expense reimbursement from the legislative council for attendance at board meetings at the rate provided for members of the legislative assembly for attendance at interim committee meetings.
  7. The board may adopt rules to implement this section.

**4.1-39-03. Crop protection products - Canadian labels.**

The agriculture commissioner, with the advice and consent of the appropriate agricultural commodity group, may authorize the sale and use in this state of a crop protection product that has a Canadian label, if the commissioner determines that a crop protection product having an American label contains substantially similar active ingredients and that the importation and use of the product with a Canadian label does not violate federal law. The commissioner shall require an applicator to possess the American label and apply the product in accordance with the American label provisions.

**4.1-39-04. Special local needs exemption - Tolerances.**

The agriculture commissioner, in cooperation with the environmental protection agency, shall use tolerance data established or obtained in North America in pursuing special local needs exemptions for crop protection products under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act [7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.].

**4.1-39-05. Crop protection products - Registration process - Joint labeling.**

The governor and the agriculture commissioner shall work with all appropriate public and private entities to foster the development of a single, uniform process for the joint North American labeling of crop protection products not available for sale and use in this state as of April 19, 1999.

**4.1-39-06. Crop protection products - Request to petition for registration.**

On the written request of any agricultural commodity group, the agriculture commissioner shall petition the environmental protection agency for the American registration of a crop protection product approved for use in Canada.

**4.1-39-07. Environment and rangeland protection fund.**

The environment and rangeland protection fund is a special fund in the state treasury. The moneys in this fund may be used for rangeland improvement projects and to address issues relating to harmonization of crop protection product standards. The rangeland improvement projects may include noxious weed control; ground water testing, analysis, protection, and improvement; analysis of food products for residues of pesticides and other materials; and analysis and disposal of unusable pesticides and pesticide containers.

**4.1-39-08. Minor use pesticide fund - Continuing appropriation.**

The minor use pesticide fund is created as a special fund in the state treasury. All moneys in the fund are appropriated on a continuing basis to the crop protection product harmonization and registration board for the purpose of conducting or commissioning studies, investigations, and evaluations regarding the registration and use of pesticides for minor crops, minor uses, and other uses as determined by the board.

**SECTION 9.** Chapter 4.1-40 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**4.1-40-01. Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

1. "Brand" means a term, design, or trademark, used in connection with one or several grades of fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrients, specialty fertilizer, soil amendments, or plant amendments.
2. "Bulk" means in a nonpackaged form.
3. "Compost" means a material derived primarily or entirely from biological decomposition of vegetative organic matter or animal manure that may have inorganic fertilizer added to promote decomposition.
4. "Deficiency" means an amount of plant nutrient or active ingredient found by analysis to be less than the amount guaranteed, resulting from a lack of plant nutrient, active ingredients, or uniformity.
5. "Distributor" means a person who imports, consigns, manufactures, produces, compounds, mixes, or blends or who sells or offers for sale fertilizer, fertilizer materials, micronutrients, specialty fertilizers, soil amendments, or plant amendments in this state.
6. "End user" means a person who uses a fertilizer, fertilizer materials, micronutrients, specialty fertilizers, soil amendment, or plant amendment in a manner for which the product was intended.
7. "Fertilizer" means any substance containing one or more recognized plant nutrients which is used for its plant nutrient content and which is designed for use or claimed to have value in promoting plant growth, except unmanipulated animal and vegetable manures, marl, lime, limestone, wood ashes, and other products excluded by rule of the commissioner.
8. "Fertilizer material" means a fertilizer which:
  - a. Contains no more than one of the primary plant nutrients;

- b. Has approximately eighty-five percent of its primary plant nutrient content present in the form of a single chemical compound; or
  - c. Is derived from a plant or animal residue or byproduct or a natural material deposit and has been processed in such a way that its content of primary plant nutrients has not been materially changed except by purification or concentration.
9. "Grade" means the percentages of total nitrogen, available phosphate, and soluble potassium or soluble potash stated in the same terms, order, and percentages as in the "guaranteed analysis".
  10. "Guaranteed analysis" means the minimum percentage of plant nutrients claimed.
  11. "Investigational allowance" means an allowance for variations inherent in the taking, preparation, and analysis of an official sample of fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment.
  12. "Label" means all written, printed, or graphic materials upon or accompanying any fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrients, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment and any printed material or media announcements used in promoting their sale.
  13. "Licensee" means a person licensed by the commissioner to distribute fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrients, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment.
  14. "Manipulated" means to have manufactured, blended, or mixed fertilizers, fertilizer materials, micronutrients, specialty fertilizers, soil amendments, or plant amendments, or to have treated in any manner any animal or vegetable manures, including mechanical drying, grinding, pelleting, and other means, or by adding other chemicals or substances.
  15. "Micronutrient" means a fertilizer that contains only essential chemical elements that are required at low levels for normal plant growth.
  16. "Mobile mechanical unit" means any portable machine or apparatus used to blend, mix, or manufacture fertilizers, fertilizer material, micronutrients, specialty fertilizers, soil amendments, or plant amendments.
  17. "Official sample" means any sample of fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrients, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment, taken and designated as "official" by the commissioner.
  18. "Organic" in reference to fertilizer nutrients, means only naturally occurring substances, generally recognized as the hydrogen compounds of carbon and their derivatives or synthetic products of similar composition with a water insoluble nitrogen content of at least sixty percent of the guaranteed total nitrogen.
  19. "Percent" or "percentage" means the percentage by weight.
  20. "Plant amendment" means a substance applied to plants or seeds which is intended to improve germination, growth, yield, product quality, reproduction, flavor, or other desirable characteristics of plants except fertilizers, unless the fertilizer is represented to contain, as an active ingredient, a substance other than a primary plant nutrient or micronutrient, or is represented as promoting plant growth by supplying something other than a primary plant nutrient or micronutrient.
  21. "Plant nutrient" means a substance generally recognized as beneficial for plant growth, including nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, sulfur, boron, chlorine, cobalt, copper, iron, manganese, molybdenum, sodium, and zinc.
  22. "Primary plant nutrients" means nitrogen, phosphate, and potash.

23. "Registrant" means the person who registers fertilizers, soil amendments, or plant amendments under this chapter.
24. "Sell" when applied to fertilizers, fertilizer material, micronutrients, specialty fertilizers, soil amendments, or plant amendments means:
  - a. Transferring or offering to transfer ownership through a sale, exchange, gift, or distribution; or
  - b. Receiving, accepting, holding, or possessing for sale, exchange, gift, or distribution.
25. "Soil amendment" means any substance intended to improve the characteristics of the soil except unmanipulated animal or vegetable manures, pesticides, and fertilizers, unless the fertilizer is represented to contain, as an active ingredient, a substance other than a primary plant nutrient or micronutrient or is represented as promoting plant growth by supplying something other than a primary plant nutrient or micronutrient.
26. "Specialty fertilizer" means a fertilizer distributed primarily for nonfarm use.
27. "Ton" means a net weight of two thousand pounds avoirdupois [907.18 kilograms].

**4.1-40-02. Product registration - Fees.**

1. Each brand and grade of fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrient, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, and plant amendment must be registered in the name of the person whose name appears upon the label before being offered for sale or distributed in this state.
2. The application for registration must be submitted to the commissioner on a form furnished by the commissioner and must be accompanied by:
  - a. A current product label; and
  - b. A fee of fifty dollars per product.
3. Each brand and grade registration is effective for a two-year period beginning July first and ending June thirtieth of each even-numbered year.
4. Any request for a registration renewal received after July thirty-first must be assessed a penalty of one hundred dollars per product.
5.
  - a. A distributor is not required to register any product listed in subsection 1 if that product is already registered by another person, providing the label complies with the issued registration.
  - b. A distributor is not required to register a custom-blended fertilizer combination, blended to the customer's specification, if the fertilizer combination provided contains only products registered under subsection 1.
  - c. Compost that is transferred between parties without compensation does not require registration.
6. The agriculture commissioner shall forward all fees received under this section to the state treasurer for deposit in the environment and rangeland protection fund.

**4.1-40-03. Distributor's license - Fees.**

1. A person may not distribute any fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrient, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment in this state without first obtaining a distributor's license from the commissioner.

2. A license is required for each location or mobile mechanical unit used by a distributor in the state.
3. The application for a license must be submitted on a form furnished by the commissioner and must be accompanied by a fee of one hundred dollars.
4. A license is effective for a two-year period beginning July first and ending June thirtieth of each even-numbered year.
5. Any license renewal application received after July thirty-first must be assessed a penalty of one hundred dollars per location.
6. Any license issued under this section:
  - a. Is not transferable;
  - b. Must be conspicuously posted at each location used by the distributor; and
  - c. Must be carried in each mobile mechanical unit operated by the distributor in the state.
7. The requirements of this section do not apply to persons that distribute only:
  - a. Specialty fertilizers; or
  - b. Seed inoculants.
8. The agriculture commissioner shall forward all fees received under this section to the state treasurer for deposit in the environment and rangeland protection fund.

**4.1-40-04. Proof of effectiveness.**

The commissioner may require proof of claims made for any product covered by this chapter and may require proof of value when used as directed or recommended. The commissioner must rely on data from scientifically designed and reported studies conducted under conditions similar to those in this state under which the product is intended to be used. The commissioner may accept or reject other sources of proof as supplemental evidence.

**4.1-40-05. Guaranteed analysis.**

1. Guaranteed analysis must be claimed as follows:
  - a. Total Nitrogen (N) \_\_\_\_\_ percent;
  - b. Available Phosphate ( $P_2O_5$ ) \_\_\_\_\_ percent; and
  - c. Soluble Potash ( $K_2O$ ) \_\_\_\_\_ percent.
2. The total phosphate or degree of fineness, or both, may also be guaranteed, in the case of unacidulated mineral phosphatic materials and basic slag, bone, tankage, and other organic phosphatic materials.
3. Rules implemented under this chapter may allow or require guarantees for plant nutrients other than nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium.
  - a. Guarantees under this subsection must be expressed in the form of the element.
  - b. The commissioner may require that the sources of other nutrients, including oxides, salt, and chelates, be stated on the application for registration and included as a parenthetical statement on the label.

- c. Other beneficial substances or compounds, determinable by laboratory methods, may be guaranteed with permission of the commissioner after consultation with the director of the North Dakota state university extension service.
- 4. Any guaranteed plant nutrients, other substances, or compounds are subject to inspection and analysis according to the methods and rules prescribed by the commissioner.
- 5. a. The commissioner, by rule, may require potential basicity or acidity expressed in terms of calcium carbonate equivalent in multiples of one hundred pounds [45.36 kilograms] per ton [907.18 kilograms].  
b. The guaranteed analysis of a soil amendment or plant amendment must be an accurate statement of composition, including the percentages of each ingredient. If the product is a microbiological product, the number of viable micro-organisms per milliliter for a liquid or the number of viable micro-organisms per gram for a dry product must also be listed.

**4.1-40-06. Label requirement.**

Any fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrient, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment distributed in this state must be labeled.

- 1. If the product is in a container, the label must be plainly printed in English and conspicuously placed on or attached to the container. The label must include:
  - a. The net weight of the product;
  - b. The brand;
  - c. The grade, unless no primary nutrients are claimed;
  - d. The guaranteed analysis; and
  - e. The name and address of the registrant.
- 2. If the product is distributed in bulk, a document providing the same information required in subsection 1 must accompany the delivery and be provided to the end user at the time of delivery.
- 3. A fertilizer formulated according to specifications furnished by a consumer prior to mixing must be labeled to show the net weight, the guaranteed analysis or amount of each plant nutrient it contains in pounds [kilograms], and the name and address of the registrant.

**4.1-40-07. Inspection fees - Tonnage reports - Penalty.**

- 1. a. An inspection fee of ten dollars or twenty cents per ton [907.18 kilograms], whichever is greater, must be paid to the commissioner on all fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrients, specialty fertilizer, soil amendments, and plant amendments distributed in this state.  
b. This subsection does not apply to:
  - (1) Exchanges of product between manufacturers and distributors; or
  - (2) Individual fertilizers, fertilizer material, micronutrients, specialty fertilizers, soil amendments, or plant amendments sold exclusively in packages of twenty-five pounds [11.34 kilograms] or less.
- 2. a. On or before January thirty-first, each licensed person who distributes a fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrient, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment to an end user in this state shall:

- (1) File with the commissioner a form stating the number of net tons [kilograms] of each listed product distributed in this state during the preceding calendar year; and
  - (2) Submit to the commissioner the inspection fee required by this section.
- b. If a person fails to submit an inspection fee, at the time and in the manner required by this section, the commissioner may impose a penalty of ten dollars or ten percent of the amount due, whichever is greater.
3. a. On or before January thirty-first, each licensed person that distributes a fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrient, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment to a licensed entity in this state shall file with the commissioner a form stating the number of net tons [kilograms] of each listed product distributed in this state during the preceding calendar year.
  - b. If a person fails to file the form, at the time and in the manner required by this subsection, the commissioner may impose a late fee of thirty-five dollars.
4. Each distributor shall keep all records regarding purchases and sales for a period of three years. The records may be examined by the commissioner upon request.
  5. The agriculture commissioner shall forward all fees received under this section to the state treasurer for deposit in the environment and rangeland protection fund.

#### **4.1-40-08. Inspection, sampling, analysis.**

1. To determine compliance with this chapter and rules implemented under this chapter, the commissioner may enter real property during regular business hours and access any structure or personal property to sample, inspect, analyze, and test fertilizers, fertilizer material, micronutrients, specialty fertilizers, soil amendments, and plant amendments distributed in this state.
2. The commissioner shall adopt methods of analysis and sampling from reputable sources such as the Journal of the AOAC International.
3. A single package may constitute an official sample. In determining whether any fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrient, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment is deficient, the commissioner shall only consider the analysis of the official sample.
4. If the results of the commissioner's official analysis indicate that a fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrient, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment may be the subject of a penalty or other legal action, the commissioner shall forward the analysis to the registrant at least ten days before the report is submitted to the purchaser. If during the ten-day period no adequate evidence to the contrary is made available to the commissioner by the registrant, the report becomes official.
5. The commissioner shall retain any official samples found to be deficient for thirty days following the issuance of the analytical report.
6. Upon request, the commissioner shall furnish to the registrant a portion of any sample found to be the subject of a penalty or other legal action.

#### **4.1-40-09. Misbranding.**

1. A person may not distribute a misbranded fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrient, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment.
2. A fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrient, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment is misbranded if:

- a. False or misleading statements concerning the product are disseminated in any manner or by any means;
  - b. The product label carries a false or misleading statement;
  - c. The product is distributed under the name of another product;
  - d. The product is not labeled as required by this chapter or rules implemented under this chapter; or
  - e. The product is inaccurately represented as a fertilizer, or is inaccurately represented as containing a plant nutrient or fertilizer unless the plant nutrient or fertilizer conforms to the definition, if any, prescribed in rule by the commissioner.
3. In adopting rules, the commissioner shall consider commonly accepted definitions and official fertilizer terms such as those issued by the association of American plant food control officials.

#### **4.1-40-10. Publications.**

The commissioner may publish:

1. Information concerning the distribution of fertilizers, fertilizer material, micronutrients, specialty fertilizers, soil amendments, and plant amendments; and
2. Results of analyses based on official samples of fertilizers, fertilizer material, micronutrients, specialty fertilizers, soil amendments, and plant amendments distributed within the state as compared with the analyses guaranteed under sections 4.1-40-05 and 4.1-40-06.

#### **4.1-40-11. Rules.**

The commissioner may adopt and enforce rules relating to investigational allowances, definitions, records, licensing, inspection, analysis, labeling, storage, and distribution of fertilizers, fertilizer material, micronutrients, specialty fertilizers, soil amendments, and plant amendments.

#### **4.1-40-12. Deficiencies.**

1. A product is deficient if:
  - a. One or more of its guaranteed primary plant nutrients falls below the investigational allowances and compensations established by rule;
  - b. One or more other guaranteed active ingredients falls below the investigational allowances and compensations established by rule; or
  - c. The overall index value of the fertilizer is shown below the level established by rule.
2. A nonuniformity deficiency in an official sample of mixed fertilizer is not distinguishable from a deficiency due to actual plant nutrient shortage and is properly subject to official action.
3. To determine the commercial index value to be applied, the commissioner shall determine at least annually the values per unit of nitrogen, available phosphate, and soluble potash in fertilizers in this state.
4. Any fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrients, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment in the possession of a consumer found by the commissioner to be short in weight, a penalty must be assessed to the registrant of the product. Within thirty days after official notice from the commissioner, the registrant of the product shall pay a penalty equal to four times the value of the actual shortage to the consumer.



**4.1-40-13. Cancellation of registrations.**

1. The commissioner, upon compelling evidence that a registrant, licensee, or distributor used fraudulent or deceptive practices in the evasion or attempted evasion of this chapter or any implemented rule, may:
  - a. Cancel the registration of any brand of fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrient, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment;
  - b. Cancel the license of any distributor;
  - c. Refuse to register any brand of fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrient, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment; or
  - d. Refuse to license any distributor.
2. The commissioner shall provide an opportunity for a hearing prior to refusing a registration or revoking a license.

**4.1-40-14. Stop-sale orders.**

The commissioner may issue a "stop-sale, use, or removal" order to the owner or custodian of any lot of fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrient, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment, if the commissioner finds that the product is being offered for sale in violation of this chapter or any implemented rule. The order must remain in effect until the commissioner:

1. Determines that the violation has been corrected;
2. Gives written authorization for the disposal of the product; or
3. Gives written authorization for the product to be offered for sale.

**4.1-40-15. Seizure, condemnation, and sale.**

1. Any lot of fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrient, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment, not in compliance with this chapter or implemented rules, is subject to seizure upon the filing of a complaint by the commissioner with the district court of the county in which the product is located.
2. If the court finds the product to be in violation of this chapter or any implemented rule and orders its condemnation, the product must be disposed of in any manner consistent with the quality of the product and the laws of the state.
3. Before ordering the disposition of a product, a court shall give the claimant an opportunity to apply for the release of the product or for permission to process or relabel the product to bring it into compliance with this chapter and implemented rules.

**4.1-40-16. Violations - Criminal penalty.**

1. If evidence from the examination of any fertilizer, fertilizer material, micronutrient, specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment indicates this chapter or the implemented rules have been violated, the commissioner shall notify the registrant, licensee, manufacturer, distributor, or possessor from whom the sample was taken of the violation. Any person notified must be given an opportunity to be heard. After the hearing, either in the presence or absence of the person so notified, the commissioner may certify the facts to the proper prosecuting attorney if evidence exists this chapter or the implemented rules have been violated.

2. Any person violating this chapter or the implemented rules or that impedes, obstructs, hinders, or otherwise prevents or attempts to prevent the commissioner in the performance of the commissioner's duty under this chapter is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.
3. All prosecutions involving the composition of a lot of fertilizers, fertilizer material, micronutrients, specialty fertilizers, soil amendments, or plant amendments, require a certified copy of the official analysis signed by the person performing the analysis or that person's assigned agent. The certified and signed copy of the official analysis is prima facie evidence of the composition.
4. The commissioner is not required to initiate prosecution or seizure proceedings for minor violations of the chapter if the commissioner believes the public interest will be best served by a suitable written warning.
5. The commissioner may apply for and the court may grant a temporary or permanent injunction restraining any person from violating or continuing to violate this chapter or any implemented rule, notwithstanding the existence of other remedies at law. An injunction under this section must be issued without bond.

#### **4.1-40-17. Violations - Civil penalty.**

Any person that violates this chapter or an implemented rule is subject to a civil penalty in an amount up to two thousand five hundred dollars per violation. The civil penalty may be imposed by a court or by the agriculture commissioner in an administrative hearing.

#### **4.1-40-18. Exchanges between manufacturers.**

This chapter may not be construed to restrict or avoid sales or exchanges of fertilizers, fertilizer materials, micronutrients, specialty fertilizers, soil amendments, or plant amendments to each other by importers, manufacturers, or manipulators that mix fertilizers, fertilizer materials, micronutrients, specialty fertilizers, soil amendments, or plant amendments for sale or as preventing the free and unrestricted shipments of fertilizer, fertilizer materials, micronutrients, specialty fertilizers, soil amendments, or plant amendments to manufacturers or manipulators that have registered their brands as required by this chapter.

**SECTION 10. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 19 of section 19-02.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

19. "Pesticide chemical" means any substance which, alone, in chemical combination, or in formulation with one or more other substances is a pesticide within the meaning of chapter 19-184.1-34, and which is used in the production, storage, or transportation of raw agricultural commodities.

**SECTION 11. AMENDMENT.** Section 23-01-01.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

#### **23-01-01.1. State department of health to replace state department of health and consolidated laboratories.**

Wherever the terms "North Dakota state department of health", "department of health", "health department", "state department of health and consolidated laboratories", "North Dakota state laboratories department", "state laboratories department", "state laboratories department director", or "state laboratories director" appear in this code, the term "state department of health" must be substituted therefor.

~~—Wherever the terms "state food commissioner and chemist" and "commissioner" when referring to the state food commissioner and chemist appear in chapters 19-17 and 19-18, the term "state department of health" must be substituted therefor.~~

**SECTION 12. AMENDMENT.** Section 23-01-25 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**23-01-25. Commercial feed, insecticide, fungicide, rodenticide, fertilizer, and soil conditioner laws - Laboratory function.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any laboratory test or analysis required under chapter 4.1-34, 4.1-40, or 19-13.1,~~19-18, or 19-20.1~~ must be performed by the state department of health for the agriculture commissioner at no charge.

**SECTION 13. REPEAL.** Chapters 19-18, 19-20.1, 19-20.2, and 19-20.3 of the North Dakota Century Code are repealed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-fifth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2027.

Senate Vote:    Yeas 44            Nays 0            Absent 3

House Vote:    Yeas 92            Nays 0            Absent 2

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017,

at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State