



Certified Weed Free Forage

Who, what, when, How

Paul Kjos

Shasta County

Agricultural Commissioner

The background of the slide is a photograph of a vast, open landscape. In the foreground, a single strand of dark, twisted barbed wire runs horizontally across the frame. Behind the wire is a field of dry, yellowish-brown grass. In the distance, rolling hills are visible under a bright blue sky filled with large, white, fluffy clouds. The text is overlaid on this background in a white, italicized serif font.

We will be covering:


Who does the inspections and certifications?

What do the counties look for?

What is issued for the certification ?

When are the inspections performed?

How are the inspections performed ?



- FAC 403 ~ BASIC AUTHORITY

- FAC 5004 ~ DEFINITION OF NOXIOUS WEED

- FAC 5101 ~ CAC TO PREVENT PESTS

- FAC 5205 ~ CAC TO INSPECT AND CERTIFY

- CCR 4500 ~ NOXIOUS WEED LIST

**- CDFA PEST EXCLUSION
COUNTY PROCEDURAL &
TRAINING MANUAL**

FAC 405 –The department shall prevent the introduction and spread of injurious insect or animal pests, plant diseases, and noxious weeds.








FAC 5004. "Noxious weed" means any species of plant that is, or is liable to be, troublesome, aggressive, intrusive, detrimental, or destructive to agriculture, silviculture, or important native species, and difficult to control or eradicate, which the director, by regulation, designates to be a noxious weed. In determining whether or not a species shall be designated a noxious weed for the purposes of protecting silviculture or important native plant species, the director shall not make that designation if the designation will be detrimental to agriculture.

FAC 5101 – Each commissioner is an enforcing officer of all laws and regulations which relate to the prevention of the introduction into, or the spread within, the state of pests. He/she is, as to such activities, under the supervision of the Secretary.

FAC 5205. A commissioner shall make such inspections as may be necessary to determine the facts which are required by the state or country of intended destination and shall issue a certification that states the facts which are determined upon receipt of the scheduled fee for a certificate or, if no scheduled fee has been established, upon request of the shipper.

Current Policy

-  - *known economic importance subject to state enforced action*
-  - *known economic importance subject to county enforced action at discretion of the CAC, or, state endorsed action when found in a nursery*
-  - *no state enforced action outside of nurseries except to retard spread; at the discretion of the CAC; or, state enforced action for pest cleanliness in nurseries*
-  - *no action*
-  - *organism or disorder requiring temporary "A" action pending determination of a permanent rating, suspected of economic importance but status uncertain. If established, discretionary survey and division study team convened*

CALIFORNIA VOLUNTARY WEED-FREE FORAGE INSPECTION PROTOCOL

SECTION I – INTRODUCTION

The following details the California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) voluntary protocol for certifying weed-free forage including hay, straw, or mulch and straw wattles. Authority to certify forage as weed-free is permitted under California Food and Agricultural Code sections [5101](#) and [5205](#) under authority of section [403](#).

Forage certified under this protocol will be inspected for actionable plant pests listed in the following:

- State noxious weed list, [California Code of Regulations \(CCR\) section 4500](#)
- A or Q rated plants not designated as a noxious weed in CCR Section 4500
- Federal noxious weeds list
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/weeds/downloads/weedlist.pdf

Certification should be requested by the producer early enough to allow submission of questionable samples to CDFA's Plant Pest Diagnostics Laboratory for identification and to ensure proper timing of field inspections.

For a list of California Certified Weed-Free Forage and Straw Suppliers, contact your local County Agricultural Commissioner's Office.

SHASTA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE/WEIGHTS & MEASURES

3179 Bechelli Lane, Suite 210, Redding, CA 96002

(530) 224-4949 FAX (530) 224-4951

WEED FREE WORK ORDER

I hereby request the following service(s) and agree to pay for this service according to the current schedule of charges and fees:

☐ Weed Free Commodity _____

Location where service is needed: _____

Field Site Number/s: _____ Field Acreage/s: _____

Anticipated Harvest Date: _____

In signing this work order, the GROWER agrees to:

- Contact us at least two weeks prior to harvest, to allow time to arrange for inspection.
- The proposed weed free field must be inspected within 10 days of cutting or harvesting.
- Once field has been inspected, harvesting can commence.
- Grower shall notify the Shasta County Ag Department when entire field is baled.
- Any part of the field that was delimited for weeds shall either be clearly marked or removed from the field prior to a final bale count.
- Bales must be left in the field to be counted unless you receive authorization from the Ag Dept.
- Weed free forage must be stored in a manner that will not contaminate its weed free status. The storage site where the certified stock will be stored must also be inspected and approved by County staff. (ie. Adequate distance from noxious weeds and other hay)
- If any of these requirements are not or cannot be met, then the proposed weed free field will not be certified.

Who does the WFF inspections?





Protocol requires inspection by state or county regulatory officials.

NAISMA requires additional training and MOU



County staff members who have
been trained in pest identification

Others may assist but need to be specifically trained in pest identification



What species are you looking for during inspection?



California Department of Food & Agriculture

Integrated Pest Control Branch - Noxious Weed Information Project



Species of Concern

- The weeds we have eradication programs for are not the species of concern in ag fields.
- Species that result in a field “failing”-
 - Yellowstar thistle, Johnson grass,
 - Field bindweed, puncturevine
- Regulated noxious weeds found in the northstate are not commonly found in ag fields

For California WFF,

Noxious Weed list, as found in CCR 4500

A & Q rated weeds, and

Species listed as Federal Noxious Weeds

For NAISMA WFF,

above lists, and

also include species in NAISMA Appendix A list



Spotted Knapweed

(Centaurea maculosa)



Scotch Thistle

(*Onopordum acanthium*)



Skeletonweed

(*Chondrilla juncea*)



Skeletonweed

(Chondrilla juncea)



Perennial Pepperweed

(Lepidium latifolium)



Rattlebox

(*Sesbania punicea*)



Rattlebox

(Sesbania punicea)



Scotch Broom

(*Cytisus scoparius*)



Purple Loosestrife

(Lythrum salicaria)

*Probably not a species of
concern in a wheat field*



South American Spongeplant

(Limnobiium laevigata)

*Probably not a species of
concern in a wheat field*



...probably won't be able to certify...



Certify or not certify???

(Scotch Thistle)



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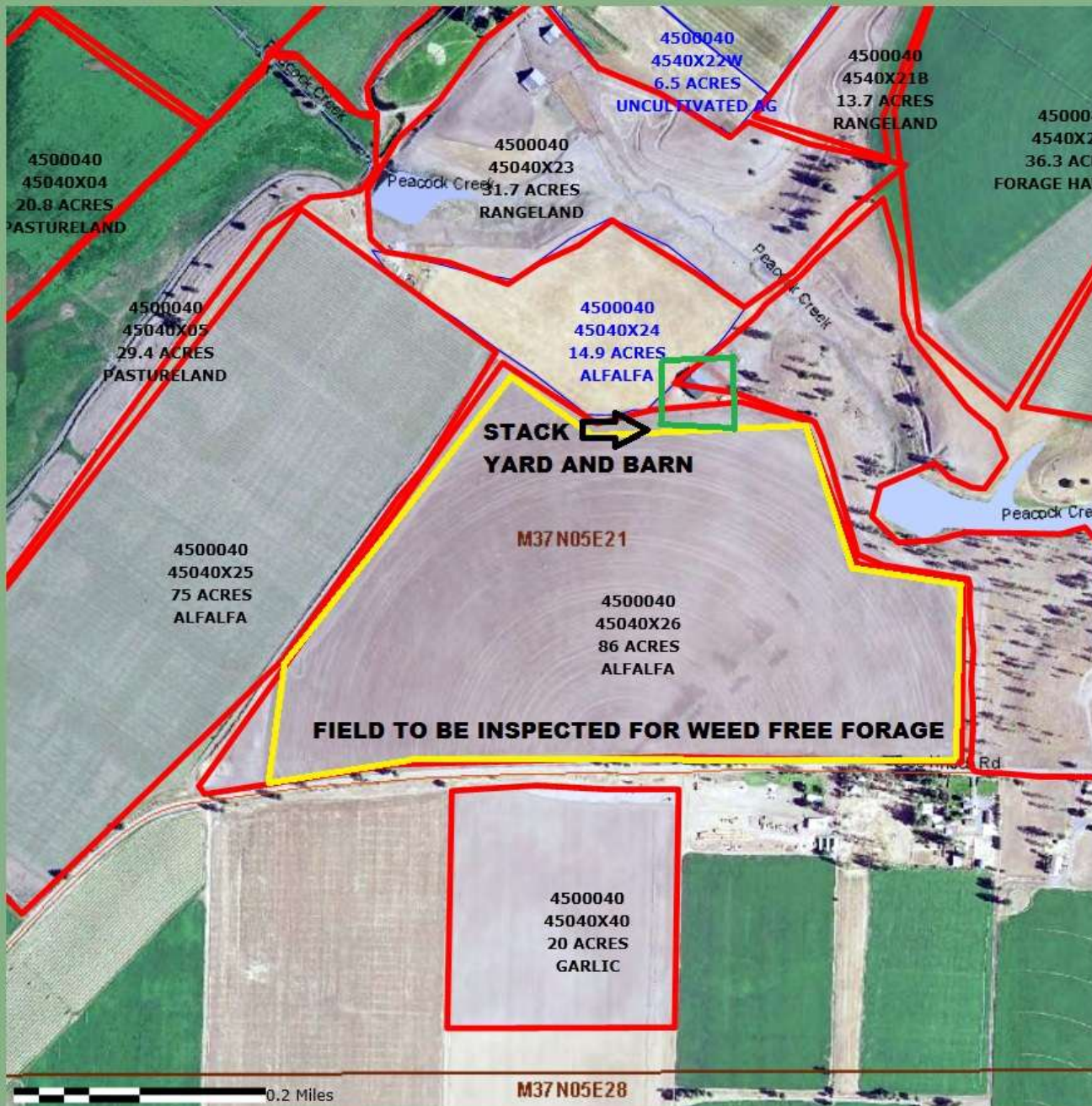
California WFF Inspection Protocol

- forage shall be inspected in CA by state or county official,*
- shall be inspected in the field of origin,*
- inspected within 10 days of cutting or harvest,*
- must use specified walking pattern,*
- storage area and surrounding buffers also inspected,*
- inspected for 4500, A&Q, and federal noxious weeds*

Shasta County also requires grower to leave in field to determine bale count.

Pre-inspection information you will need

- determine which specific field is to be inspected,*
- which stack yard will be used to store the certified forage,*
- when is anticipated harvest or cut date,*
- any pesticide applications with re-entry intervals,*
- how many people will be needed to inspect field,*
- any known noxious weed infestations in area*



Linear Units: Miles Area Units: Acres

Pan

Create Buffers

Hide

☒ Visible Layers

Pick One...

☐ Defined Buffers

Pick One...

0.25

Miles

☐ All

Select

Blue

☐ Apply Buffer Only to Current Permit

Add

Clear

Annotation

Hide



Label Text

Border

Fill

Text

Size

10pt

Advanced Text

Edit Label

Print to PDF

Hide

Map will Save to DB

Sites this map applies to:

45040X01

45040X02

45040X03

Add

Remove

Description

Map Name

Clear Map

Save Map

Zoom to:



*During inspection, note any weed species in field,
ditches, fence rows, etc.,*

*Sample any unknown species for CDFA
determination,*

Photos of any finds,

If able to delimit, do so before leaving field.





*After inspection, obtain bale count,
issue Certificate of Quarantine Compliance or
County specific Weed Free Forage Certificate.*



County of Yolo

70 COTTONWOOD STREET

WOODLAND, CALIFORNIA 95695-2557

(530) 666-8140
FAX (530) 662-6094

John Young

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER
SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

57-YOL-

CERTIFIED WEED FREE FORAGE CERTIFICATE

Name		DBA:
Mailing Address:		Telephone:
City:	Zip:	FAX Number:
Site number:		Date Inspected
Crop		Crop cutting #.
Estimated yield (weight):		Actual yield (# bales):

This forage has been inspected prior to harvest and is apparently free from seeds and propagative plant parts of the noxious weeds identified in Title 3, California Code of Regulations Section 4500. For list see www.yolocounty.org/org/ag/weedfree.htm



Agricultural Commissioner: JOHN YOUNG	By Inspector:	Date Issued:
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Void without signature of Inspector.



Siskiyou County Department of Agriculture

525 S. Foothill Drive
Yreka, CA 96097



Weed Free Forage Program

Certificate of Inspection

This certifies that the field(s)/materials described herein have been inspected according to North American Forage Certification Standards. The objective of this program is to help prevent and slow the spread of Designated Noxious Weeds by providing forage which is free* of the potential for transport and dispersal of listed weed species.

Inspection Date: _____ Cutting Date: _____

Producer: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Exact Name of Fields Inspected: _____

Acres Inspected: _____ Cutting: ☐ 1st ☐ 2nd ☐ 3rd ☐ 4th ☐ Other: _____

☐ Bulk ☐ Large Bales ☐ Small Bales ☐ Other: _____

Product: Forage: ☐ Grass ☐ Alfalfa ☐ Mix ☐ Other ☐ Gravel/Materials: ☐ _____

Number or tonnage of bales or packages: _____

A. _____ Meets requirements of the North American Forage Certification Standards. This forage may contain variable amounts of annual weeds and/or other weeds not listed as prohibited or noxious.

B. _____ Complies with Minimum Meets California Weed Free Forage Certification Standards
Weeds noted in field that do not disqualify it from certification: _____

Additional Comments: _____



*No inspection of bales or stackyards are
allowed.*

Must inspect before harvest!!!

Resources:

Weed-free forage inspection protocol:

<http://phpps.cdfa.ca.gov/PE/interiorexclusion/CPTM/pdf/CAProceduresforWFF.pdf>

Noxious Weed List for California:

<http://phpps.cdfa.ca.gov/PE/InteriorExclusion/pdf/CCR4500.pdf>

County Agriculture Commissioners – by county:

<http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/exec/county/countymap/>

State of Nevada-Weed Seed Free Forage Growers list:

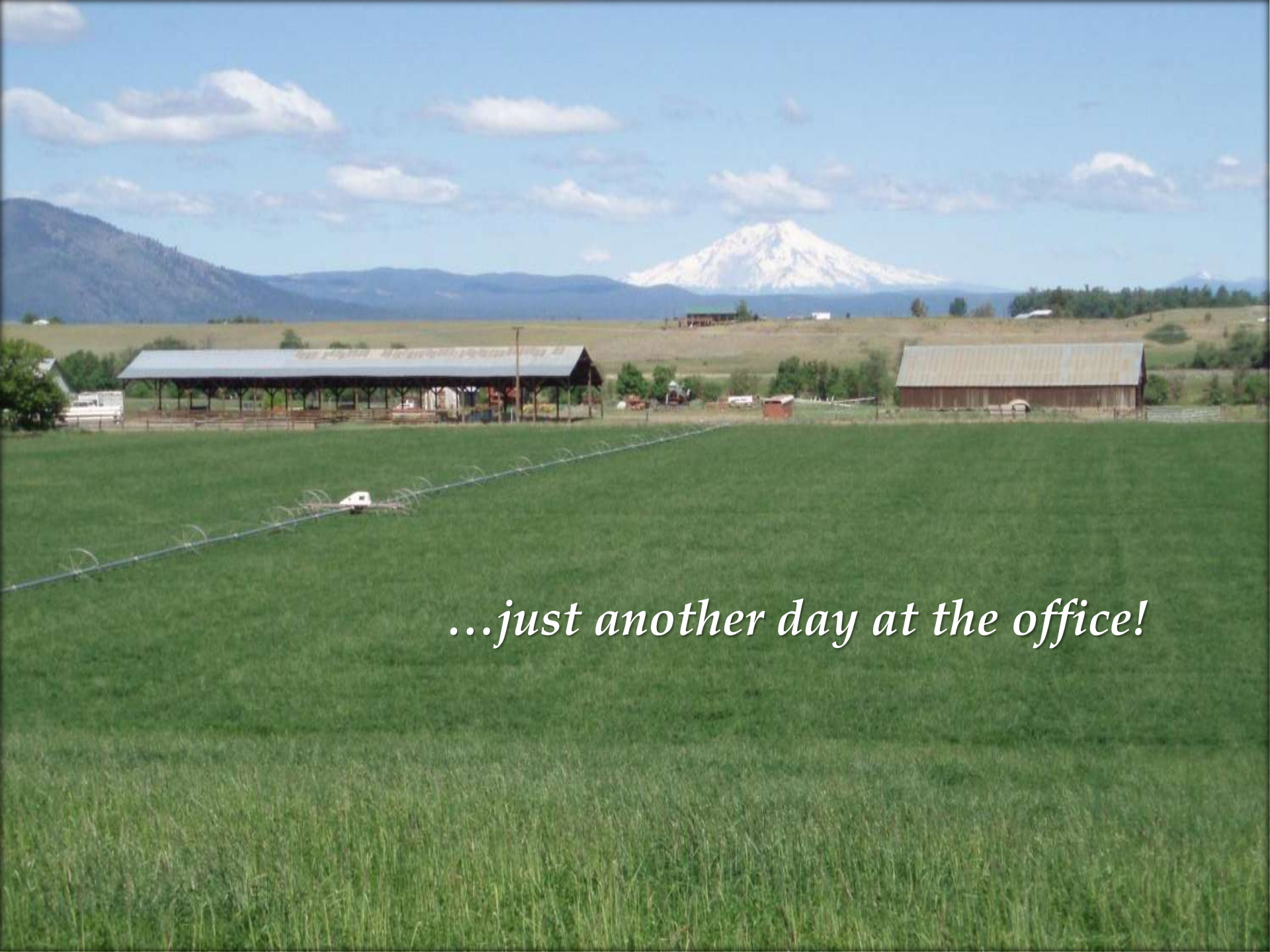
http://agri.nv.gov/Plant/Noxious_Weeds/WFForageProducers/

North American Invasive Species Management Association:

<http://www.naisma.org/weed-free-forage>

Federal Noxious Weeds:

list http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/weeds/downloads/weedlist.pdf



...just another day at the office!

Issues/ Concerns

- duplication of CQCs*
- tracability of certified bales,*
- use of non-certified bales with CQC,*
- Comingling of certified and non-certified bales*
- use of bales from delimited area of inspected fields,*



A landscape photograph showing a vibrant green field in the foreground. In the middle ground, there is a line of trees and a grassy hill. The sky is a deep blue with large, white, fluffy clouds. The sun is visible through the clouds, creating a bright, hazy area. The overall scene is bright and clear.

QUESTIONS ???

