



June 11, 2026 Board Report

Plant Health and Compliance

Division Overview

Pending matters of significance

- The Department adopted LCB File No R188-24 to update NAC 557 to align state and federal definitions and regulations to maintain a federally compliant hemp program in Nevada. These updates are not expected to impact Nevada producers
- Due to recent federal deregulation changes involving imported fire ants, dedicated federal funding support for imported fire ant survey and monitoring activities has been discontinued. As a result, continued surveillance efforts for imported fire ant species in southern Nevada will require evaluation of alternative funding mechanisms and consideration of a quarantine at the state level

Program Updates

Entomology and Nursery

2026 Pest Surveys are underway

- The Entomology Program has continued statewide surveillance efforts targeting a variety of invasive and economically significant pests. Seasonal trapping and monitoring activities are currently underway for multiple high-priority species and pest groups across Nevada.
 - Surveys for invasive defoliating pests, including Asian defoliator species of regulatory concern, are ongoing through visual inspections and trap deployments in urban, nursery, and natural landscapes.
 - Vegetable crop pest surveys are actively being conducted to monitor for economically significant pests affecting Nevada specialty crop production, with trapping and field inspections occurring in key agricultural regions statewide.
 - Bark beetle monitoring traps have been established in targeted forested and urban interface areas to evaluate activity levels and assist with early detection of invasive and native species impacting conifer health.
 - Imported fire ant trapping and delimitation efforts and palm weevil monitoring surveys are ongoing in southern Nevada to monitor known areas of concern and support rapid response and regulatory activities where detections occur.
 - Japanese beetle trapping activities are underway statewide in cooperation with federal, state, and local partners to monitor for introductions and support nursery stock certification and quarantine compliance efforts.

Project Name	Location	Traps Deployed
Palm Weevil Survey	Clark county	32
Vegetable Crop Pest Survey	Lyon county	3
Bark Beetle Survey	Reno/ surrounding areas	13
Imported Fire Ant Survey	Clark, Nye, and Lincoln counties	7 sites surveyed
Japanese Beetle Survey	Lyon and Mineral counties	16
Asian Defoliator Survey	Statewide	299

2026 Mormon Cricket activity

- Mormon cricket surveillance and field assessments conducted throughout northern Nevada indicate substantially lower activity levels compared to recent outbreak years. Current observations suggest the statewide population is continuing on a downward trend following previous large-scale infestation cycles.
 - Based on current monitoring data, environmental conditions, and reported field activity, the State Entomologist does not anticipate widespread or severe Mormon cricket outbreaks during the current season.
 - Survey and monitoring activities will continue throughout the year to track localized activity and detect any changing conditions.

Japanese Beetle in Oregon

- Oregon has restored funding for its Japanese Beetle control program. The Nevada Department of Agriculture has approved continuation of their treatment and abatement efforts and will resume accepting shipments from Oregon, consistent with their previous Category 1 status.
- Nursery Stock and Seed Dealer License renewals began in April and are proceeding as expected for this time of year.

Nursery Licensing

- Nursery Stock Dealer License Holders: 995
- Seed Retailer and Wholesaler License Holders: 379

Nursery Inspections

- Nursery Inspections: 82
- Violations Corrected: 7
- ACP Quarantine Citrus Imports: 3
- Compliance Inspections: 3

Plant Pathology and Seed Program

Plant Pathology Laboratory

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is allocating \$85,007 in federal fiscal year 2027 to support plant pathology program's three projects under the Plant Protection Act's Section 7721 (PPA 7721). The funding will allow us to continue surveys for two dozens of dangerous plant diseases in Nevada's agricultural crops and nurseries.
- Plant Pathology Lab diagnosticians successfully passed the USDA certification of proficiency in diagnostic methods used for regulatory testing. The certified methods include Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA), nucleic acid extraction, conventional DNA polymerase chain reaction (PCR), and real-time PCR. These are critical techniques for performing USDA-regulated plant diseases such as sudden oak death and citrus greening diseases.

Allium Quarantine

- Pursuant to [NAC 554.910](#), all commercially produced *Allium* crops are required to register annually with the state Department of Agriculture and then inspected by NDA staff for the

presence of stem & bulb nematode (*Ditylenchus dipsaci*) and white rot fungus (*Sclerotium cepivorum*). As of May 12, 2026, a total of 7,321 acres of *Allium* crops have been registered and the field inspections will start in May.

Crop Type	2025 Registered Acreage	2026 Registered Acreage
Garlic	1,078.96	1,237.53
Onion	6,050.32	6,083.85

Seed Certification

- Seed Program staff are actively processing certified seed applications for the 2026 production season. As of May 12, 2026, a total of 3,044 acres of seed crops are applied for certification.

Seed Crop Type	2025 Seed Crop Acreage	2026 Seed Crop Acreage
Garlic	875.35	810.27
Alfalfa	1,996.00	1,890.00
Barley	207.00	195.00
Grass	0.00	25.00
Triticale	109.00	0.00
Wheat	78.00	62.00
Oat	58.00	62.00
Potato	111.30	Pending

Noxious Weeds

Regulatory Actions and EDDR

- The program continues to prioritize survey work for noxious weeds and working with landowners to gain control. The division nearly quadrupled surveyed acres in the last fiscal year surveying 933 acres and followed up identifications with communication to 75 landowners to obtain control of the infestation.
- The program has conducted 400 identifications and 6500 verifications of EDDMapS records in the last fiscal year, enabling rapid response to infestations of species new to Nevada

Outreach

- The program held regional EDRR meetings with partners in March to develop priorities for the coming field season
- The program has participated in 18 events in the last fiscal year including University of Nevada, Reno Cooperative Extension Green Industry Training (03/05), Elko Weeds Workshop (03/25) and Weed Warriors (05/5th-6th)
- The division hosted a Nevada Biocontrol Strategic Meeting in Ely May 12th-13th. The meeting included updates from federal partners (BLM, USFS, APHIS), Utah and Nevada state and local partners. Discussion focused on current projects and priorities and provided training on monitoring during site visits with a goal to develop a framework for a state biological control plan for invasive plant species

Crops

Export and Shipping Point

- As of July 1, 2025, through April 30, 2026, 643 Federal and State Phytosanitary certifications were issued allowing for the export of 72,451,110 pounds of varying commodities including hay, mushroom spawn, onions, garlic, shallots, sage, oak barrels, potatoes, spices, coffee and equipment. 352 State and Federal Phytosanitary certificates totaling 79,865,044 pounds were issued during the same time in SFY25.
- Other items certified for export that are not measured by weight, but by count totaled 10,881 and mostly included nursery stock.
- The onion shipping point season started on September 10, 2025, compared to this same time in SFY25, there is a decrease in onion exports of 2,107,662 lbs.

Onions exported 3rd Quarter SFY 2026

Month	2025 Pounds Shipped Outside USA	2026 Pounds Shipped Outside USA
July	0	0
August	173,656	0
September	622,886	198,540
October	603,320	304,020
November	651,820	162,000
December	942,370	295,920
January	663,160	323,800
February	303,880	247,500
March	178,040	295,550
April	110,360	314,500

**SFY26 data accurate through May 15th 2026*

Phytosanitary Certificate Inspections during SFY26

Month	FY25	FY26
July	33	28
August	36	29
September	43	60
October	36	70
November	44	59
December	47	61
January	36	75
February	30	82
March	32	88
April	34	84
May	29	-
June	33	-

** SFY26 data accurate through May 15th, 2026*

Food Safety

- June 1st, 2025 the Food Safety program entered year 5 of the FSMA-PSR Grant. The FSMA-PSR Grant will be closing in May 2026. Currently the FDA has moved to granting an extension of the grant with funding due to FDA changes.
- The Department has conducted one FSMA inspection on a farm covered by the FSMA law, meeting the FDA minimum for inspections (20%).
- The 2026-2027 Producer certificate application opened March 1st

Hemp

- As of May 15th, 2026, the NDA has 6 registered growers and 5 registered handlers.
- 11 post-planting inspections for growers have been conducted, as well as 15 handler inspections.
- NDA coordinated with the Nevada Farm Service Agency (FSA) to ensure that growers completed their crop reporting through FSA. This is a federal requirement.

Licensing/Enforcement

- The division has extended its cooperative agreement with the EPA for an additional year and secured additional funding for language translation, lab equipment, targeted inspections, training and GIS mapping.
- The program has administered 919 license and certification examinations in the last quarter
- Ground & Surface Water Sampling has been completed for the Spring, including surveying activities at 83 groundwater sites and 16 surface water sites and the deployment of 5 POCIS systems in the Fallon and Yerington area on the Walker River in conjunction with USGS

Inspections conducted March 3, 2026 – May 19, 2026

Inspection Type	No. of Inspections	Non-Compliant Issues
Agricultural Use	5	1
Non-Agricultural Use	20	8
Marketplace	5	0
Non-Agricultural Records	10	7
RUP Dealer Record Audit	2	0
Producing Establishment	0	0
Investigations	9	8

License & Certification Exams Administered May 9, 2025 – August 18, 2025

Office	No. of Tests Taken
Sparks	364
Las Vegas	457
Elko	98

Drought

- 76.1% of Nevada is in drought (D1 or higher) as of 5/20/26
- The Drought Working Group met on May 12th and reported that the Strategic Drought Response Plan has been activated, as 10 Nevada counties now have more than 50% of their area in drought (D1 or higher) as of May 5, 2026. In response, the Drought Response Committee—comprised of the State Climatologist, Division of Water Resources, and Office of Emergency Management—has been activated and will solicit drought impact reports on a monthly basis for as long as the state remains more than 50% in drought. Thirteen drought condition reports were submitted to the Condition Monitor and Observer Reporting (CMOR) system for March and April, with 12 submitted by NDA and one by the public. Conditions were noted as advanced for this time of year, with further degradation expected as summer approaches. Concerns regarding wildfire and smoke impacts are elevated, with the USDA FSA Livestock Forage Disaster Program confirming it will provide compensation for livestock losses due to smoke inhalation. The next Drought Working Group meeting is scheduled for July.

Sagebrush Ecosystem Program

Credit Projects and Adaptive Management

- Six ranches are in the process of completing field work and management plans for the Nevada Conservation Credit System with credit releases on scheduled for the first quarter of calendar year 2027.
- The NDA representative is working with NRCS, on behalf of a ranch enrolled in the CCS, to secure emergency post-fire funding. The project will be around 2,600 acres and includes herbicide treatments to address noxious weeds and annual invasives, as well as post-herbicide seedings of grasses, forbs, and sagebrush.

- The last of the Local Area Working Groups met, and an Adaptive Management Report is in draft stages, to be completed by August of 2026. Through the Adaptive Management process, various state, federal, local agencies, landowners, and other community members meet to discuss areas of importance where implementation of projects and management actions can assist in restoring greater sage grouse habitat and the sagebrush ecosystem as a whole.