

**18.79 DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER.**

Subdivision 1. **Enforcement.** The commissioner of agriculture shall administer and enforce sections 18.76 to 18.88.

Subd. 2. **Authorized agents.** County agricultural inspectors may administer and enforce sections 18.76 to 18.88.

Subd. 3. **Entry upon land.** To administer and enforce sections 18.76 to 18.88, county agricultural inspectors and local weed inspectors may enter upon land without consent of the owner and without being subject to an action for trespass or any damages.

Subd. 4. **Rules.** The commissioner may adopt necessary rules under chapter 14 for the proper enforcement of sections 18.76 to 18.88.

Subd. 5. **Order for control or eradication of noxious weeds.** A county agricultural inspector or a local weed inspector may order the control or eradication of noxious weeds on any land within the state.

Subd. 6. **Initial training for control or eradication of noxious weeds.** The commissioner shall conduct initial training considered necessary for weed inspectors in the enforcement of the Noxious Weed Law. The director of the Minnesota Extension Service may conduct educational programs for the general public that will aid compliance with the noxious weed law.

Subd. 7. **Meetings and reports.** The commissioner shall designate by rule the reports that are required to be made and the meetings that must be attended by weed inspectors.

Subd. 8. **Prescribed forms.** The commissioner shall prescribe the forms to be used by weed inspectors in the enforcement of sections 18.76 to 18.88.

Subd. 9. **Injunction.** If the county agricultural inspector applies to a court for a temporary or permanent injunction restraining a person from violating or continuing to violate sections 18.76 to 18.88, the injunction may be issued without requiring a bond.

Subd. 10. **Prosecution.** On finding that a person has violated sections 18.76 to 18.88, the county agricultural inspector may start court proceedings in the locality in which the violation occurred. The county attorney may prosecute actions under sections 18.76 to 18.88 within the county attorney's jurisdiction.

Subd. 11. [Repealed, 2004 c 228 art 1 s 76]

Subd. 12. **Noxious-weed-free forage and mulch certification agency.** The official certification agency for noxious-weed-free forage and mulch shall be determined by the

commissioner of agriculture in consultation with the director of the Minnesota agricultural experiment station.

**History:** *1986 c 444; 1992 c 500 s 5; 1997 c 216 s 27; 2003 c 128 art 3 s 15-20*