

PEP-Talk, November, 2010

Pesticide Safety Education Program
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PRIVATE CATEGORY CHANGES

Most Ohio private pesticide applicators have received a new license showing changes in their categories. The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) has simplified the categories for private applicators. The change will mean fewer exams for new applicators and many current license holders will have fewer categories for recertification.

The simplification undertaken by ODA has reduced the number of licensing categories from 13 to only seven. This consolidation reflects the changing needs of Ohio farming operations. Several smaller-use categories have been combined for applicators. For example, growers who raise produce will now only need one category for fruit and vegetable crops. The new categories for a private license are:

- Category 1: Grain and Cereal Crops
- Category 2: Forage Crops & Livestock
- Category 3: Fruit & Vegetable Crops
- Category 4: Nursery & Forestry Crops
- Category 5: Greenhouse Crops
- Category 6: Fumigation
- Category 7: Specialty Uses

Some applicators will have fewer categories on their license, but will still be able to purchase and use the same pesticide products. The specialty categories of seed treatment, non-cropland, aquatics, tobacco and wood preservation were consolidated into the first six categories. This means an applicator would be able to purchase materials for these applications with, at least, one category on their license. For example, an applicator with Category 1 (Grain and Cereal Crops) on their license will still be able to purchase products for grain crops, but also be able to buy products to treat seed and manage stored grain, non-crop areas and ponds on their farm. Tobacco and wood preservation also were consolidated.

Category 7 represents specialty uses. This category is only for applicators that do not have the first six categories on their license. An example would be someone who only does wood preservation on lumber and does not need any other crop categories. Their license would reflect this by only having Category 7. If an applicator has any other category on their license, they do not need Category 7.

More detailed information about the new categories is also available at the Pesticide Safety Education Program website: <http://pested.osu.edu/private.html> or the ODA website at: <http://www.agri.ohio.gov>

EDUCATOR IN-SERVICE REMINDER

Just a reminder that the Pesticide Applicator Training Educator In-service will be December 8 and 9, 2010 and held at the Ohio 4-H Center on OSU Campus in Columbus. Registration information is available on the Pesticide Safety Education Program website at: <http://pested.osu.edu/educatorinservice.htm> There is no charge to attend the inservice, but you need to pre-register.

This inservice is for Extension educators, specialists, associates or program assistants involved with pesticide applicator training. The agenda will include special core segments on Wed., Dec. 8 with agronomic crops and discussion on the private applicator category changes. Thurs., Dec. 9 will focus on more core and horticulture topics. Don Breece, Assistant Director, ANR, OSU Extension will host an ANR Issues Meeting and Dinner on Wednesday evening.

NEW YORK RESTRICTS OUTDOOR PESTICIDES AT SCHOOLS

This month, New York enacted new restrictions for pesticide use at day care centers and schools. The new law, which was passed last spring, requires a prohibition on pesticide use on playgrounds, turf and athletic or playing fields. The restriction is now in effect for day care centers across the state and will go into effect for K-12 schools beginning in May, 2011.

Draft guidance for schools and day care centers outlines integrated pest management-like concepts for grounds maintenance. However, the only pesticide use specified as allowable are aerosol sprays in 18-ounce cans to protect individuals from imminent threat from a stinging or biting insect, non-volatile insect and rodent baits in tamper-resistant containers, products containing boric acid or disodium octaborate tetrahydrate, horticultural oils and soaps that do not contain synthetic pesticides or synergists and minimum risk pesticides. The minimum risk pesticides contain an active ingredient that is on a list of specified minimal-risk products which are classified by EPA as Section 25b pesticides. Other pesticides can only be used in emergency situations. These situations do not include using a pesticide for aesthetic reasons or for a repetitive pest problem.

Exempted from the law are day care centers in New York City, family day care centers and school-age child care programs. The law also does not apply to indoor use of pesticides or pesticide applications to buildings or structures. The draft guidance can be found at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/298.html>

(Source: Pesticide & Chemical Policy Weed in Review, Nov. 12, 2010)

PESTICIDE CROP WATCH

HERBICIDES

Imazosulfuron – EPA has opened a public comment period on this new herbicide active ingredient. The proposal is for use on turf, tomato, pepper (bell and non-bell) and rice. The comment period is open until December 9, 2010. More information is

at: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/chemical/pesticide-registrations/imazosulfuron.html>

PLANT GROWTH REGULATOR

Flurprimidol – EPA has opened a public comment period on this plant growth regulator for new uses on turfgrass and ornamentals for edging/banding in commercial, municipal and residential setting. It will be both liquid and granular formulations. More information is at: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/chemical/pesticide-registrations/fluprimidol.html>

MISC.

Aphid-tolerant soybeans are to be introduced by Monsanto next year. The company plans to introduce the soybeans initially in maturity groups I and II in the upper Midwest (which includes a small portion of northern Ohio). In heavy aphid population areas, the aphid-tolerant varieties with a seed treatment showed delayed aphid population development by two weeks and below threshold in medium populations.

(Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, Vol. 38, No. 37)

UPCOMING EVENTS

More information about these events at: <http://pested.osu.edu>.

OSU EXTENSION EDUCATOR PESTICIDE APPLICATOR INSERVICE
December 8 & 9, 2010 – Ohio 4-H Center, OSU Campus, Columbus

OHIO COMMERCIAL PESTICIDE APPLICATOR RECERTIFICATION
CONFERENCES (General and Field Crops Combined)
5 hours of recertification credit in one day – covers ALL commercial categories

January 11, 2011 – Sandusky, Kalahari Conference Center

February 16, 2011 – Dayton Convention Center

March 2, 2011 – Akron, John S. Knight Center

March 9, 2011 – Columbus Convention Center

2011 PESTICIDE SAFETY TRAINING (NEW APPLICATORS)

All classes taught at the Ohio Department of Agriculture,
Reynoldsburg

February 23, 2011

March 30, 2011

April 20, 2011

May 18, 2011

August 24, 2011
September 28, 2011

WOOD-DESTROYING INSECT INSPECTION TRAINING
All classes taught at the Ohio Department of Agriculture,
Reynoldsburg
March 31, 2011
September 14, 2011