Private Pesticide Applicator Certification

Federal and state law states a private pesticide applicator must be certified and licensed to buy, use, or supervise the use of a restricted-use pesticide (RUP) to produce an agricultural commodity on property they own or rent — or — on an employer’s property if the applicator is employed by the farmer. No pesticide license is needed if the applicator will only be applying non-restricted-use pesticides (GRPs) or if you hire a commercial applicator to apply RUPs to your property. If you do not have a current private pesticide certification and you plan to buy or apply any RUP products, you will need to receive the same certification training as described below for people who need to become certificated. All training sessions meet the requirements for both initial certification or recertification as private pesticide applicators.

If your private applicator certification expires in 2015, you may renew, (or have already received) a notification letter from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA). Be sure to keep the letter from NDA and bring it with you to the training session. You choose when you pick up home-study materials.

The NDA letter contains a bar-code form which tells NDA what you need to know about you.

Regardless of the certification method chosen, all applicants will receive an invoice from the NDA for the $25 license fee. Note: you cannot collect the license fee at the Extension office. The certification and license is good for three years, through April 30, 2018, for those who certify this spring. You should receive your new license within six weeks after you receive a passing grade on your written test.

Recertify at a Crop Production Clinic

At Crop Production Clinics, private applicators may receive recertification by attending the full day and attending the mandatory sessions to renew as a private applicator. Commercial and Noncommercial applicators may receive renewal in Ag Plant, Regulatory or Demonstration/Research. Pesticide applicators may need to take their initial certification at a Crop Production Clinic.

The Crop Production Clinics held in southeast Nebraska will be:
- Wednesday, Jan. 14 — York (Holthius Convention Center, 3130 Holden Ave.)
- Thursday, Jan. 15 — Beatrice (Beatrice Country Club, S. 13th Street and Oak Street)
- Thursday, Jan. 22 — Mead (ARD/Cass County Extension Office, 1071 County Road G)

Note: all clinics start at 8:45 a.m. If you are planning to receive recertification as an applicator, be sure to arrive early and register with NDA at the check-in table. They need proof you were there for the full day.

Cost is $65 for preregistered participants, and includes meal, refreshments, Extension’s 2015 Guide for Weed Management in Nebraska and the 2015 Crop Production Clinic Proceedings. Pre-registration closes at 4 p.m. the day prior to the clinic. For more information about Crop Production Clinics, go to http:// pode.unl.edu.

Commercial Pesticide Applicator Training

Commercial/noncommercial applicators who apply restricted-use pesticides for hire or compensation, on property that is not owned, rented or used by themselves or their employer. **Anyone** who applies pesticides to the property of another person, either restricted- or general-use products, for control of pests in lawns, landscapes, buildings or homes must also have a commercial pesticide applicator license. Public employers (those employed by a town, county, state) applying mosquito control pesticides whether restricted or general use, must also hold a commercial or noncommercial certification.

Initial and Recertification

To become licensed as a new commercial/noncommercial applicator, professionals must pass a written examination. All participants must be tested in the general standards category, then each chooses one or more additional categories for testing. Once licensed in a category, professionals can maintain their commercial certification by attending a recertification training session or by passing a written examination, with a few exceptions as explained below. Nebraska Extension offers recertification to those who are seeking a pesticide applicator license for the first time, and recertification for those needing to keep their license active. The program cost for both initial and recertifying participants who register online is $60/ person; for those registering by mail, fax, or at the door, the cost is $70/person.

For statewide training locations, dates and categories, go to http://pest.unl.edu. For more information about the trainings in Lancaster County, call 402-441-7180.

Note: Due to time and space limitations, training will not be offered in all the categories on every day of training. Check the schedule listing when each category training will be offered.

Initial commercial certification training and testing sessions will be offered at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrywood Road on the following dates:
- **Tuesday**, Feb. 3
- **Thursday**, Feb. 19
- **Thursday**, April 9

The general standards session will begin at 8:30 a.m. It is highly recommended you review the written study material prior to attending. This will greatly improve your chances of passing the written examination. Study materials for all commercial categories may be purchased online at http://pest.unl.edu (click on “Classes & Study Materials”).

Commercial recertiﬁcation training sessions will be offered at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrywood Road on the following dates:
- **Thursday**, Feb. 5
- **Tuesday**, Feb. 17
- **Thursday**, March 19

The general standards session will begin at 9 a.m.

NDA Licensing Procedures

Commercial applicators meeting the requirements for certification or re-certification will receive an invoice from the NDA for $90 for the license fee. When NDA receives the fee, the license will be issued. For more information about pesticide licensing, go to www.agr.ne.gov.pesticide.