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Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2002 3:49 PM
Subject: Update of NJ Private Pesticide Applicator Licensing Requirements

This NJinPAS posting is the second in a series on New Jersey's revised code pertaining to pesticide control. The revised regulations were adopted and published in the New Jersey Register (the official journal of state agency rulemaking) on Monday, November 19, 2001. They are posted on the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Pesticide Control Program (PCP) website at <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/enforcement/pcp/>; to access, hit the "Regulations" hyperlink located on the menu on the left split pane at this web address.

This posting addresses changes affecting private pesticide applicators. **Under Subchapter 8, New Jersey now requires private applicators using either restricted use or general use pesticides to become certified and licensed, instead of solely those using restricted use pesticides.** Specifically, a private pesticide applicator, by definition, means "any person who uses or supervises the use of ANY pesticide for the purposes of producing an agricultural commodity on property owned by him or her or his employer, if applied without compensation other than trading of personal services between producers of agricultural commodities, on the property of another person".

There are several exemptions to the certification and licensing requirement for private applicators:

- applicators who use 'minimum risk' pesticides only (those defined by EPA as exempt from registration and reporting under FIFRA).
- applicators who use general use pesticides to produce an agricultural commodity with gross annual receipts of less than \$2,500.
- persons applying pesticides under the direct supervision of a licensed private applicator.
- commercial applicators licensed in a category covering the subject matter content required of private pesticide applicators.

Additionally, agricultural producers currently only using general use pesticides to produce an agricultural commodity have 2 years (until November 19, 2003) to comply.

There continues to be no specific training requirements (with the exception of manual study) for private applicators. Certification is accomplished by successfully passing the NJDEP PCP 'Private Applicator Exam', based on the corresponding training manual available through County Extension offices. Private applicators are still required to maintain their certification by attending courses awarding recertification credits in CORE and 'PP2'. Specifically, private applicators must complete a total of 8 CORE and 16 'PP2' credits within five years beginning the first October following applicator certification.

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