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From: "Patricia D. Hastings" <hastings@aesop.rutgers.edu>
To: "Dr. George C. Hamilton" <hamilton@aesop.rutgers.edu>
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2002 4:25 PM
Subject: Draft NJinPAS Posting 'Update on NJ Commercial Pesticides Applicator and Operator Licensing'

This posting is the third 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 the licensing of commercial pesticide applicators and operators. Currently licensed commercial applicators continue to be required to maintain their certification and license by attending courses awarding credits in CORE and categories. Specifically, commercial applicators must complete a total of 8 CORE and 16 category credits (per category) within five years beginning the first October following applicator certification.

Additionally, commercial applicators must annually submit license registration and corresponding fees to the NJDEP PCP. Currently licensed applicators are not affected by the new regulations training requirements unless certification status is allowed to lapse.

Subchapter 6 of the pesticide regulations now includes training requirements for NEW applicators. Those persons never licensed, as well as those who have not maintained their certification, must complete the training requirements for new commercial pesticide applicators after July 1, 2002. Training for a new commercial applicator is to include a PCP-approved CORE training course. Additionally, new commercial applicators must complete 40 hours of on-the-job training in the categories they desire to receive certification. New applicators need to submit an application to take the CORE and category exams. Proof of meeting these two training requirements is to accompany the application. Certification is then accomplished by successfully passing the NJDEP PCP 'CORE Exam' and category exam(s).

Subchapter 5 of the pesticide regulations now includes training requirements for NEW operators who have never before been certified. Training for a new commercial operator is to include a PCP-approved operator CORE training course. Additionally, new commercial operators must complete 40 hours of on-the-job training in the categories they desire to receive certification. New applicators need to submit an application to receive certification and licensing. Proof of meeting these two training requirements is to accompany the application for all applications made after July 1, 2002. Once licensed, commercial operators must annually submit license registration and corresponding fees to the NJDEP PCP. Currently licensed applicators are not affected by the new regulations training requirements unless certification status is allowed to lapse.

The NJDEP is allowing an informal period of compliance assistance to allow applicators to come into compliance before the new regulations of November 19, 2001 come into effect. Applicators in danger of losing certification due to missing recertification credits will be able to complete this requirement and maintain their license if they do so by July 1, 2002. Further, NEW applicators and operators may continue to be certified in accord with the requirements of the old pesticide control regulations through **July 1, 2002**.

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