

# Preparing for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Agricultural and Related Pest Control Applicator Exams<sup>1</sup>

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*This guide provides an understanding of the necessary study preparation procedures needed prior to taking agricultural and related pest control certification exams for the purpose of becoming licensed under the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS).*

## Training

Most training materials may be purchased at a nominal cost. See Table 1 for a list of the primary training and reference materials and where to obtain them for restricted use pesticide licensing.

Additional pesticide safety education and pest management resources can be obtained from the UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore. A catalog of offerings and an online order form are available at [www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu](http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu). Orders can also be placed by telephone toll free at 1-800-226-1764.

Training classes are conducted by UF/IFAS Extension in select local offices statewide. Selected county offices offer category training for private, public, and commercial applicators. Training classes are not mandatory to qualify to sit for any agricultural exams. Many aspiring applicators opt to self-study prior to taking exams. For schedules of training classes, check with the local UF/IFAS Extension offices near you. A list of the county offices is provided online at <http://www.ifas.ufl.edu/extension-offices-rec-maps.shtml>.

To obtain training manuals for the following categories, contact the FDACS Bureau of Licensing and Enforcement at 850-617-7997:

- Chlorine gas infusion
- Sewer root control
- Regulatory inspection and sampling (for FDACS employees)

These training manuals are also listed in Table 1.

The FDACS Division of Plant Industry (DPI) conducts training for its employees in the category of regulatory pest control. DPI may be contacted at 352-395-4700.

## Examination Requirements

Under the Florida Pesticide Law, certification is defined as recognition by FDACS that an individual is knowledgeable and competent in the use of pesticides. Once an individual becomes certified, he or she is then eligible to obtain a pesticide applicator license. All applicants for agricultural pesticide applicator licenses issued under Chapter 487 F.S., must pass one or more examinations for initial certification before obtaining a license. Examinations will not be translated into other languages orally, in writing, or in any other

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form. The following provides a description of the exams required for each license type.

## Private License (Private Applicator Agricultural Pest Control)

Two examinations are required to obtain a private applicator license:

1. General standards (core) exam; and
2. Private applicator agricultural pest control exam.

## Public and Commercial License

Public and commercial applicators are required to pass the core examination **and** the examinations for each category of intended use. EXCEPTION: The following category exams include questions from the core exam, so it is not necessary to take the core exam: chlorine gas infusion and sewer root control. Public and commercial applicators may become licensed in as many categories as desired, provided they qualify for each category and pass the appropriate exams.

## Description of Examinations

General Standards (Core) Exam. The core examination is a basic examination that includes general knowledge of proper pesticide use and pesticide safety. This exam is required for all licenses except those listed above.

- Core exams administered by UF/IFAS: The core exam is given at all county UF/IFAS Extension offices throughout the state.
- Core exams administered by FDACS: the core exam is given by FDACS for its employees for certification as public applicators in regulatory pest control and regulatory inspection and sampling.

Category Exams Administered by UF/IFAS. UF/IFAS develops and administers the following category examinations:

- Aerial application
- Agricultural animal pest control
- Agricultural row crop pest control
- Agricultural tree crop pest control
- Aquatic pest control
- Chlorine gas infusion
- Demonstration and research
- Forest pest control

- Natural areas weed management
- Ornamental & turf pest control
- Private applicator agricultural pest control
- Raw agricultural commodity pest control
- Regulatory pest control
- Regulatory inspection and sampling
- Right-of-way pest control
- Seed treatment
- Sewer root control
- Soil & greenhouse fumigation
- Wood treatment

Category exams are given in select UF/IFAS Extension offices. Contact an office near you to determine which category exams are offered and the dates and times offered.

All exams are multiple choice and are given closed book. A passing grade of 70% is required on all exams.

Table 1. Categories, exams and study manuals for licenses issued by the Bureau of Licensing and Enforcement Pesticide Certification Section (Chapter 487, F.S.)

Category	Exams required	Study materials	Source
Private Applicator Agriculture	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Private Applicator Agriculture	Private Applicator Agricultural Pest Control SM 053	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
Aerial	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Aerial	Aerial Application SM 041	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
Agricultural Animal	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Ag Animal	Agricultural Animal Pest Control SM 2	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
Agricultural Row Crop	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Ag Row Crop	Agricultural Row Crop Pest Control SM 005	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
Agricultural Tree Crop	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Ag Tree Crop	Agricultural Tree Crop Pest Control SM 063	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
Aquatic	General Standards (Core)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Aquatic	Aquatic Pest Control 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
Chlorine Gas Infusion	Chlorine Gas	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
		Chlorine Gas Category Study Guide for Commercial Applicators	FDACS Pesticide Certification Section (850) 617-7997
Demonstration & Research	Demonstration & Research	Demonstration & Research Pest Control SM 359	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
Forest Pest Control	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Forest	Forest Pest control SM 43	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>

Category	Exams required	Study materials	Source
Natural Areas Weed Management	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Natural Areas Weed Management	Natural Areas Weed Management SP 295	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
Ornamental & Turf	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Ornamental & Turf	Ornamental & Turf Pest Control SM 007	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
Raw Agricultural Commodity Fumigation	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Raw Ag Commodity Fumigation	Raw Agricultural Commodity Fumigation SM 066	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
Regulatory Inspection & Sampling	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Regulatory Inspection and Sampling	FDACS Pesticide Field Sampling Manual	FDACS Pesticide Certification Section (850) 617-7870
		FDACS Pesticide Field Inspection Manual	FDACS Pesticide Certification Section (850) 617-7870
Regulatory Pest Control	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Regulatory Pest Control	Public Applicator Training Manual Regulatory Pest Control	FDACS Division of Plant Industry (352) 395-4700
Right-of-Way	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Right-of-Way	Right-of-Way Pest Control SM 009	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
Seed Treatment	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Seed Treatment	Seed Treatment: A Guide for Commercial Applicators	UF/IFAS Pesticide Information Office (352) 392-4721
Sewer Root Control	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Sewer Root Control	Sewer Line Root Control Pesticide Applicator Training Manual	Cornell University Pesticide Education Program (607) 255-4111 <a href="https://store.cornell.edu">https://store.cornell.edu</a>
Soil & Greenhouse Fumigation	Soil Fumigation	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
		Soil Fumigation SM 061	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Exams required</b>	<b>Study materials</b>	<b>Source</b>
Wood Treatment	General Standards (CORE)	Applying Pesticides Correctly SM 001	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
	Wood Treatment	Wood Treatment SM 032	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>
WPS Crop Advisor Exemption	WPS Crop Advisor	Crop Advisor SM 054	UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore 1-800-226-1764 <a href="http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu">www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu</a>