

Licensing of Private Pesticide Applicators in Florida¹

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This document explains the licensing and regulation of private persons who apply restricted use pesticides to agricultural commodities in Florida, as regulated by the Florida Pesticide Law (Chapter 487), and administered by the Florida Department of Consumer Services.

Private Applicator Agricultural Pest Control

All private persons who apply or supervise the application of restricted use pesticides to agricultural commodities must have a pesticide applicator license issued by the Bureau of Compliance Monitoring/Pesticide Certification Section. The Private Applicator category is regulated by the Florida Pesticide Law (Florida Statutes, Chapter 487).

Category Certification Standards

Applicators seeking a license in this category must demonstrate practical knowledge of:

- agricultural plant and animal production and associated pests;

- the chemical control measures that pertain to the prevention or control of such pests;
- the equipment or methodologies used to safely and effectively implement such measures;
- the potential for pesticide residues on such crops;
- preharvest application intervals;
- post-application re-entry interval restrictions;
- phytotoxicity;
- pesticide-related soil or water problems;
- potential for pesticide-induced environmental contamination;
- non-target injury and community problems that may result from the improper use of pesticides in agricultural production;
- animal injury associated with pesticide formulations, application techniques, animal age or stress, or extent of treatment;

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The use of trade names in this publication is solely for the purpose of providing specific information. UF/IFAS does not guarantee or warranty the products named, and references to them in this publication does not signify our approval to the exclusion of other products of suitable composition. Use pesticides safely. Read and follow directions on the manufacturer's label.

- equipment calibration;
- proper design, use, and maintenance of anti-siphon devices and check valves to prevent contamination of water supplies;
- proper interpretation of pesticide label or labeling requirements for products registered for chemigation and appropriate use of personal protective equipment associated with this type of application;
- soil-inhabiting pests and pests of stored raw agricultural commodities and the fumigant pesticides that may be used to control such pests;
- the basics of fumigant pesticide toxicology;
- application methodologies for applying soil and commodity fumigants;
- techniques and procedures for monitoring the concentration of a fumigant pesticide in soil, storage facilities, air, or water;
- use and maintenance of personal protective equipment and clothing; and
- specific safety procedures for handling pressurized chemicals and for avoiding non-target exposure to a fumigant pesticide.

License Cost

Certified private applicators pay a fee of \$60 for a four-year license.

Examinations

Persons must successfully complete two examinations before they can apply to the Department for a license. These examinations are a Core examination and the Private Applicator Agriculture category examination. The Core examination may be taken at any University of Florida IFAS County Extension Office. The Private Applicator Agriculture category examination may be taken at a University of Florida IFAS County Extension Office that offers category examinations. No special qualifications must be met to take the

examination. There is no fee to take the examinations.

Study Materials

Manuals and study materials for Core and Private Applicator Agriculture applicators who will be taking exams may be obtained from the UF/IFAS Extension Bookstore by calling 1-800-226-1764 or on-line at <http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu/merchant2/>. The content of the Core exam is based upon the manual, *Applying Pesticides Correctly* (Figure 1). The content of the Private Applicator Agriculture exam is based upon the manual, *Private Applicator Agricultural Pest Control* (Figure 2). Sample labels may be obtained from suppliers of pesticide products or on-line at Crop Data Management Systems by going to <http://www.cdms.net/manuf/manuf.asp>.

Recertification

Applicators must recertify every four years. To recertify, applicators may take the examinations again or attend training and obtain 4 continuing education units (CEUs) approved for the Private Applicator Agriculture category and 4 CEUs approved for the Core category. Core CEUs can't be used to meet the required Private Applicator Agriculture CEUs. No substitutions of other types of CEUs are allowed. Opportunities to earn CEUs may be found at <http://www.flaes.org/>.

Restricted Use Pesticides Applied in the Private Category

Table 1 lists Florida's restricted use pesticides that are applied in the Private Applicator Agriculture category and the reason for the restricted classification. A complete listing of all restricted use pesticides in Florida may be viewed at: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/PI073>.

Additional Information

Fishel, F.M. 2005. Restricted use pesticides. UF/IFAS EDIS Fact Sheet PI-36, <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/PI073>.

Table 1. Restricted use pesticides.

Pesticide common name	Specific formulations	Specific uses	Criteria for RUP
Acetochlor	Emulsifiable concentrate	Field corn, popcorn, forage/feeder corn	Ground and surface water concerns
Acrolein	As sole active ingredient	All uses	Human inhalation hazard, adverse effects on avian and aquatic organisms
Aldicarb	As sole active ingredient and in combination with other actives; all granular formulations	All uses	Accident history
Aluminum phosphide	As sole active ingredient	All uses	Human inhalation hazard
Amitraz	All formulations	Pears	Possible oncogenicity
Amitrole	All formulations	All uses except homeowner	Oncogenic potential
Arsenic acid	All formulations except brush-on	All desiccant uses	Oncogenicity, mutagenicity and repro/fetotoxicity
Atrazine	All manufacturing and end use	Agricultural and industrial uses	Ground water contamination potential; worker exposure concerns
Avermectin	Emulsifiable concentrate	Cotton and citrus	Toxic to fish, mammals and aquatic organisms
Avitrol	All formulations	All uses	Hazard to fish and non-target birds
Azinphos-methyl	All liquids with greater than 13.5% concentration; others on a case-by-case basis	All uses	Human inhalation hazard, acute toxicity, hazard to avian, aquatic and mammalian species
Bifenthrin	Emulsifiable concentrate	Cotton	Toxic to fish and aquatic organisms
Carbofuran	All formulations except pellets and tablets	All uses	Acute inhalation toxicity; avian toxicity (granular)
Chlorophacinone	Tracking powder, dust and ready to use 0.2% (EPA Reg. Nos. 7173-113 and 7173-172)	Inside buildings	Human hazard, potential for food contamination, possible inhalation hazard
Chloropicrin	All formulations greater than 2% and all formulations (rodent control)	All uses (greater than 2% including rodent control)	Acute inhalation toxicity, hazard to non-target organisms
Chlorpyrifos	Emulsifiable concentrate	Agricultural uses	Avian and aquatic toxicity
Clofentezine	All formulations	All uses	Additional data required to remove the restriction

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Coumaphos	Flowable concentrate	Livestock uses	Acute oral toxicity
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	All dry formulations 60% and greater; all bait formulations; all dry formulations 10% and greater	Zinc phosphide	Hazard to non-target organisms, acute oral toxicity, acute inhalation toxicity
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