

APPLICATORS CERTIFICATION STANDARD

by Stanley Rachesky
Pesticide Advisor, Entomologist

University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service
Applicator Certification Standard Published by EPA

The EPA has announced rules and regulations governing the certification of applicators who wish to apply restricted use pesticides. The long awaited announcement appeared in the **Federal Register**, October 9, 1974, pages 36446 through 36452. (The list of restricted use pesticides has not been published by EPA. According to current information the toxicity of the pesticide formulation registered will be a major factor in determining whether a pesticide will be classified for restricted use or general use. Less concentrated, therefore less toxic, materials may be classified for general use and more concentrated formulations will be for restricted use. Application site will also be considered.)

After October 21, 1974, applicators using restricted use pesticides must be certified.

Certification standards for applicators were first proposed by EPA on February 22, 1974. This proposal brought many comments from all segments of the public. Numerous drafts of the rules and regulations incorporating suggested changes were prepared and circulated for criticism. Finally agreement was reached and the standards have now been published.

Certified applicators will be in one, or both, of two categories, private or commercial. The private applicator is one who uses or supervises the use of restricted use pesticides to produce any agricultural commodity or property owned or rented by him or his employer. Private applicators may apply restricted use pesticides on the property of another person if the only compensation is trading of personal services between producers of agricultural commodities. Commercial applicators are those who use or supervise the use of restricted use pesticides for purposes, or on property, other than provided in the definition of private applicator, essentially anyone who applies restricted use pesticides for a fee.

The federal plan lists the categories for commercial applicators. These categories are:

1. Agricultural Pest Control — Plant and Animal
2. Forest Pest Control — This does not include ornamental trees
3. Ornamental and Turf Pest Control — Maintenance and production of turf and ornamental plants including shrubs and trees
4. Seed Treatment —
5. Aquatic Pest Control — Excludes public health activities covered in 8 below
6. Right-of-way Pest Control — Roads, powerlines, pipelines, railways, etc.
7. Industrial, Institutional, Structural and Health Related Pest Control — Pest Control operators, feed and food mills and warehouses
8. Public Health Pest Control — Government workers managing pests of medical and health importance (such as mosquitoes and ticks)
9. Regulatory Pest Control — Government employees controlling regulated pests (such as gypsy moth and golden nematode)
10. Demonstration and Research Pest Control — Those demonstrating pest control measures to the public and those doing field research. Those certified under this category may be

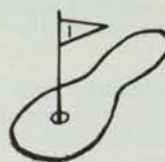
expected to have expertise in the first nine categories.

In addition to these ten categories all commercial applicators will be expected to know a general "core" of information regarding the use of pesticides. This will include label and labeling comprehension, safety, environment, pests, pesticides, equipment, application techniques and laws and regulations.

The requirements for certification of private applicators will be less comprehensive than for commercial applicators. The private applicators will be expected to show that they have practical knowledge of the pest problems and pest control practices associated with their agricultural operations. They must also know about proper storage, use and disposal of pesticides and containers and their related legal responsibility. Much of this information can be found printed on the pesticide label. Read one and see.

It is important to remember that the law provides that certification be done by the individual states. EPA will approve state plans which meet standards not yet announced, but will not certify any applicators. It is hoped, of course, that neighboring states can arrive at a system so that certification in one state will be valid in the neighboring state.

Plans for training applicators, private and commercial, have been under consideration for several years. Training manuals will be available and training meetings will be arranged. Congress did not intend to put anyone out of business when it passed the pesticide law and the State of Illinois has been making plans so that anyone who desires training in order to become certified will be trained.



TORONTO
C-15 BENT
SOD OR STOLONS

Also —

**PENNCROSS BENT SOD
FOR GREENS AND TEES**

All Bent mowed at putting green height
with "Greens King"

— BLUEGRASSES —

- Adelphi
- Merion
- XL-100 Blend
- KY-33 Blend



H & E Sod Nursery, Inc.
4301 W. Flossmoor Rd.
Tinley Park, Illinois
312 798-2210