

**NEW!**

# Changes to North Carolina's Private Pesticide Applicator Regulations

## How can a private pesticide applicator get an application for certification renewal?

In the fall of each year, recertification applications will be sent to those private applicators who have met their recertification requirements.



## Where can further information be obtained?

The local extension office will be a good source of information. The NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services also welcomes you to call 919-733-3556 with any questions that you may have.



Applications will be mailed from the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (not the local extension office). The private applicator must sign and return the application with a \$6.00 renewal fee. Once the application and fee are processed, certification will be advanced another three years, and a new certification card will be mailed to the applicator.



North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Meg Scott Phipps, Commissioner  
2 West Edenton St.  
Raleigh, NC 27611

<b>NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NORTH CAROLINA PESTICIDE BOARD PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR</b>	
<b>S.S. NUMBER</b> 000-00-0000	<b>CERT. NUMBER</b> 79374
<b>SAMPLE, PEST A.</b>	
<small>The person to whom this card is assigned is entitled to purchase, apply, and supervise the application of restricted use pesticides in the production of agriculture commodities pursuant to the N.C. Pesticide Law of 1971.</small>	
<b>12/31/2002</b> EXPIRATION DATE	<b>09/30/2003</b> RECERT DATE



# Changes to North Carolina's Private Pesticide Applicator Regulations

On January 15, 2002, the N.C. Pesticide Board voted to adopt changes to the State Regulations (2 NCAC 9L .1100) which govern the certification and recertification of private pesticide applicators (farmers) in North Carolina. This final decision followed a series of public hearings and publication of the proposed rule change in the *North Carolina Register* (December 3, 2001). The rule change became effective October 1, 2002.

## ***What changes have been made to the North Carolina Regulations governing private pesticide applicators?***

Basically, there are two major changes:

1. Farmers applying for initial private pesticide applicator certification to purchase and apply restricted use pesticides will be required to pass a written examination and
2. Farmers applying for renewal of their private pesticide applicator certification will need an additional two hours of recertification training, making a total of four hours of training being required every three years.

## ***Will private pesticide applicators who are currently certified be required to pass a written examination?***

No. Any currently certified applicator will not be required to test so long as certification is maintained. If, however, certification is allowed to expire, it can only be reinstated by the applicator passing a written examination. Recertification requirements must be met by September 30 of the year that an individual's certification expires.

## ***Will private pesticide applicators still attend recertification training at their County Cooperative Extension Offices?***

Yes. Private applicators will still be required to attend a 2-hour pesticide safety (recertification) class at their local extension office once every three years. At the end of this safety class, all private applicators must sign an attendance roster and indicate their Social Security Numbers so that two hours of credit can be awarded to each applicator.

## ***What kind of new recertification training must private pesticide applicators attend?***

In addition to the 2-hour pesticide safety class, each private applicator must attend at least two hours of specialized training during the three-year certification cycle. Basically, any class that qualifies for commercial pesticide recertification credits in the *Aquatic, Ag Pest-Plant, Ag Pest-Animal, Forestry, Seed Treatment, or Ornamentals & Turf* licensing categories will also be approved for credit in private applicator specialty training. The local extension office will offer appropriate training opportunities. The private applicator can earn two hours of specialized training at any time during the

three-year certification cycle. In order for credits to be awarded, all private applicators must sign an attendance roster and write down their Social Security Numbers.

## ***How can a private pesticide applicator learn of training opportunities?***

An applicator should call the local extension office and/or visit the NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services' website ([www.agr.state.nc.us/fooddrug/pesticid](http://www.agr.state.nc.us/fooddrug/pesticid)) for a listing of approved classes.

## ***How will private pesticide applicators know how many credits they have earned?***

The NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services will periodically mail transcripts (listings of the classes attended and the hours of credit earned) to all private pesticide applicators.



Photo by Michael J. Weaver, Director of Virginia Tech Pesticide Programs

