

Pesticide Update

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New Certification & Training Rules

November 2024

For Licensed Applicators who Supervise non-Certified Applicators

In November 2024, new regulations became effective that enhance pesticide safety training and set standards for the supervision of non-Certified Applicators (nCA). These changes include: - Each nCA must receive the approved training every 12 months. - Supervisors of nCA's must maintain approved training records. - Each nCA must be at least 18 years of age. The new regulations, approved training videos, and recordkeeping templates are available in English and Spanish on the NCDA&CS website and link below.

[Structural Pest Control and Pesticides - New Certification & Training - Pesticide Section | NC Agriculture](#)

For Pesticide Dealers

Dealers must now keep a record of the categories of the Licensee who purchases Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs).

New Apiary Training Video

The Managing Hive Pests Through Pesticide Use training module equips beekeepers and inspectors with the knowledge and skills to effectively manage hive pests using integrated pest management (IPM) strategies and pesticides. Participants will learn how to monitor and control Varroa mites, identify other common pests like Small Hive Beetles, and safely apply approved pesticides. This module emphasizes responsible pesticide use by guiding users through label interpretation, application techniques, and best practices for long-term hive health.

This training module can be taken for free, but if you would like to take this course for 1 hour of N, D, and X credit you can choose the version with a \$12 fee required.

Free Version - [Pollinator Protection Modules | NC State University](#)

For a Fee (Pesticide Credit) - [Everblue - Exam Registration Portal](#)



How to Become a Licensed UAV Pesticide Applicator

Requirements checklist:

- FAA Part 107
- FAA Part 137
- FAA Certificate of Authorization
- Registration of the Drone with FAA
- NCDA & CS examination:
 - A. North Carolina Pesticide Applicator Core Exam
 - B. Aerial Methods Exam
 - C. One exam in the specialty category in which you will work, such as Ag Pest Plant.

If you have completed the requirements above, and you are a new aerial applicator, without 125 hours of operation and one year of flying experience, you must hold an **AERIAL APPRENTICE LICENSE (029)**. As an apprentice you will be required to operate under the supervision of a licensed aerial applicator pilot. This pilot can operate fixed wing, rotary, or a UAV. You must document 125 hours of operations and one year of flying experience as a pilot in the field of aerial pesticide application. In addition, an annual inspection fee of \$25.00 shall be submitted for each aircraft to be licensed. The FAA requirements will need to be met for using an UAV.

If you completed the requirements checklist and have 125 hours of operation and one year of flying experience as a pilot in the field of aerial pesticide application, you must hold an **AERIAL PILOT LICENSE (027)**.

For an aerial apprentice and pilot license, both must work under a licensed **NC AERIAL CONTRACTOR LICENSE (028)**, the contractor license must also fulfilled the examination requirements with NCDA & CS, and show a current FAA 137 certification establishing that company as an aerial pesticide application business. If the company is out of state, but they do have a FAA 137 certification, the person who qualifies as a Pilot (027) or apprentice (029), can submit a contractor application (028).

The application fee for each license is \$75.00.

Each license must be renewed each year with a cost of \$75.00, and must meet the following continuing education requirement, every 2 years:

- One credit of Aerial Methods
- Three credits specific to their aerial license category
- 1 credit on other secondary categories (if applicable)

DO YOU HAVE ENOUGH CREDITS TO RECERTIFY?

Attend a class now before your busy season starts!

Check your credits online here:

[Structural Pest Control and Pesticides - License Search | NC Agriculture](#)

Find approved continuing education courses here:

[Regulatory Portal](#)

See how many continuing education credits are required for your license category here:

[Structural Pest Control and Pesticides - Pesticide Recertification | NC Agriculture](#)

RECERTIFICATION REMINDERS

When you add a category to an existing license, your certification expiration date **does not change**.

Certification credits for the new category must be earned by your current certification expiration date, **unless** the new category was added in the same year that you recertify.

For commercial and public licenses, credit requirements for **each** category must be split up into at least **2 different calendar years**.

If your certification date is 6/30/2025 or 9/30/2025 but your license does not expire until 12/31/2025,

you must get your credits by your certification date.

ONLINE COURSES AVAILABLE NOW!

North Carolina Pesticide Board Actions

At the 2024 meetings of the North Carolina Pesticide Board, the following settlement agreements were approved for alleged violations of the NC Pesticide Law of 1971. Consent to the terms of the settlement agreement does not constitute an admission of guilt to any alleged violation.



Randy McKinnon (IR22-010), owner of Carolina Green Lawn Care based in High Point, agreed to pay \$1,200 for engaging in the business of pesticide applicator without a license. Employees applied pesticides for the business although no one with the business had a commercial pesticide license. McKinnon had previously been issued a Notice

of Non-Compliance for the same violation.

Paul R. Sasnett (IR22-013), a private pesticide applicator east of Washington, agreed to pay \$1,200 because an employee on his farm burned plastic pesticide jugs, which is improper disposal, violating the pesticide's label and provisions of state law.

Sandy A. Langdon (IR22-015), a private pesticide applicator north of Dunn, agreed to pay \$600 for improper application of a soil fumigant pesticide near Coats, which lacked required buffer zones, signage, and a fumigation management plan.

Shawn W. Heater (IR22-022), a licensed commercial pesticide applicator and the owner of Trugreen in Kannapolis and Mooresville, agreed to pay \$600 for applying a pesticide in a faulty, careless, or negligent manner because an employee made an application at the wrong residential address in Concord, damaging and killing vegetation.

John Wilcox (IR22-025A), a licensed pesticide dealer for Southern States in Asheville, agreed to pay \$2,400 for selling a soil fumigant restricted-use pesticide to a private pesticide applicator who did not have the required fumigation subcategory on his license.

Keith Waters (IR22-038), a licensed private pesticide applicator in Beaufort County, agreed to pay \$900 because his pesticide application to a soybean field along U.S. Highway 17 south of Chocowinity drifted, damaging trees at the nearby N.C. Department of Transportation rest area. N.C. law states that no person shall apply pesticides under such conditions that drift from pesticide particles or vapors results in adverse effects. Waters also failed to wear a required respirator and failed to obtain a respirator medical clearance prior to making the pesticide application.

Donald E. Norris (IR22-047A), a licensed pesticide dealer for Southern States Cooperative's Lenior Turf Division, agreed to pay \$1,600 for two instances in which an employee sold restricted-use pesticides to individuals with expired pesticide licenses.

Clyde A. McBride (IR22-047B), a licensed commercial pesticide applicator at McCanless Golf Course in Salisbury, agreed to pay \$800 for applying a restricted-use pesticide after his license expired.

Richard A. Duffie (IR22-047C), the superintendent of Catawba Creek Golf Club in Gastonia, agreed to pay \$800 for applying a restricted-use pesticide after his license and certification expired.

Samuel Walton (IR22-052), a licensed private pesticide applicator in the Lumber Bridge area, agreed to pay \$800 because his pesticide application to a cotton field along N.C. Highway 87 drifted, damaging sweet corn and other garden vegetation at a nearby home. Walton also did not complete the required training prior to applying the restricted-use pesticide.

David N. Atterbury (IR22-050A), licensed pesticide dealer for Green Resource in Winston-Salem, agreed to pay \$1,600 for selling a restricted-use pesticide to someone with an expired license.

Wiley E. Nifong, Jr. (IR22-060B), the owner of Karana Landscapes in Winston-Salem, agreed to pay \$1,200 for engaging in the business of a pesticide applicator and applying restricted-use pesticides after his commercial pesticide applicator license had expired.

North Carolina Pesticide Board Actions Continued

Aaron Hairston (IR22-063), of Yard Expressions in Oak Ridge agreed to pay \$1,200 for engaging in the business of a pesticide applicator and applying pesticides after his commercial pesticide applicator license had expired.

Richard J. Jenks, Jr. (IR22-011A), a private pesticide applicator for Po Hous Farm west of Apex, agreed to pay \$800 for applying a restricted-use pesticide without being certified.

Russell Cox (IR22-057), private pesticide applicator for Cox Brothers Farms in the Monroe area, agreed to pay \$1,200 because his pesticide application to a soybean field drifted, damaging trees and other vegetation at a nearby home. N.C. law states that no person shall apply pesticides under such conditions that drift from pesticide particles or vapors results in adverse effects.

Charles V. Mcleod (IR22-011B), the holder of a pesticide dealer license and manager of Nutrien Ag Solutions in Sanford, agreed to pay \$1,600 for selling a soil fumigant restricted-use pesticide to a private pesticide applicator who did not have the required fumigation subcategory on his license.

Lowes Home Improvement (IR22-049), headquartered in Mooresville, agreed to pay \$1,200 for improperly storing mulch containing a weed preventer in a parking lot at a Durham store location. The location has previously been issued notices of non-compliance for the same reason.

Jose S. Cruz (IR22-064), the owner of Jose S. Cruz Lawn Care Services agreed to pay \$800 for engaging in the pesticide application business without a license. Employees applied pesticides for the business although no one with the business had a commercial pesticide license.

Justin Van Staalduinen (IR22-067A), the holder of a pesticide dealer license for Coastal AgroBusiness in Pantego, agreed to pay \$1,400 because an employee under his supervision sold restricted-use pesticides to someone without a pesticide license.

Jack Leonhardt (IR23-001B), a private pesticide applicator in Cherryville, agreed to pay \$600 for purchasing a restricted-use pesticide with an expired applicator license.

Raul Montes (IR23-005), of D.O.Z. Lawn and Landscaping in Lincolnton, agreed to pay \$1,200 for engaging in the pesticide application business without a license. A state inspector observed an employee applying pesticides for the business although no one with the business had a commercial pesticide license.

Mr. Johnson MOVED, SECONDED by Dr. Savinelli. MOTION CARRIED.

Teresa Cole (IR23-016), the holder of a commercial pesticide applicator license for The Swat Team d/b/a Mosquito Joe in Greenville, agreed to pay \$600 because an employee made a pesticide application at the wrong residential address.

Melinda Fitzgerald (IR23-055), of Chatham Farm Supply d/b/a Country Farm and Home in Pittsboro, agreed to pay \$600 for selling unlabeled containers of pesticide, which violates state law that requires properly labeled pesticide containers.

Victor Fabian (IR22-044), of Fabian Landscape & Irrigation in Durham, agreed to pay \$800 for engaging in the pesticide application business without a license. A state inspector observed Fabian applying pesticides for the business although no one with the business had a commercial pesticide license.

Clay Croom (IR22-054), an employee of Mosquito Authority of Eastern NC in Farmville, agreed to pay \$1,000 for applying an insecticide in Morehead City without the waterproof gloves required by the product's labeling.

Rodney Montgomery (IR23-031B & 33A), the holder of a pesticide dealer license for Green Resource in Colfax, agreed to pay \$1,800 because a salesman serving as an agent of the business sold a soil fumigant restricted-use pesticide to a pesticide applicator who did not have the required fumigation subcategory on his license. Sales records at the business were also deficient in restricted-use pesticide sales recordkeeping requirements.

North Carolina Pesticide Board Actions Continued

Chris S. Chapman (IR23-033B), related to the Guilford County case above involving Rodney Montgomery, Chris S. Chapman, the holder of a commercial pesticide applicator license for Old North State Golf Club in New London, agreed to pay \$1,500 for applying a soil fumigant restricted-use pesticide without the required fumigation subcategory on his license.

Jonathon Ferguson (IR22-028A), a licensed pesticide dealer for Nutrien Ag Solutions in Yadkinville, agreed to pay \$400 for selling a soil fumigant restricted-use pesticide to a pesticide applicator who did not have the required fumigation subcategory on his license.

Brian W. Howard (IR22-028B), a licensed private pesticide applicator in the Harmony area, agreed to pay \$500 for buying and applying a soil fumigant restricted-use pesticide without the required fumigation subcategory on his license.

Robert C. Nash (IR23-001A), a licensed pesticide dealer for Tri-County Farm Supply in Crouse, agreed to pay \$400 for selling restricted-use pesticides to a pesticide applicator with an expired license.

Justin M. Dove (IR21-099), agreed to pay \$500 for applying a pesticide in a location not listed on its label, an application inconsistent with the pesticide's label and a violation of state law that states a pesticide applicator may not operate in a faulty, careless or negligent manner.

Israel Estrada (IR22-025B), a licensed private pesticide applicator, agreed to pay \$800 for buying a soil fumigant restricted-use pesticide in Asheville and applying it in Haywood County without the required fumigation subcategory on his license.

Resources

PESTICIDE SECTION

- **INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE WITH PESTICIDE REGULATIONS & COMPLIANCE**
- **PESTICIDE CERTIFICATION & LICENSING QUESTIONS**
- **EXAM SCHEDULES & REGISTRATION**
- **RECERTIFICATION CREDIT QUESTIONS & APPROVED COURSES**

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Structural Pest Control and Pesticides Division | NC Agriculture

POLLINATOR PROTECTION:

Structural Pest Control and Pesticides - Pollinators - Beekeepers | NC Agriculture

PESTICIDE WASTE DISPOSAL:

Derrick Bell

Structural Pest Control and Pesticides - Pesticide Field Services | NC Agriculture

PESTICIDE SCHOOLS AND MATERIALS FOR CERTIFICATION & RECERTIFICATION

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