

## Which Pesticide License Do You Need?

---

By Dave Palmer - Hillsborough County Extension Service

Edited 2018 by Juanita Popenoe – Lake County Extension Service.

The following will help you figure out:

- Which pesticide license you need.
- Which test is required.
- What manuals you'll need to study.
- What passing grade is required.
- Any limitations on the certification.
- The renewal requirements of your license.

The laws can be somewhat complex and vague at times. This document cannot answer all questions. If in doubt, consult the [Pesticide Applicator Certification and Licensing in Florida](#) published by Florida Division of Agricultural Environmental Services (FDACS). For clarification, contact the FDACS Pesticide Certification Section at (850) 617-7870 or [Tamara.James@FreshFromFlorida.com](mailto:Tamara.James@FreshFromFlorida.com) in Tallahassee.

## Pesticide Certification Decision Questions

---

The following questions and answers are intended to help potential applicators determine specifically which certification they require.

### 1. Do you work for a public agency?

Yes	Go to <b>Question #3</b>
No	Go to <b>Question #2</b>

[Return to Top](#)

### 2. What type of property are you spraying? Private or commercial?

Private property owned by you or your employer (does <b>NOT</b> include contractors for-hire).	Go to <b>Question #5</b>
Private property owned by a person or business other than yourself or your employer (includes contractors for-hire and wood treatment).	Go to <b>Question #4</b>
Public property owned by the public and administered by a Local, State or Federal Agency.	Go to <b>Question #4</b>

[Return to Top](#)

### 3. What type of public site are you treating?

Agriculture	Go to <b>Question #7</b>
Aquatic (herbicides only)	Go to <b>Answer A</b>
Forest	Go to <b>Answer B</b>
Marine paint for boats & other structures	Go to <b>Answer C</b>

Mosquito Control	Go to <b>Answer D</b>
Natural Area	Go to <b>Answer EE</b>
Right-Of-Way	Go to <b>Answer E</b>
Structural or Interior pest control	Go to <b>Answer F</b>
Turf & Landscape around or near public buildings	Go to <b>Answer G</b>
Turf & landscape at golf courses, parks & cemeteries ONLY	Go to <b>Answer H</b>
Wood treatment	Go to <b>Answer CC</b>

Return to Top

#### 4. What type of commercial site are you treating?

Aquatic (herbicides only)	Go to <b>Answer I</b>
Agricultural (farm, ranch, grove, etc)	Go to <b>Question #6</b>
Forest	Go to <b>Answer J</b>
Marine paint for boats & other structures	Go to <b>Answer K</b>
Natural Area	Go to <b>Answer DD</b>
Right-Of-Way	Go to <b>Answer L</b>
Structural or interior pest control	Go to <b>Answer M</b>
Landscape shrubs/ beds only (no turf)	Go to <b>Answer N</b>
Turf & landscape	Go to <b>Answer O</b>
Wood treatment	Go to <b>Answer W</b>

Return to Top

#### 5. What type of private site are you treating?

Structural or Interior pest control	Go to <b>Answer F</b>
Turf & Landscape pest control	Go to <b>Answer G</b>
Other privately owned or rented (by the client or client's employer) property - i.e. farm, ranch, grove, nursery, etc.	Go to <b>Answer P</b>

Return to Top

#### 6. What type of site are you treating?

Agriculture Animals	Go to <b>Answer Q</b>
Agriculture Row Crop	Go to <b>Answer R</b>
Agriculture Tree Crop	Go to <b>Answer S</b>

Raw Agricultural Commodity Fumigation	Go to <b>Answer T</b>
Soil & Greenhouse Fumigation	Go to <b>Answer V</b>

Return to Top

### 7. What type of public agriculture site are you treating?

Agriculture Animals	Go to <b>Answer X</b>
Agriculture Row Crop	Go to <b>Answer Y</b>
Agriculture Tree Crop	Go to <b>Answer Z</b>
Raw Agricultural Commodity Fumigation	Go to <b>Answer AA</b>
Soil & Greenhouse Fumigation	Go to <b>Answer BB</b>

Return to Top

## Pesticide Certification Decision Answers

### Answer A

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Public Certification in the Aquatic Category](#).

Return to Top

### Answer B

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Public Certification in the Forest Category](#).

Return to Top

### Answer C

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Public Certification in the Organotin Antifouling Paint Category](#).

This certification requires a passing grade (70%) on the Organotin Antifouling Paint Exam. You do not need to take the General Standards (CORE) Exam. This certification must be renewed **every 4 years** either by testing or with **4 CEUs**. As of January 13, 2010 the license fee is \$100 for 4 years, both initially and for each renewal. There is no fee for this examination.

The manual you need to study is:

- Organotin Antifouling Paint Manual (SM-042). \$5.00.

Please make note of this information. [Contact the County Extension Office in your county](#) to determine the dates and times of pesticide testing.

Return to Top

### Answer D

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Public Certification in the Public Health Category](#).

Return to Top

### Answer E

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Public Certification in the Right-Of-Way Category](#).

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer F

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Limited Structural Certification](#).

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer G

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Limited Lawn & Ornamental Certification](#).

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer H

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Public Certification in the Ornamental & Turf Category](#).

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer I

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Commercial Certification in the Aquatic Category](#).

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer J

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Commercial Certification in the Forest Category](#).

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer K

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Commercial Certification in the Organotin Antifouling Paint Category](#).

This certification requires a passing grade (70%) on the Organotin Antifouling Paint Exam. You do not need to take the General Standards (CORE) Exam. This certification must be renewed **every 4 years** either by testing or with **4 CEUs**. As of January 13, 2010 the license fee is \$250 for 4 years, both initially and for each renewal. There is no fee for this examination.

The manual you need to study is:

- Organotin Antifouling Paint Manual (SM-042). \$5.00.

Please make note of this information. Contact the [County Extension Office in your county](#) to determine the dates and times of pesticide testing.

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer L

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Commercial Certification in](#)

[the Right-Of-Way.](#)

[Return to Top](#)

#### **Answer M**

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Pest Control Operator Certification in the General Household Category.](#)

[Return to Top](#)

#### **Answer N**

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance Certification.](#)

[Return to Top](#)

#### **Answer O**

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Pest Control Operator Certification in the Lawn & Ornamental Category.](#)

[Return to Top](#)

#### **Answer P**

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Private Certification in the Private Applicator Category.](#)

[Return to Top](#)

#### **Answer Q**

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a Commercial Certification in the [Agriculture Animals Category.](#)

#### **Answer R**

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Commercial Certification in the Agriculture Row Crop Category.](#)

[Return to Top](#)

#### **Answer S**

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Commercial Certification in the Agriculture Tree Crop Category.](#)

[Return to Top](#)

#### **Answer T**

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a **Commercial Certification** in the [Raw Agricultural Commodity Fumigation](#) Category.

This certification requires a passing grade (70%) on the Raw Agricultural Commodity Fumigation Exam and a passing grade (70%) on the General Standards (CORE) Exam. This certification must be renewed **every 4 years** either by testing or with **4 CEUs**. As of January 13, 2010 the license fee is \$250 for 4 years, both initially and for each renewal. There is no fee for this examination.

The manuals you need to study are:

- Applying Pesticides Correctly: A Guide for Pesticide Applicators (CORE) (SM-1). \$7.00. Also called the "CORE Manual".
- Raw Agricultural Commodity Fumigation (Raw Agricultural Commodity Fumigation Exam) (SM-66 ). \$5.00

Please make note of this information. Contact the [County Extension Office in your county](#) to determine the dates and times of pesticide testing.

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer V

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Commercial Certification in the Soil & Greenhouse Fumigation Category](#).

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer W

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a **Commercial Certification** in the [Wood Treatment](#) Category.

This certification requires a passing grade (70%) on the Wood Treatment Exam and a passing grade (70%) on the General Standards (CORE) Exam. This certification must be renewed **every 4 years** either by testing or with **4 CEUs**. As of January 13, 2010 the license fee is \$250 for 4 years, both initially and for each renewal. There is no fee for this examination.

The manuals you need to study are:

- Applying Pesticides Correctly: A Guide for Pesticide Applicators (CORE) (SM-1). \$7.00. Also called the "CORE Manual".
- The Preservation of Wood (Wood Treatment Exam) (SM-32). \$8.00.

Please make note of this information. Contact the [County Extension Office in your county](#) to determine the dates and times of pesticide testing.

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer X

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Public Certification in the Agriculture Animals Category](#).

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer Y

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Public Certification in the Agriculture Row Crop Category](#).

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer Z

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Public Certification in the Agriculture Tree Crop Category](#).

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer AA

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a **Commercial Certification** in the [Raw Agricultural Commodity Fumigation](#) Category.

This certification requires a passing grade (70%) on the Raw Agricultural Commodity Fumigation Exam and a passing grade (70%) on the General Standards (CORE) Exam. This certification must be renewed **every 4 years** either by testing or with **4 CEUs**. As of January 13, 2010 the license fee is \$250 for 4 years, both initially and for each renewal. There is no fee for this examination.

The manuals you need to study are:

- Applying Pesticides Correctly: A Guide for Pesticide Applicators (CORE) (SM-1). \$7.00. Also called the "CORE Manual".
- Raw Agricultural Commodity Fumigation (Raw Agricultural Commodity Fumigation Exam) (SM-66 ). \$5.00

Please make note of this information. Contact the [County Extension Office in your county](#) to determine the dates and times of pesticide testing.

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer BB

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Public Certification in the Soil & Greenhouse Fumigation Category](#).

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer CC

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a **Commercial Certification** in the [Wood Treatment](#) Category.

This certification requires a passing grade (70%) on the Wood Treatment Exam and a passing grade (70%) on the General Standards (CORE) Exam. This certification must be renewed **every 4 years** either by testing or with **4 CEUs**. As of January 13, 2010 the license fee is \$250 for 4 years, both initially and for each renewal. There is no fee for this examination.

The manuals you need to study are:

- Applying Pesticides Correctly: A Guide for Pesticide Applicators (CORE) (SM-1). \$7.00. Also called the "CORE Manual".
- The Preservation of Wood (Wood Treatment Exam) (SM-32). \$8.00.

Please make note of this information. Contact the [County Extension Office in your county](#) to determine the dates and times of pesticide testing.

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer DD

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Commercial Certification in the Natural Areas](#).

[Return to Top](#)

### Answer EE

The type of pesticide application that you have indicated requires a [Public Certification in the Natural Areas Category](#).

[Return to Top](#)