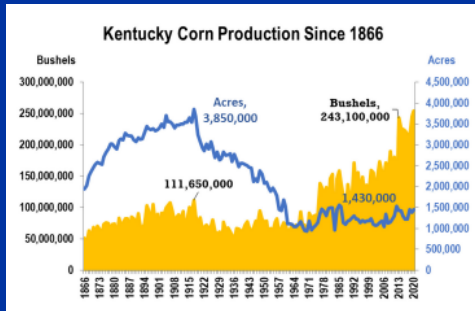


Corn & Soybean News

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COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT
Grain and Forage Center of Excellence



Changes to CEU Requirements for Commercial Applicators in 2023

New laws and regulations governing the sale, use, and storage of pesticides as well as changes to training and certification standards were approved earlier this year and will be implemented in 2023. This is the most significant change to the program since 1978. While in September I outlined some of the more important changes for the Private and Commercial Applicator Programs with two Kentucky Pest News articles, in this article I explore changes to the CEU requirements for commercial applicators and how these changes can affect recertification and relicensing.

New Category Structure and Recertification

Beginning in 2023, there will be fewer commercial categories, several have been consolidated or split and a few have been eliminated. In terms of those that have been consolidated, the old categories 3 (Lawn and Ornamental), 18 (Golf Course), 19 (Interior Plantscape Pest Control), and 20 (Athletic Turf) will be consolidated into the new Category 3; Turf, Lawn, and Ornamental Care. People certified in any of those 4 categories will be issued a new Category 3 certification without having to retest. The previous fumigation categories of 1b (Ag Fumigation) and 7b (Structural Fumigation) have been separated into the new categories of Category 7b (Structural Fumigation), Category 12 (Soil Fumigation), and Category 13 (Non-Soil Fumigation). This new Category 13 covers fumigation of structures which are not habitable such as grain bins and grain cars, while Category 7b, Structural Fumigation, also addresses fumigation of habitable structures. Persons holding current Category 1b certification will be certified in both Categories 12 and 13 without having to retest. The categories being eliminated are 12 (Pesticide Retail Sales Agent), 13 (Anti-Fouling Marine Paint), 14 (Consultant), 15 (Anti Microbial), and 16 (Sewer Root Control). While retail pesticide sales agents will not be certified, the business must be registered and maintain and submit necessary records to the KDA.

General CEUs Eliminated

In the past, commercial applicators had to accrue 9 general and 3 category-specific CEU credits by the end of their third year of the certification period to be eligible to recertify. With the new system, they need to earn 12 CEU credits with at least one being in each of the categories they are certified in. So, applicators do not need to keep track of general and category-specific CEU hours. In order to deliver the general information to commercial applicators, presenters applying for CEU credit will need to identify what general pesticide safety and use educational material they will cover in their presentation in order to receive approval.

Annual CEU Requirement

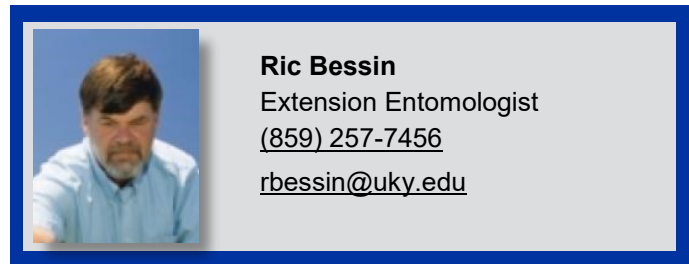
However, what has changed is that *each year* with *relicensing* (licenses are valid for one year and certifications last for 3 years), applicators must have 12 CEUs earned in the previous 3 years. In the past, applicators only had to meet this requirement when they recertified every 3 years. This is to ensure that applicators receive more frequent pesticide updates. For people that have just taken the test and passed, they will be awarded 12 CEU hours that first year which will cover that requirement until they recertify in 3 years. My recommendation is to have applicators get into the habit of earning at least 4 CEU each year in order to meet this requirement.

License Renewal Grace Period Shortened

In the past, commercial applicators had 90 days to pay the annual fee and renew their licenses online. That grace period has been shorted to 31 days past the expiration of the license. Persons not renewing their license before the end of the 30-day period will not be able apply pesticides and will have to pay their license fee, a late fee penalty, and may have to retest.

Penalty for not Earning CEUs

Commercial applicators that have not earned the necessary 12 CEUs in the previous 3 years will need to retest and will be subject to a \$200 recertification fee. This is to encourage commercial applicators to stay up to date in their areas by earning CEU credits. The best practice for applicators will be to earn at least 4 CEU hours each year and for persons organizing training sessions for pesticide education credit to offer at least 4 CEU hours.



KATS: Kentucky Agriculture Training School

The Kentucky Agriculture Training School (KATS) has several trainings scheduled for 2023, and more are being discussed. KATS trainings are interactive and hands on workshops held in small groups that provide valuable information regarding crop management and production. Information and registration links will be updated on the website (kats.ca.uky.edu) and you can also contact Lori Rogers (lori.rogers@uky.edu) with questions or to receive notifications about each training.

- February 23: In-Depth Mode of Action
- March 9: Soil Fertility and Assessment
- May 18: Crop Scouting Clinic
- June 7-8: Drone Pilot Certification Prep Course
- July 13: Spray Clinic



Changes to the Private Pesticide Applicator Program in 2023

In December of 2016, the EPA published the final rule to improve pesticide applicator certification and training standards. Implementation of this plan has been plagued by delays, but our new plan for Kentucky has been reviewed and approved and we are set to begin using it at the start of 2023. This is the most significant change to the program since 1978. There are some significant changes in how we operate the program that I will outline in this article.

Age and Identity

Only persons 18 and older are qualified to become private applicators. The EPA requires that applicators present a government issued photo ID in order for county agents to verify their age and identify. County agents must use this to verify age and identity, but do not need to record this information. For those that do not have a government issued photo ID due to some specific reasons, there are some alternative methods of verification that can be used.

Non-certified Applicator (NCA) Under Direct Supervision of a Certified Applicator

A new category of applicator has been created to work under the supervision of certified private applicators on farms. This is the “Non-certified Applicator under the Direct Supervision of a Certified Applicator.” These applicators must be trained annually and be supervised while applying general use pesticides. They cannot apply restricted use pesticides. There are a number of responsibilities for the supervising certified applicator beyond training and supervision. While any certified applicator can conduct the annual training of non-certified applicators, there is specific content that must be covered in each annual training. We are developing a Non-Certified Applicator card that can be issued from the county office for NCAs to carry to verify their training.

Fumigation and Aerial Application Training

The EPA now requires specialized training and certification for fumigation and aerial applications. As such, applicators using fumigation or applying pesticides aerially, either manned aircraft or drone applications, will need to be certified in the appropriate commercial category. Through KY statues, farmers applying general use pesticides to their own land or land they rent using ground equipment are exempt from needing to become certified private applicators, but this exemption does not apply to aerial applications. So, drone applications of any type of pesticide must be done by category 11 applicators. Persons using fumigation will need to certify in one of the commercial categories for fumigation depending on what they are treating; soil, non-soil or structures.

Terms of Certification

The KDA has brought the length of the certification for private applicators in line with commercial applicators. Both of these groups will be certified for up to three years which includes the year they were trained. Previously, private applicators were given three years plus the year they were trained in. There is no fee charged to those certified as private applicators.

New Core Competency Standards

Core competencies for private applicators have been expanded to include 11 core competency areas:

label comprehension and understanding, understanding of pesticide safety, understanding of how to protect the environment, recognizing common pests and diseases, knowledge of characteristics of pesticides, understanding of pesticide application equipment and calibration, knowledge of pesticide laws and regulations, responsibilities of supervisors of non-certified applicators, pesticide safety and professionalism, and general knowledge of agricultural pest control. Persons becoming private applicators are expected to meet these core competency requirements.



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A Comprehensive Guide to Corn Management in Kentucky

ID-139 Is now online

<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/id/id139/id139.pdf>



A Comprehensive Guide to

Corn Management in Kentucky

Cover: No-till corn field in Hardin County, Kentucky. Photo by Chad Lee

2023 Winter Wheat Meeting

James E Bruce Convention Center

303 Conference Center Dr., Hopkinsville, KY 4224

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- ▶ Changes To The Pesticide Applicator Programs In 2023
- ▶ Managing Important Wheat Diseases With Fungicides
- ▶ Kentucky Weather And Climate Outlook, Trends, And Monitoring
- ▶ Improving IPM For Insect Control For Stored Grains
- ▶ Economics Of Fungicide Application Timing
- ▶ Soil Fertility Update, The Latest Research

 University of
Kentucky
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
Grain and Forage
Center of Excellence

January 5, 2023

9 am—3 pm CT

Registration 8:30 CT

Approved Credits:

CCA: NM 0.5, SW 0.5, PM 1.0, CM 0.5

Pesticide credits pending approval



For additional information email claurent@uky.edu

Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
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Community and Economic Development

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification

UK Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab – Sample Submission in 2023

The UK Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab (PDDL) staff have had a busy year of samples in 2022 and look forward to providing diagnostic resources to Extension personnel and stakeholders in 2023. At present, our anticipated procedures for sample submission next year are as follows:

- All samples requiring **physical examination** for disease diagnosis should be submitted to the local County Extension Office where they can then be sent to the PDDL in Lexington as needed. Although walk-in clients are not turned away at the PDDL, diagnosis is often possible at the county office. The local Extension agent can make the determination on whether samples need to be referred to the PDDL and may decide to make a site visit or otherwise advise stakeholders on sample collection. Extension agents and office staff who have questions about the correct forms and mailing address/delivery location may contact PDDL personnel directly for additional assistance.
- Facilities and personnel at the UK Research and Education Center (UKREC) in Princeton are not set up to accept samples for the foreseeable future. Walk-in and mailed samples to the UKREC will not be processed.
- Commercial samples are prioritized during the busy summer season. We appreciate extra patience regarding the diagnosis of residential samples and will process those as quickly as possible.
- Plant samples often have insect or abiotic disorders (soil fertility issues, herbicide drift, etc.). Agents may wish to contact Extension specialists in Entomology, Horticulture, Plant and Soil Sciences, and Forestry as an appropriate first step when non-disease issues are suspected. These specialists can also help determine if a physical sample needs to be submitted to the PDDL.
- For consultation on commercial samples with suspected disease, Extension agents should consider contacting the appropriate Extension Plant Pathology Specialist for help determining whether a physical sample should be submitted to the PDDL. Specialists' commodity responsibilities are listed below:
 - ◇ Corn, sorghum, forages: Kiersten Wise, , (859) 562-1338, kiersten.wise@uky.edu
 - ◇ Soybean, small grain crops (i.e. barley, rye, wheat), canola: Carl Bradley, (859) 562-1306, carl.bradley@uky.edu
 - ◇ Tobacco: Currently no specialist with pathology responsibilities for tobacco
 - ◇ Fruit, vegetables, hemp: Nicole Gauthier, (859) 218-0720, ngauthier@uky.edu
 - ◇ Ornamentals and turfgrass: Paul Vincelli (limited basis), (859) 218-0722, pvincell@uky.edu

By Julie Beale, Plant Disease Diagnostician, and Sara Long, Plant Disease Diagnostic Assistant

Kentucky Crop Health Conference

Feb. 9, 2023 - National Corvette Museum - Bowling Green, Ky.

Speakers include University of Kentucky Extension Specialists and invited nationally prominent Extension Specialists from across the United States



Travis Faske
University of Arkansas
Topic: Frontline Tactics to Manage Southern Rust of Corn



Kelly Hamby
University of Maryland
Topic: Managing insect pests of grain using neonicotinoid seed treatments



Larry Steckel
University of Tennessee
Topic: Managing glyphosate-resistant and hard to kill grasses in Tennessee

Kiersten A. Wise
University of Kentucky
Topic: Tar spot in Kentucky: Is it time to panic?



Carl Bradley
University of Kentucky
Topic: What we have learned from nearly 2 decades of research on foliar fungicides of soybean

Travis Legleiter
University of Kentucky
Topic: Management of Italian ryegrass in a Kentucky grain crop rotation



Raul Villanueva
University of Kentucky
Topic: Mollusks: Frequency, biological control, and management in soybeans



Scan QR Code to register or visit:

<https://kentuckycrophealthconference2023.eventbrite.com>

Registration ends Feb. 1, 2023

Limited to 100 participants — Lunch included — CCA and KY Pesticide Applicator credits available

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 5, 2023	UK Winter Wheat Meeting
Jan 19, 2023	KY Commodity Conference - Bowling Green
Feb 9, 2023	Kentucky Crop Health Conference - Bowling Green
Feb 23, 2023	KATS In-depth Mode of Action
March 9, 2023	KATS Soil Fertility and Assessment
March 9-11, 2023	National Commodity Classic - Orlando FL
May 09, 2023	UK Wheat Field Day
May 18, 2023	KATS Crop Scouting Clinic
June 7-8, 2023	KATS Drone Pilot Certification Prep Course
June 29, 2023	Pest Management Field Day - Princeton
July 13, 2023	KATS Spray Clinic
Jul 25, 2023	UK Corn, Soybean and Tobacco Field Day

