
Regulatory Info

*Private Pesticide Applicators are inspected by NMDA to assure compliance with state and federal law. Applicators must comply with the **New Mexico Pesticide Control Act**; the regulations associated with the Act; the federal **Worker Protection Standard**; and **USDA pesticide record keeping requirements**. Information on all these laws is available on our web site or from your area inspector.*

Questions?

Call NMDA's Pesticide Compliance

575-646-2134 or **1-800-432-5310**

Visit our web site

www.nmda.nmsu.edu/pesticides

Send us an email

pesticides@nmda.nmsu.edu

More Contacts

NMDA Pesticide Compliance Inspectors Albuquerque & North West counties:

Steve Baca, 505-362-1392

Marty Fowler, 505-220-2530

North East counties:

Tiffany Aragon, 505-350-5440

Curry/Roosevelt/De Baca:

Traci Franklin, 575-760-1815

South East counties:

Tommy Stevens, 575-626-6173

South West counties:

Derek Romig, 575-644-4425

NMSU Cooperative Extension Service (Administrative Office)

575-646-3105

National Pesticide Information Center

1-800-858-7378

Poison Control Hotline

1-800-222-1222

New Mexico Department of Agriculture Pesticide Compliance

3190 South Espina St.
MSC 3AQ, PO Box 30005
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8005

Phone: 575-646-2134 or 1-800-432-5310

Fax: 575-646-5977

E-mail: pesticides@nmda.nmsu.edu



Private Pesticide Applicators

A guide for New Mexico growers



Visit us on the web:
www.nmda.nmsu.edu/pesticides



Private Pesticide Applicators

Private Pesticide Applicators are farmers and ranchers who may need to use Restricted-Use pesticides (called RUPs) in the course of their agricultural production. Pesticides may be restricted because of their toxicity, use patterns, or risk of harm to people, animals, or the environment.

Agricultural producers who do not purchase or use RUPs do not need a Private Applicator's license.

Pesticides can be restricted by US EPA and NMDA. Those restricted by US EPA are clearly labeled on the front with "Restricted Use Pesticide." The only pesticides currently restricted by NMDA are 2,4-D herbicides intended for agricultural, right-of-way or industrial uses.

This brochure describes how to get a Private Pesticide Applicator's license; how to prepare for the exam; and lists the state and federal laws that apply to private pesticide applicators.

Private applicators can apply restricted-use pesticides on land they own or lease for the production of agricultural commodities, like field crops, pastures, or livestock. Anyone who applies a pesticide for hire (including general-use herbicides, insecticides, or any other pesticide) must also have a Commercial Applicator's license.

Getting a License

Applicants for a Private Applicator license must demonstrate that they have the knowledge to safely and competently apply pesticides in agricultural settings. They do this by passing a written, closed-book, multiple-choice exam.

The Exam

The Private Applicator exam is taken from the National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual and New Mexico's pesticide law and regulations. It covers pesticide safety, application techniques, reading and understanding pesticide labels, formulations, terminology, record keeping requirements, and worker safety. Applicants must score 70% or better in order to be licensed.

New Mexico Department of Agriculture administers the exam, grades it, and issues the license.

The Core Manual can be downloaded from NMDA's web site or purchased from NMDA for \$15. County Agents also have these manuals available. The NM Pesticide Control Act and related regulations are available on NMDA's web site or we can mail you a copy if you don't have web access.

Taking the Exam

Testing sessions are held Mondays around the state all year, except holidays. Just call NMDA to sign up to take the exam at the location of your choice.

If it's impossible for you to attend one of these test sessions, your area NMDA inspector can meet you by appointment to administer the exam. Keep in mind that our inspectors have many other duties, and they may not be able to schedule an appointment for several days.

Test Sessions

Albuquerque	Every Monday 9 am
Las Cruces	Every Monday 9 am
Clovis	2nd and 4th Mondays each month 10 am
Hobbs	3rd Monday each month 9 am
Farmington	2nd Monday each month 9 am
Roswell	1st Monday each month 9am

At the test session you'll fill out an application form and give the inspector a check or money order for the \$15 fee. Your exam will be graded in Las Cruces and if you pass, your license will be mailed to you. If you fail, you'll have to take the exam again and pay another \$15 fee.

Maintaining Your License

Private applicators must attend 5 hours of continuing education during the 5-year license term. Check with your County Agent for workshops in your area; a schedule of upcoming workshops is also posted on NMDA's web site.

New Mexico Department of Agriculture Pesticide Compliance

3190 South Espina St.
MSC 3AQ, PO Box 30005
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8005

Phone: 575-646-2134 or 1-800-432-5310
Fax: 575-646-5977
E-mail: pesticides@nmda.nmsu.edu

www.nmda.nmsu.edu/pesticides