



NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Pesticide Applicator Newsletter

July 2004

Volume 1, Issue 2

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Bureau Chief Notes: Keeping CEU Requirements from Becoming Constant Eroding Ulcers

Bonnie Rabe, Bureau Chief

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are required to maintain certification which allows you to renew your license. So, exactly what is certification and why do you need it? Certified means demonstration by an individual that he or she has the practical knowledge to use or supervise the use of a pesticide including general standards such as pest identification, understanding pesticide labels, proper application techniques, environmental consequence of misuse, and applicator safety, as well as specific standards based on the category of pesticide use (agricultural, ornamental and turf, structural, etc.). In New Mexico, applicators are initially certified when they pass the written exams as part of the licensing requirements. Recertification is then required to assure applicators continue to gain knowledge about changing technologies in pesticide formulations, application techniques, equipment, and environmental safety so they continue to apply pesticides properly and safely.

In most cases, (other than applicators with 7D, LPC or M-44 certification) to recertify you only need to attend 4 hours worth of training each year. (Side Note: Operators, unless they are termite technicians, are not considered 'certified' because they do not take a category specific exam and therefore are not required to obtain CEUs—yet!) More and more opportunities are available to applicators in New Mexico, but you have to think about it throughout the year, not just 2 weeks before your license expires. But you say you are just too busy? Think of it another way. Are you too busy to learn about a new product which may cost less to use? Are you too busy to learn about a new pest problem which may be an additional service your company can offer or something your agency needs to plan for? How about hanging out with your 'competitors' (better thought of as colleagues) and learning how to prevent a problem they had with a customer or piece of equipment which might save you the headache? I hope you can agree that the regulation requirement is no big deal when you begin making time for these opportunities for yourself and your business or agency.

Special points of interest:

- Licensing Renewals and Deadlines
- NM Section 18s and 24Cs
- Termite Label Information
- 2004 CEU Courses for July through September

The NMDA website contains a current listing including the contact person, location and number of CEUs awarded. You can attend one workshop and obtain all 4 hours or attend 4 one hour workshops — it is up to you. Don't you find days when you may be looking for an excuse to get away from the day to day work? Attending a workshop may be just the break you need. Check our website, there may be a workshop you find interesting, even if you already have enough CEUs. Several workshops are scheduled for the upcoming summer months and doesn't sitting in a nice air conditioned room beat sweating in the heat all day! Think of it as a mini vacation—even if you stay in your own town.

Meetings held in other states are eligible to be awarded CEUs also if, as with any workshop, they are submitted at least 15 days before the training begins. You or the sponsoring agency or association may submit workshops for approval. Any educational opportunity covering pesticide laws and regulations, pesticide use, applicator safety, environmental concerns, pest ID, integrated pest management or other related topics may be submitted for approval. The form requesting CEU approval is available on our website.

(continued from Page 1)

NMDA has attempted to make it easier to document your attendance with a new certificate, but you still need to submit it to our office in order to receive the credit. ALWAYS remember to make a copy for your records. In the future, one prospect is for a credit card type license which can be scanned at the workshop and will automatically update your computer file. Until then, please make sure you obtain and complete the necessary information on the certificate. Mail them in within 10 days of the workshop so your file remains up to date and you avoid the dreaded RED renewal form stating you have no CEUs on file. Most of you have already realized the benefits of continuing education training since we did have fewer red renewals go out this last year and most CEU totals far exceeded the minimum. This is due in part to the increase in training conducted by the CES and industry associates. I commend those sponsoring and conducting training because I know how difficult it can be. I hope you will support these groups by taking the time to attend their workshops as well as making them aware of your interest in training on particular topics.

Even I am required by EPA to attend continuing education on various pesticide issues. I admit sometimes I dread it because I think of how much else is going on but inevitably I always learn something that I can bring back for myself or my staff which is beneficial to our program. I hope you can feel the same.

Licensing Information

Patty Rios, Licensing Specialist

Non-commercial Applicators

Non-commercial Applicators who did not renew for the 2005 license year will be notified in writing and will be required to retake all certification exams and pay a double license renewal fee.

Public Applicators

Public Applicator renewal forms for the 2005 license year were mailed out on **May 17, 2004**. If you have not received your renewal form by June 1st, call the main office in Las Cruces at (505) 646-2133 to request another form. The deadline to earn CEUs to apply toward recertification is June 30, 2004.

Commercial Applicators and Operator/Service men

Commercial Applicators and Operator/Service men renewal forms for the 2005 license year will be mailed out on **September 15, 2004**. If you have not received a renewal form by October 1, 2004, call the main office in Las Cruces at (505) 646-2133 to request another form. If you have attended approved CEU workshops, **DO NOT** hold onto your CEU certificates. Mail your **original, signed, and completed** certificates **NOW**. **Remember to keep a copy for your files.**

Insurance Requirement for Commercial Applicators

To avoid delays in processing your license(s) in September, take time now to ensure that your insurance certificate provides the business name, policy number (no binders), limits of coverage, insurance company and agent, AND a statement to specify you are **covered for liability associated with pesticide use**. Doing so now will avoid delays in processing later.

If you fail to get your renewal forms, or have questions about your license renewal, please call NMDA at (505) 646-2133.

Commercial

Applicators:

Please remember to keep your insurance up-to-date and on file in our office.



New Mexico Section 18's and 24C's for 2004-2005
Cary Hamilton, Pesticide Registration/Endangered Species Specialist

Section 18's

Crop	Pest	Pesticide Pesticide	EPA Reg. #	Submitted/ Reason	Approved	Counties
Bee Hives	Varroa mite	CheckMite+	None	1/16/2004/ Bee hives	2/1/04-8/1/04	All NM
Sorghum	Ergot	Tilt	100-617	1/20/2004/ Control of ergot	4/27/04-9/30/04	UN, HA, QU, CU, RO CH, ED, LEA, DA, LU

Pending/Under Review and Not Currently Allowed For Use

Onions	Thrips	SpinTor 2SC	62719-294	4/29/2004/ Control thrips	Pending	CU, RO, SI, LU, DA, HI
Chile/Peppers	Powdery Mildew	Nova	707-221	5/14/2004. Control of PM	Pending	CH, ED, LEA, SO, SI, LU DA, HI
Alfalfa	Lepidoptera larva	Tracer	62719-267	Pending/ Control lepid. in alfalfa	Pending	QU, DB, CU, RO, CH, LEA, ED

24C's

Crop	Pest	Approved Pesticide Product	EPA Reg. #	NM SLN	Submitted/ Reason	Counties
Pecans	Black/Yellow Aphids	Admire 2F (Bayer)	264-758	NM-030001	5/5/03/ Better control	All NM
Pecans	Crows/Ravens	DRC-1339 (USDA) RUP	56228-30	NM-030003	10/10/03/ Pecan depredation	DA ONLY
Rio Grande	Salt Cedar	Arsenal (BASF)	241-346	NM-02001	9/9/02/ Water conversation	Pecos/Rio Grande
Chile	Nematodes	Telone EC (DOW) RUP	62719-32	NM-980001	2/13/98/ Control in drip systems	All NM
Chile	Thrips/Flea beetles	Furadan 4F (FMC) RUP	279-2876	NM-980002	4/27/98/ Insect damage	All NM
Cotton	Pink bollworm	Lock-On (DOW) RUP	62719-79	NM-040001	3/24/04/ 3 extra applications	LU, DA, SI

Pending/Under Review and Currently Not Allowed For Use

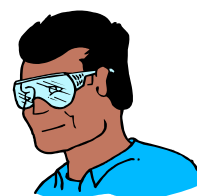
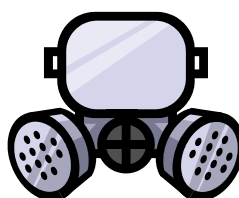
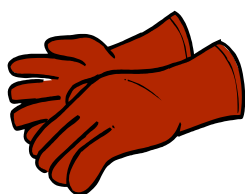
Crop	Pest	Pesticide Product	EPA Reg. #	NM SLN	Submitted/ Reason	Counties
Onion/Peppers	Nematodes/ Pink Root	In-Line Telone (DOW)	Pending	Pending	No Tarp	DA, LU, SI, CH, ED, HI

What To Know Before A Spill Happens

Before a spill happens:

- Make sure employees are aware of spill clean-up procedures.
- Know who to call in the event of a pesticide spill including the phone numbers for the **NM State Police, National Pesticide Information Center (1-800-858-7378) and Chemtrek Emergency Response (1-800-424-9300)**.
- Have the appropriate personal protective equipment available including suits, gloves, masks and or respirators, etc.
- Have spill clean-up supplies in storage areas as well as on service vehicles. Clean up supplies might include, but is not limited to: kitty litter, spill kits, soaker pads, plastic bags, shovel, caution tape or rope.

The easiest way to clean up a pesticide spill is to **PREVENT THEM!!!**



Cleaning Up Pesticide Spills

Franklin Laemmlen

(Information from: Agric Personnel Mgt. Newsletter, April 2003)

Pesticide spills can occur during any handler task. Here are steps you should take if a spill occurs:

- Think first of protecting yourself, other people nearby, and the surrounding area—especially water sources.
- Never try to clean up a spill unless you have the right personal protective equipment and cleanup materials.
- If it is a big spill, send someone for help if you can. Don't leave if no one else is there—someone must be there to warn others of the danger.

Practice the **three C's** of spill management:

Control the spill –make sure that the spill is stopped:

- Shut off the mixing or application equipment if it is leaking.
- Turn the container upright if it has fallen.
- If the container is broken or leaking, put it inside another container.



Contain the spill—stop the spill from spreading:

- Use a mound of dirt or other material to make a dike around the edge of the spill.
- Rope off the area so that other people cannot walk through it.

Clean up the spill:

- **DO NOT** use water. It will spread the spill and make it worse.
- Soak up liquid spills with special spill sponge or with soil, sawdust, clay, cat litter, or other absorbent materials.
- If the pesticide or absorbent material is likely to blow around, moisten it very slightly with water or cover with a tarp.
- Sweep the spill and cleanup materials into plastic containers or special drums. Then ask your employer what to do with the waste.



other



Mislabeled/Misbranded Termiticides Containing Chlorpyrifos

Marjorie Lewis, Enforcement and Grants Specialist

In 2002, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced an agreement with registrants to eliminate and phase out certain uses of the organophosphate insecticide chlorpyrifos, known by trade names Dursban, Lorsban, and others.

Nearly all indoor and outdoor residential uses have been cancelled. However, NMDA inspectors recently encountered a termite control product which still has directions for use as post-construction termite control. **CHLORPYRIFOS PRODUCTS CAN NO LONGER BE USED POST-CONSTRUCTION!** EPA's agreement with the registrants required that these uses stop **by December 31, 2002**.

The only non-agricultural uses of chlorpyrifos that are legal are **pre-construction** termite control (this is scheduled to be cancelled at the end of 2005); ant and roach baits in child-proof containers; fire ant mounds and mosquito control by public health agencies; and certain industrial/commercial applications.

If you find products out there which still have label directions for household, residential, or post-construction termite uses, please let us know. These products are considered "misbranded" and the registrants may be in violation of FIFRA.


We are taking any misbranded products we find at dealer locations of sale, cancelling their registration in the state and forwarding them to EPA. If you have purchases these chlorpyrifos products, you can still use them as **pre-construction** treatments (until December 31, 2005) at rates no higher than 0.5%.

Some agricultural uses of chlorpyrifos remain, but labeled crops are limited and rates lowered to reduce food risks. Most chlorpyrifos products are now classified as restricted-use pesticides.

Label Questions and Answers

I picked up a "specimen" label at a workshop the other day. Why is it called that and is it the same as the label on a container?

It is not necessarily the same thing. So-called specimen labels are often handed out by dealers and manufacturers to provide applicators with information on using their products. You can also look at specimen labels on many websites like www.greenbook.net. Many times the specimen labels are identical to the one on the actual product you buy, **BUT** sometimes there are differences. Check the label affixed to the product. Sometimes labels have numbers or dates that identify what version they are. Verify that the EPA number and formulation are the same on the product label and the specimen label and go through the Directions for Use section. Sometimes a specimen label is for a newer formulation that may behave differently with adjuvants, may last longer in the It sunlight, may have an added site, etc. A specimen label can be a valuable tool, but make sure it's the same as the one that accompanied the actual product you are using.



Failing to follow label directions is a violation of the law. If you have questions about a label or product, please call NMDA at (505) 646-2133.



Questions and Answers (continued)

Why do I have to call NMDA myself to get information about my license or my operators. I am busy running my business so why can't someone from my staff or my family call to make changes or get scores for me?

It is required that the licensed applicator (must be the supervising applicator on record for commercial businesses) call him or herself to make changes to license status, request operator permits or inquire about notice of scores. If another individual calls we have no way of verifying that they are who they say they are. This is why various requests are required to be followed up in writing as well. We want to make sure a license is not cancelled because you had an irate employee who decided to call and make changes to your license. We also do not want an unauthorized person using your company name to obtain a license or temporary permit when they are not actually employed by you and do not have your permission. This is why all information is mailed to the business or agency addresses and not to an individual's home. What if someone stating they were your assistant called in and changed your address over the phone and it was incorrect or false? You would then not receive a renewal or other important correspondence. Identity theft is not just through credit cards. We want to protect our licensees and their information as best we can, so you might still grumble at the extra time this policy requires but hopefully safeguarding your business or agency is worth it.

Why is it a problem when my insurance company doesn't send you a new insurance certificate? Can't NMDA just call them?

If we spent the extra time to make sure your insurance was taken care of, license and exam processing would be longer. The main reason is we regulate pesticide applicators, not insurance companies. As a commercial applicator you are required to maintain and provide documentation for the proper amount and type of liability insurance as required by the New Mexico Pesticide Control Act. In some cases, we regularly receive updated insurance documents from you or directly from your insurance company. We really appreciate those of you who stay on top of this. If you can't seem to rely on your insurance company to send in your current policy information, send it in yourself when they send you your copy. Most companies have insurance policies covering a six-month period, so check your expiration date and put an automatic reminder on your computer or calendar. The problem with waiting until you get your reminder and expiration letters from us, is that when your insurance expires and we have no updated policy, your license is automatically suspended. A consumer calling to check on your company would be told that you were under suspension for no insurance. Not a great selling point for hiring your company.

The following is a list of the requirements for acceptable documentation of insurance. You may want to pass this along to your insurance company as well. This will assure quick processing of your insurance documents.

- Acceptable documentation includes a standard certificate of liability insurance form (such as the ACCORD form). **BINDERS or Temporary Policies are NOT acceptable.**

The form must include:

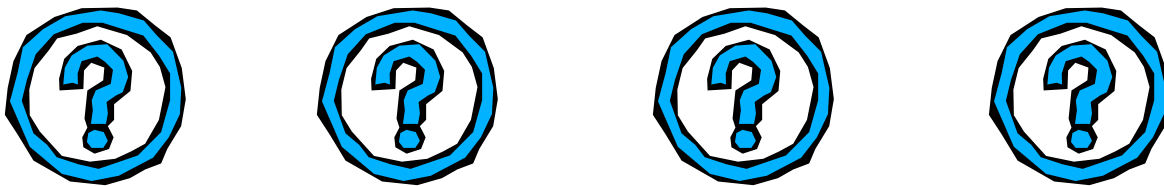
- Policy number (Note: actual number is required, TBD (To Be Determined) is not acceptable)
- Name of insurance company
- Name and signature of authorizing agent
- Time frame covered by policy
- Amount of coverage and deductibles
- Clearly stated to specifically cover liability resulting from the application, handling, storage, disposal, or other activities related to use of pesticides by the business.

Questions and Answers (continued)

Why is it a problem when applicants for a license do not completely fill out their application? Why can't NMDA just finish filling in the information?

First of all, the application for a license is an official document, which will be maintained on file for each business and each licensee. If the application is completed by NMDA and we assume what should be filled in, errors may occur and the applicants information maybe incorrect.

Secondly, due to the large volume of applicants processed, the time involved in having NMDA complete the applications would cause processing times to increase for everyone. This would not be fair to those applicants who took the time to prepare a completed application. With the applications now available on our website for downloading, this should assist in assuring that the applications are completed with the correct information.



Important West Nile Virus Facts

New Mexico Department of Health

What is West Nile Virus (WNV)? It is a virus that can cause disease in people, birds, horses and sometimes other animals. WNV is spread by mosquito bites.

How do people get infected with WNV? By being bitten by mosquitoes that are carrying the virus. Mosquitoes become infected by feeding on birds that have the virus in their blood. Once a mosquito is infected, the virus can be transmitted to humans, birds, horses or other animals through a bite.

Symptoms of WNV: Symptoms usually appear about 3–14 days after being bitten. Mild illness includes fever, headache and body aches. In a small number of cases, particularly among the elderly, the disease can affect the central nervous system causing high fever, stiff neck, muscle weakness, disorientation, brain inflammation (encephalitis), coma, and rarely, death.

Is there treatment for WNV? There is no specific treatment for WNV. Most people with mild illness recover in a few days. In more severe cases, patients are treated with supportive therapy, which may include hospitalization, IV fluids, and respiratory support.

Using Insect Repellents Safely: For longest lasting protection, insect repellents with no more than 20-30% DEET for adults and less than 10% for children aged 2 years to 12 years is recommended.

If you choose not to use DEET, products containing soybean oil or eucalyptus oil have been found to be effective, but must be applied more often.

Please note: only adults should apply repellent on children; only apply repellent to exposed skin and clothing-do not use repellent under clothing; do not apply repellent over cuts, wounds, sunburn or irritated skin; spray repellent on your hands in order to apply it to your face-don't apply repellent to mouth or eyes; wash repellent off daily and reapply as need.

For more information on West Nile Virus, contact the Office of Epidemiology at 505-827-0006.

**New Mexico Department of
Agriculture**

01-3-46809

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Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003-8005

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Website: www.nmda.nmsu.edu



New Mexico CEU Workshops for July through September 2004

Katrina Beverage, Certification and Training Specialist

NMDA's CEU website is updated approximately every 2 weeks. Please check there for workshops that might not be listed here.

If you would like to receive credit for a workshop that you would like to attend, you may individually apply for CEU credits. The CEU Approval Application can be found on NMDA's website. Please fill it out completely, include an agenda, if available, and either mail or fax to NMDA.

July

None listed, but check the website for updates.

August

CTN CEU Training

Clovis 8/17/2004 (#04-72)

September

CTN CEU Training

Albuquerque 9/02/2004 (#04-74)

PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO MAIL IN YOUR ORIGINAL CEU CERTIFICATES TO NMDA WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE END OF THE WORKSHOP TO RECEIVE CREDIT!!

