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Changes in Pesticide Applicator Certification and Licenses

Kristine J. P. Schaefer

Iowa State University, schaefer@iastate.edu

Gretchen Elizabeth Paluch

Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, gretchen.paluch@gmail.com

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Abstract

The Iowa Legislature recently passed changes to the Iowa Code that will affect commercial, public, and private pesticide applicators. Previously, commercial, public, and private applicators had the option of paying one-year or three-year certification fees. Effective July 1, 2012, one-year certification fees are no longer available. All individual pesticide applicator certification fees will now cover three years. Certified pesticide applicators that currently pay one-year fees but are in a three-year qualification cycle will be eligible to pay the one-year certification renewal fee until the existing cycle expiration date.

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Changes in Pesticide Applicator Certification and Licenses

By Kristine Schaefer, Department of Entomology, and Gretchen Paluch, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

The Iowa Legislature recently passed changes to the Iowa Code that will affect commercial, public, and private pesticide applicators. Previously, commercial, public, and private applicators had the option of paying one-year or three-year certification fees. Effective July 1, 2012, one-year certification fees are no longer available. All individual pesticide applicator certification fees will now cover three years. Certified pesticide applicators that currently pay one-year fees but are in a three-year qualification cycle will be eligible to pay the one-year certification renewal fee until the existing cycle expiration date.

Another change that took effect July 1, 2012 concerns evidence of financial responsibility for commercial pesticide applicator businesses. To be issued a license, commercial pesticide applicator licensees (businesses) will be required to provide proof of financial responsibility for a minimum amount of \$250,000 for property damage and \$250,000 for public liability, each separately. Certificates of insurance meeting the \$250,000 minimum requirements will be required to renew commercial pesticide applicator licenses for 2013. Certificates of insurance issued prior to July 1, 2012, will expire on December 31, 2012.

For additional information refer to the [IDALS Pesticide Bureau website](#) or call 515-281-8591 for private pesticide applicator information and 515-281-5601 for commercial pesticide applicator information.

Kristine Schaefer is a program specialist in the Department of Entomology. She can be reached at 515-294-4286 or e-mail schaefer@iastate.edu. Gretchen Paluch is pesticide bureau chief for the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. She can be reached at 515-281-8590 or e-mail gretchen.paluch@iowaagriculture.gov.

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