

## **HOW TO BECOME CERTIFIED AS A PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR**

Under the Kansas Pesticide Law, private certification authorizes you to use or supervise the use of a restricted use pesticide only to produce an agricultural commodity (1) on property owned or rented by you or your employer, or (2) on the property of another for no compensation other than trading of personal services between producers; or, for controlling ornamental shrubbery or turf pests at your own residence.

**Private applicator certification does *not* authorize you to apply pesticides on someone else's property and charge a fee for the service. If you wish to apply pesticides commercially, you must first obtain commercial applicator certification and a business license. Contact the Kansas Department of Agriculture (785-564-6688) for details.**

As a private pesticide applicator you must complete the application procedure prescribed by the Kansas State Department of Agriculture, which is as follows:

- ❖ You need to have a "Private Pesticide Applicator Manual". You may download the manual by clicking <https://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/mf531.pdf>, or come to Riley County Extension office to purchase a copy.
- ❖ Once you have read the manual, come to the Riley County Extension Office in the Riley County Office Building located at 5<sup>th</sup> & Humboldt in Manhattan, KS. Office hours are 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, for taking the test. The test is open book, has 75 multiple choice and True/False questions, and takes approximately 2-3 hours to complete.
- ❖ You must answer at least 56 questions correctly in order to pass. (56/75 = 75%)
- ❖ Once you complete the test, there is a cost of \$25.00 (check or money order) to be sent by the extension office with your test to the Kansas Department of Agriculture in Manhattan, Kansas. If you pass, you should receive your applicators license by email or mail within 2 to 3 weeks.
- ❖ If you need a license immediately, your test will be graded at the Extension office, you will be given an *emergency license* to use until you receive your permanent one.

If you have any questions concerning the above, please contact one of the following:

Ks. Department of Agriculture  
Pesticide & Fertilizer Program  
1320 Research Park Drive  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
Contact: Pesticide and Fertilizer Program  
E-mail: [kda.pestfert@ks.gov](mailto:kda.pestfert@ks.gov)  
Phone: 785-564-6688 (direct line)

Riley County Extension  
110 Courthouse Plaza Room B220  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
Contact: Greg McClure  
E-mail: [gmcclure@ksu.edu](mailto:gmcclure@ksu.edu)  
Phone: 785-537-6350