STUDY MATERIAL AND SCOPE OF EXAMINATION FOR APPLICATOR LICENSE BRANCHES 2 AND 3

The following outlines the scope of the applicator licensing examination, and provides a list of reference material sources available to pest control operators to use in training employees to take the examination to be a pesticide applicator.

PEST LOCATION

- Typical harborage areas for structural pests in different life cycle stages
- Structural deficiencies and construction practices that invite pest entry and harborage

PREAPPLICATION ASSESSMENT

- Common signs of wood-pest infestations and infections
- Methods to minimize pesticide exposure to non-target pests and organisms
- Effects of pesticides on surfaces
- Factors that influence or enhance pesticide effectiveness
- State laws pertaining to worker safety in pest control operations
- State laws pertaining to handling and storage of pesticides
- Contents of wood-destroying pests and organisms inspection report
- Procedures to notify consumers and persons in adjacent areas about planned pesticide application
- First-aid techniques to treat injuries resulting from pesticide exposure
- Methods to handle pesticide explosions and fires
- Different types of emergencies resulting from misapplication of pesticides
- Contents of major sections of pesticide labels
- Types of property damage that could result from pesticide application
- Laws pertaining to storage of pesticides during transport
- Different types of foundations associated with different types of structures
- Chemical control measures for non-termite wood pest infestations
- Laws regarding use of personal protective equipment
- Techniques to prevent pesticide accidents during application
• Techniques to mix volumes of pesticides
• Methods for preventing pesticide spills
• Procedures for cleaning and maintaining personal protective equipment

TREATMENT METHOD DETERMINATION
• Chemical families of pesticides used for structural pest control
• Level of toxicity to humans of chemical families used for structural pest control
• Occupant conditions (e.g., age, health) with potential for increased risk of sensitivity to pesticides
• Residues associated with different pesticide formulations on different surfaces
• Effects of temperature, rate of dilution, and ventilation on pesticide odor
• Mode of action on pests of chemicals used for structural pest control
• Pesticide formulations suitable for different surfaces and different pests
• Procedures for determining rate of application and pesticide dilution ratio

SITE PREPARATION AND TREATMENT APPLICATION
• Manufacturer's label restrictions on treatment application
• Equipment for applying liquid pesticides
• Methods to repair, maintain, and clean liquid application equipment
• Methods to repair, maintain, and clean dry chemical application equipment
• Techniques to confine pesticide applications to treatment areas
• Methods to clean up and contain pesticide leaks and spills
• Prescribed methods for safe disposal of used pesticides and pesticide containers
• Laws related to reporting pesticide spills and leaks
• Factors that influence compatibility of pesticides combined at time of application
• Label contents prescribed by state and federal agencies
• Requirements for area preparation for different treatment applications
• Types of, and procedures for, use of personal protective equipment
• Application of pesticide label information to select pesticides for spot treatment
• Types of, and procedures for, use of pesticide application equipment
SAFETY PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING PESTICIDES AND MATERIALS

- Procedures for containing spilled liquid pesticides
- Symptoms of oral, dermal, and respiratory overexposure to applied pesticides and materials
- Procedures for disposal of absorbent material used to soak up pesticide spills
- Procedures for containing and removing spilled dry materials
- Procedures for disposal of used pesticide containers
- Laws and regulations related to storage, disposal, and transportation of pesticides
- Procedures for cleaning and maintenance of application and personal protective equipment
- Procedures for preventing malfunction of application and personal protective equipment
- Reference sources for first-aid procedures for overexposure of pesticides to humans or animals
- Application of safety precautions on pesticide labels to prevent overexposure of pesticides to self and others
- Laws and regulations related to consumer notification of pesticide application

STUDY REFERENCES

Residential, Industrial, and Institutional Pest Control, available from: ANR Publications, 800/994-8849
The Safe and Effective Use of Pesticides, available from: ANR Publications, 800/994-8849
Business and Professions Code, Division 3, Chapter 14, Structural Pest Control Act or www.pestboard.ca.gov
California Code of Regulations, Title 3, Division 6, and Title 16, Division 19, same as above
Department of Pesticide Regulation's Pesticide Safety Information Series N, www.cdpr.ca.gov