

Kansas Administrative Regulations

Kansas Department of Agriculture

Article 13.—Pesticides

4-13-13. Commercial applicator examinations.

(a) Each general core examination for commercial applicator certification shall test the applicant's knowledge in the following subjects, in addition to testing the applicant's knowledge in those subjects specified in K.S.A. 2-2443a (a) through (h), and amendments thereto:

(1) The general format and terminology of pesticide labels and labeling, the instructions, warnings, symbols and other information appearing on pesticide labels, the classification designation on pesticide labels, and the necessity of using each pesticide in a manner that is consistent with the information and instructions on its label;

(2) safety factors, including pesticide toxicity; types and causes of pesticide accidents; precautionary measures that are necessary to guard against injury to the applicator and other individuals; symptoms of pesticide poisoning; first aid and other procedures to follow in case of a pesticide accident; proper identification, storage, transportation of, mixing, and handling of pesticides; prevention of and cleanup of pesticide spills; and disposal of pesticide containers;

(3) the potential for damage to the environment from use and misuse of pesticides as influenced by factors including types of terrain, soil, and other substrata and drainage patterns;

(4) pest development and biology relevant to pest identification and control;

(5) the types of pesticides and pesticide formulations used, compatibility, synergism, persistence and animal and plant toxicity of pesticides, practices that cause pesticide resistance, and dilution procedures;

(6) the types of equipment used and the limitations of each and equipment use, maintenance, and calibration;

(7) proper application techniques for various pesticides and formulations of pesticide in given situations, relationship of placement of pesticides to proper use, unnecessary

pesticide use and pesticide misuse, and prevention of pesticide loss into the environment through drift and other means; and

(8) requirements that must be met by a certified applicator in supervising noncertified applicators of restricted pesticides, including practical knowledge of federal and state supervisory requirements, requirements found on labeling, requirements regarding verifiable instruction of the noncertified applicator and availability of certified applicator during application, and any added restrictions that may be imposed for specific pesticides through labeling, including the required physical presence of the supervising applicator during the application.

(b) As specified in this subsection, each category or subcategory examination for commercial applicator certification shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of the category or subcategory of certification in which the applicant wishes to be certified, in addition to testing the applicant's practical knowledge in those subjects specified in K.S.A. 2-2443a and amendments thereto.

(1) Agricultural pest control.

(A) Each examination for agricultural plant pest control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of the crops grown in Kansas and the specific pests commonly associated with these crops, potential soil and water damage, preharvest intervals, reentry intervals, phytotoxicity, environmental contamination, nontarget injury, and potential adverse effects on the community that are related to the use of restricted pesticides in agricultural areas.

(B) Each examination for agricultural animal pest control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of Kansas agricultural animals and their pests, specific pesticide toxicity levels, residue potential and relative hazards associated with various pesticide formulations, application techniques, ages of animals, and the stress and extent of treatment.

(C) Each examination for wildlife damage control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of vertebrate pest species and damage associated with each species, methods useful in damage prevention, products used in damage control, the potential for direct poisoning of nontarget species, the potential for secondary poisonings, effects upon threatened and endangered species, specific pesticide toxicity

and residue levels, and methods of application necessary to minimize hazards to humans, the environment, pets, and domestic animals.

(D) Each examination for stump treatment applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of stump control methods, limited area applications, and the potential adverse effects of pesticides.

(2) Forest pest control. Each examination for forest pest control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of types of forests, forest nurseries and forest seed production in Kansas and of the pests associated with them, pest cycles and population dynamics as they influence control programming, biotic agents and their relative vulnerability to pesticides, and proper use of specialized equipment as it relates to adjacent land use.

(3) Ornamental and turf pest control.

(A) Each examination for ornamental pest control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of pest and pesticide problems associated with the production and maintenance of ornamental trees, shrubs and flowers in Kansas, potential phytotoxicity problems related to the wide variety of plants in treated areas, pesticide persistence beyond the intended period of control, and application methods that minimize hazards to humans, pets, and domestic animals.

(B) Each examination for turf pest control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of pest and pesticide problems associated with the production and maintenance of turf in Kansas, potential phytotoxicity problems related to the wide variety of plants in treated areas, pesticide persistence beyond the intended period of control, and application methods that minimize hazards to humans, pets, and domestic animals.

(C) Each examination for interior landscape pest control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of pest and pesticide problems associated with the production and maintenance of houseplants and other ornamental plants kept or located within structures occupied by humans, including houses, apartments, offices, shopping malls, other places of business, and other dwelling places. The examination shall also test the applicant's practical knowledge of potential phytotoxicity problems related to treatment of plants in enclosed areas, pesticide persistence beyond the intended period

of control, and application methods that minimize hazards to humans, pets, and domestic animals.

(4) Seed treatment. Each examination for seed treatment applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of the types of seeds that require protection against pests, factors that could affect germination, including seed coloration, carriers and surface-active agents, hazards associated with handling, storing, mixing and misuse of treated seeds, and the proper disposal of unused treated seeds.

(5) Aquatic pest control.

(A) Each examination for aquatic pest control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of secondary effects caused by improper application rates, incorrect formulations, and faulty aquatic pesticide applications; knowledge of various water use situations and the potential of downstream effects; knowledge of potential effects on plants, fish, birds, beneficial insects, and other organisms in the aquatic environment; and knowledge of the principles of limited area application.

(B) Each examination for sewer root control shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of sewer control methods, limited area applications, and potential adverse effects of pesticides.

(6) Right-of-way pest control. Each examination for right-of-way pest control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of the wide variety of environments crossed by rights-of-way, problems of runoff, drift and excessive foliage destruction, the nature of herbicides, the need for containment of herbicides within the right-of-way area, and the impact of the applicator's activities on adjacent areas and communities.

(7) Industrial, institutional, structural, and health-related pest control.

(A) Each examination for wood-destroying pest control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of wood-destroying pests and their life cycles, pesticide formulations appropriate for the control of these pests, methods of application that avoid exposure of people and pets, and specific factors that can lead to hazardous conditions, including continuous exposure to the pesticide.

(B) Each examination for stored products pest control shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of pests found in stored grain and food processing areas, their life

cycles, pesticide formulations appropriate for their control, methods of application that avoid contamination of food products and exposure of people, and specific factors that can lead to a hazardous condition, including continuous exposure.

(C) Each examination for industrial weed control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of weed pests found in industrial areas, pesticide formulations appropriate for the control of these pests, methods of application that avoid contamination of habitat and exposure of people and pets, and environmental conditions particularly related to this activity.

(D) Each examination for health-related pest control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of vector-disease transmission as it relates to and influences application programs, pests that adversely affect public health and their life cycles and habitats, and the variety of environments in which these pests are encountered.

(E) Each examination for structural pest control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of the wide variety of pests found in buildings, including their life cycles; types of pesticide formulations appropriate for their control and methods of application that avoid contamination of food, damage to and contamination of habitat, and exposure of people and pets; specific factors that can lead to a hazardous condition, including continuous exposure in the various situations encountered in this category; and environmental conditions particularly related to this activity.

(F) Each examination for wood preservation and wood-products treatment applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of pest problems and pests associated with wood degradation, including their life cycles, types of pesticide formulations appropriate for their control, methods of application, application hazards and safety, and the proper means of container storage and container and waste disposal. The examination shall also test the applicant's practical knowledge of procedures to contain spills and to avoid contamination and exposure of the environment, including people, domestic animals, and wildlife.

(8) Public health pest control. Each examination for public health pest control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of vector-disease transmission as it relates to and influences application programs, pests that adversely affect public

health and their life cycles and habitats, the variety of environments in which these pests are encountered, and the importance of nonchemical control methods including sanitation, waste disposal, and drainage.

(9) Regulatory pest control.

(A) Each examination for noxious weed control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of pest weeds as regulated by the Kansas noxious weed law, the potential impact on the environment of restricted-use pesticides used in suppression and eradication programs, and factors influencing the introduction, spread, and population dynamics of those pest weeds.

(B) Each examination for regulated pest control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of federally regulated and state-regulated pests, applicable laws relating to quarantine and other regulations regarding pests, the potential impact on the environment of restricted-use pesticides used in suppression and eradication programs, and factors influencing the introduction, spread, and population dynamics of relevant pests.

(10) Demonstration and research pest control. Each examination for demonstration and research pest control applicators shall test the applicant's practical knowledge of the many different pest problems encountered in the course of activities associated with demonstration, field research and method improvement work, pesticide-organism interactions, and the importance of integrating pesticide use with control methods. Each applicator shall meet the examination requirements for application in the other categories that are applicable to the applicator's particular activity.

(c) A grade of at least 75% correct answers shall be required to pass each commercial applicator examination.

(Authorized by K.S.A. 2-2467a; implementing K.S.A. 2006 Supp. 2-2443a and K.S.A. 2-2467a; effective, E-78-26, Sept. 7, 1977; effective May 1, 1978; amended May 1, 1985; amended, T-87-39, Nov. 19, 1986; amended May 1, 1987; amended May 1, 1988; amended Jan. 1, 1989; amended Feb. 29, 2008.)