

## 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

The Handbook of Pest Control, 8th Edition, available from: GIE Media, 800/456-0707  
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](http://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](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov)