

1390 W. Expressway 83 San Benito, TX 78586 Phone 956-361-8236 January 5, 2017

TO: RGV Ag Producers

SUBJECT: Private Pesticide Applicator License Training and Testing

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the opportunity to attend the required training class in order to obtain a private pesticide applicator license issued by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). Trainings alternate from Cameron to Hidalgo. The next class will be held on **Wednesday, February 8, 2017** at the **Hidalgo County Extension Office**, located at 410 North 13th Avenue, Edinburg, TX.

Registration will be from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and the class will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. Do not be late. You must attend the entire session. This training will be conducted by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. There will be a break in the training for lunch, which will be on your own. The training will conclude around 3:00 p.m.

A registration fee of \$70.00 will be charged for this class. The fee includes a set of training manuals. **Pre-registration is required as space is limited.** You will receive the manuals when you pre-register in person at the Hidalgo County Extension Office in Edinburg. Pre-registration by phone are also possible by calling 956-383-1026.

To become a licensed private applicator, you must attend this mandatory training and then sign up to go take an exam at a company TDA has contracted with to administer exams for them. Information on how to sign up to take the exam will be covered during the class. A passing score on the exam is 70 or higher.

The private applicator license is valid for 5 years. By the end of the five year licensing period, you must obtain 15 hours of continuing education in order to renew the license of another five years.

While this training is specifically designed for private applicators, it is also an excellent review for anyone needing to study for the commercial/non-commercial general agricultural license exam.

In the past we have not been able to give CEU's for this training. However, we now have the flexibility to allow current license holders who are "in a bind" to attend and receive CEU's/ Therefore, if your license expires in the next 6 months and you are still in need of continuing education hours, you may attend this training to obtain continuing education. The fee for CEU credits will be \$10 per hour. 3 CEUS's will be offered (1 L&R, 1 G & 1 IPM). The CEU part of the program will be 9:00 am - noon. Pre -registration is required as space is limited.

Call 956-361-8236 or come by the Cameron County Extension Office to reserve a seat.

Pre-registration is required as space is limited. Also let us know if you need further assistance or have a question about the training. If you are unsure of which license will meet your needs, try the Extension Service online help at:

http://agrilife.org/aes/what-license-do-i-need/ or contact TDA's regional office in San Juan at 956-787-8866 or 1-800-835-5832 for assistance.

I recommend that you bring a calculator and a pen or pencil. If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Private Applicator License Training Schedule for 2017 February 8 – Edinburg May 2 – Edinburg September 7 – Edinburg November 1 – Edinburg

Dates, times and locations are subject to change. Check with the Extension office a week or two prior to the date to confirm.

Sincerely,

Enrique Perez County Extension Agent-Agriculture Cameron County

Cameron County Extension Office 1390 W. Expressway 83 San Benito, Texas 78586

Tel. 956-361-8236 | Fax. 956-361-8289 | http://cameron.agrilife.org/

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