MDAC Releases New Guidance Regarding Pesticide Applicator Certification and Licenses in Light of COVID-19

Commercial and Licensed Pesticide Applicators:

- For all license holders whose certification expires in 2020, MDAC will extend certification for 1 year.
  - License holders are considered persons who advertise or receive fees for:
    - Wood Destroying Insect Control
    - General Pest and Rodent Control
    - Horticultural Pest and Weed Control
    - Orchard Pest Control
    - Domestic Animal Pest Control
    - Fumigation Pest Control
    - Agricultural Pest and Weed Control
    - Aquatic Weed Control
    - Right-of-Way Weed Control
  - For example, if your license expires April 11, 2020, you will receive a revised license with an expiration date of April 11, 2021.
- Commercial certification (persons who use or supervise the use of a restricted use pesticides that cannot charge a fee or advertise for performing applications) will be extended for 1 year.
- New Licensed and Commercial applicators will be reviewed and tested on a case-by-case basis.

Private Applicators:

- For all private applicators (persons who use or supervise the use of pesticide which is classified for restricted use for purposes of producing any agricultural commodity on their own or leased property) whose certification expires in 2020, MDAC will extend their certification period for 1 year.
- Training for new private applicator certification will be handled by Mississippi State University Extension Service (MSU-ES) through your local county extension office. MSU-ES county extension offices can be found on the following website: http://extension.msstate.edu/about-extension/county-extension-offices

These measures will remain in effect until further notice. Please direct any questions to the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce – Bureau of Plant Industry by calling (662) 325-3390.