

# 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.

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## 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.

