

Pesticide Certification Regulation Changes in Virginia

The following significant amendments to the Certification Regulation, 2 VAC 20-51, were published as Final in the October 13, 2008 *Virginia Register of Regulations Volume 25, Issue 3*:

- Clarifying that a *certified commercial applicator supervising an applicator training to become a registered technician (“direct on-site supervision”)* **must actually be watching the application of pesticides by the trainee**
- Requiring that *once a person is hired or transferred into a position involving commercial pesticide use*, **all required training and testing would have to be completed within 90 days of such hiring or transfer***
- Requiring additional documented training for Registered Technicians who move from one pesticide application field to another (ex. A technician moves from a pest control company to a lawn care company.)
- **Deleting the option of commercial applicators being able to proctor the Registered Technician exam**
- Requiring **all** commercial applicators and registered technicians to keep records of **all** pesticides applied on the job.

*Added between the “Proposed” and “Final” stages:

If the trainee fails the RT exam the first time, he must reapply and retake the exam within 30 days after the first attempt at testing. If the trainee does not take or does not pass the exam the second time as required, he cannot apply pesticides on the job (even with supervision) until he does.

To see the final amendments in the Virginia Register, go to

<http://legis.state.va.us/codecomm/register/vol25/iss03/f2v2051.html>

Detailed information on these changes and other minor changes is available on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall, www.townhall.state.va.us, Board: Pesticide Control Board.

Effective date for these amendments is December 1, 2008. On that date the revised regulations should be available on the Office of Pesticide Services website, <http://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pesticides/laws.shtml>. The Office of Pesticide Services is developing an enforcement implementation schedule for these changes and will continue to communicate them to the affected parties through mailings, presentations at meetings and the website.

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