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Questions and Issues Related to Categories in IDAPA 02.03.03

- Applicator Core Competency (CO) category takes the place of the old law and safety license category. It is required for all professional applicator license categories and is a pre-requisite for the Commercial Apprentice (CA). This category requires general knowledge of pesticides including proper use and disposal, product characteristics, first aid, labeling and laws. Applicators that have a current license that required the Law and Safety (LS) category will not be impacted by this category change.
- General Pest (GP) control is primarily an urban, residential and commercial business pest control category that applies to structures and adjacent areas for pest insects and rodents excluding application of termiticide pesticide product (See Structural Pest (SP) category). Applicators with the GP category may control rodents in and adjacent to buildings according to label direction, but cannot perform rodent control operations in field or non-agricultural locations not adjacent to buildings¹. The GP category does not allow for applications of non-soil fumigation pesticide products for the control of burrowing rodents (see AF). The GP category may perform insect barrier applications to the external areas of a building or structure and the area immediately adjacent to the building or structure.
- Ornamental Insecticide (OI) is specific to ground and surface applications in urban, residential and commercial properties and cannot make applications to buildings or structures. The OI category may apply insecticides to control mosquitos or other nuisance flying insects harboring in turfs and/or ornamental foliage. The OI category is specific to applications to ornamental plants and turf and not to buildings or structures. Insect barrier applications to structures is does not apply to this category (see GP).
- Ornamental Herbicide (OH) may apply soil active, selective herbicides in turfs, shrub beds, flower beds and around trees, but cannot perform soil active, residual Total Vegetative Control (TVC or bare ground) applications.
- The proposed Aerial Applicator (AA) category is a federally mandated applicator category and allows the applicator to apply any applicable pesticide with aircrafts. Additional categories for specific types of pesticides are not required.
- Soil Fumigation (SF) category is a federally mandated applicator category and allows the applicator to apply all soil fumigation pesticide products to control soil pathogens, insects and weeds. SF does not apply to applications of burrowing rodent control fumigation products; those applications require the Area/Space Fumigation (AF) category.
- The proposed Area/Space Fumigation (AF) category is a federally mandated applicator category that allows the applicator to apply all non-soil fumigation pesticide products including those fumigation pesticide products that control burrowing rodents. The AF category will applying to persons making metam-sodium applications for sewer line root control.
- Rodent Control (RC) category will become a non-fumigation pesticide category for using pesticide to control rodents in agricultural and outdoor non-agricultural areas. Persons wanting to control rodents using registered fumigation pesticides will need to obtain the AF category.
- Structural Pest (SP) category is specific for the application of termiticides and other pesticide to control wood destroying insects to structures and adjacent areas, excluding products specific to wood treatment for preservation.
- Aquatic Weed and Pest (AP) control category is for the use of pesticides to control weeds and pest fish for all public waterways, or waterways that may outlet to a public waterway (i.e. canals, ditches, ponds). This

category may also apply herbicides to immediately adjacent terrestrial areas (banks, easements, accesses) to control weeds. The application of metam-sodium sewer line root control products formerly certified in this category is now moved to the AF category.

- Commodity Pest (CP) category will become a non-fumigation pesticide category for controlling pests of stored commodities. Persons wanting to control of stored commodities with fumigation pesticides will need the AF category.
- The proposed Commercial Apprentice (CA) category allows persons (applicator apprentices) to apply only General Use Pesticides (GUP) in situations applicable to the AI, AH, OH, OI and GP categories under the Limited Supervision of a pesticide applicator with a valid Idaho pesticide applicator license specific to the supervised application. ***Passing the CO category is necessary to obtain this category.*** Because core applicator competencies of pesticide and applicator safety, environmental stewardship, general pesticide knowledge, and pesticide regulation are required to pass the CO category and the applicator with this category will be only applying GUPs under the supervision of an Idaho licensed pesticide applicator, the potential risks to the public and the environment are minimal. This category is only renewable (allowed to recertify) once and only if the original CA license has an initial valid period of less than thirteen (13) months. All CA license holders that have a valid license period of thirteen (13) to twenty-four (24) months are not allowed to recertify their CA license and must obtain an appropriate professional license category in order to continue applying pesticides as a professional applicator.

ⁱ “Adjacent to structure or building” normally is construed as 50 feet or less, but will depend upon the label instructions if the pesticide label has a limit to where the product may be applied away from the building.