

## HEADQUARTER AND EMPLOYEE SAFETY INSPECTION

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Each year Biologists from the Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner's Office conduct inspections at grower facilities. The frequency of these inspections for each facility is dependent on whether the grower has employees that handle pesticides and/or has fieldworkers. Growers who have employees handling pesticides are inspected on an increased frequency. Primarily, the purpose of these inspections is to conduct a records audit. Records are required to be kept for the current year plus two years (i.e. for 2008 a grower should also have records available for 2007 and 2006).

Some of the items we look for during our inspections include: current copies of your Restricted Materials Permit or Operator Identification number, copies of monthly pesticide use reports, training records for employees handling pesticides, and completion of the Pesticide Safety Information Series A8 and A9 and the A5 (respirator training) if applicable.

Other items inspected are the pesticide storage area and where Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is stored. The pesticide storage area needs to be locked, and if a grower is storing products

which have the signal word Warning or Danger on the label, the storage area is also required to be posted. Pesticide storage signs are available at chemical dealers and some safety equipment retailers. Your PPE is required to be stored separately from your pesticides.

If you have questions regarding what we look for during our inspections, or you need clarification on a specific requirement, please call our office. A Biologist can also answer questions which may be confusing to you during the inspection. Usually when your facility is due for a Headquarters Inspection, a biologist from our office will call to set an appointment.



## PEST CONTROL MANAGEMENT UPDATE CLASS

In the spring and fall of each year our office has sponsored a pest management class at the Santa Rosa Junior College (Ag. 170). Several speakers are chosen to give presentations on a wide variety of pest related topics. This class provides an excellent opportunity for growers, pest control operators, pest control advisors, and maintenance gardeners to obtain continuing education hours for their licenses or certificates. Thursday, February 21, from 6:00 pm to 9:25 pm and Friday, February 22, from 8:00 am to 4:25 pm are the dates/times of

the class for the spring 2008 semester. This class usually qualifies for ten (10) hours of California Department of Pesticide Regulation continuing education hours.

You must register for the class through the Santa Rosa Junior College by telephoning (707) 527-4011 or on-line at: [www.santarosa.edu](http://www.santarosa.edu).

If you have questions about the class, please call Pete Albers at the Agricultural Commissioner's Office (707) 565-2371.

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## 2007 CERTIFIED APPLICATOR WORKSHOP

Our department held the 11th Annual Certified Applicator Workshop at the Santa Rosa Veteran's Memorial Building on December 6, 2007. Approximately 370 people attended the workshop. The workshop provided certified private and commercial applicators with two (2) hours of continuing education credit.

Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer, Lisa Correia, gave a year-end review of 2007. Biologist Alex McVicker presented an update on laws and regulations including the new respirator regulations. Biologist Dan Curtin discussed Vine Mealybug. Biologist Paul Turano gave an update on the Light Brown Apple Moth. Deputy Agricultural Commissioner Joseph Gray discussed how to handle paperwork blues. Gail Davis gave an update on the Vineyard Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance and the proposed grading ordinance. Senior Biologist Priscilla Lane gave an update on Glassy-winged Sharpshooter.

The Powerpoint presentations given at the workshop and questions/answers from each presentation are posted on our website. They can be viewed at: [www.sonoma-county.org/agcomm/grower\\_workshop.htm](http://www.sonoma-county.org/agcomm/grower_workshop.htm)

### SRJC CONTINUING EDUCATION

AGRI 170 -  
PEST CONTROL  
MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Course Fee:

\$10

Course Description:

Primarily for updating those persons with a pest control license. Involves pest management lectures by experts in entomology, plant pathology & related subjects. Provides continuing education hours to meet requirements for renewal.

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# CERTIFIED PRODUCER'S CERTIFICATE RENEWAL



If you are planning on selling at a certified farmer's market in 2008, you must renew your Certified Producer's Certificate (CPC) prior to selling at the market.

If you have no changes on your CPC or updated agreements to provide us, simply phone our office at (707) 565-2371 to renew for 2008. Otherwise, you will need to do the following:

If you are a certified producer with a partnership or new lease agreement, you must provide us with the original notarized partnership or written lease agreement. If you have already submitted these agreements, there is no need to resubmit unless there are changes to the agreements or the agreements have expired. If there are any changes to either agreement, an original notarized agreement with the changes, must be submitted.

1. Please carefully review your 2007 certificate and make any necessary changes, additions, or deletions on the copy of your 2007 CPC. If you are growing a commodity on more than one production site, each site along with the commodity, amount grown, harvest season,

and estimated production must be listed on a separate line on your CPC.

2. After reviewing and amending the copy of your 2007 CPC; mail, fax, or bring it to our office along with any required agreements.

Certificates will not be issued without the proper notarized agreements. Please allow two to three weeks for processing your CPC. After we receive your renewal request, we will phone you when your new certificate is ready to be issued. The person whose name is on the CPC must come in to our office to complete a questionnaire, sign the CPC, and pay a fee of \$55 (please note this is an increase in the fee from last year).

You may sell products for other certified producers if written authority from said other certified producer to sell on their behalf is provided to our office. A certified producer can only sell for two other producers in a 12-month period. If you have authorized other CPC holders to sell for you, you must list them on your CPC.

