EPA Certification & Training
Proposed Changes

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New C & T Regulations

• August 5, 2015 EPA issued a proposal to revise the Certification of Pesticide Applicators rule.
• Comments will be accepted until November 23, 2015.
• The 279 page proposal can be found at www.regulations.gov docket number EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0183
Overall…

• Increased standards for those applying RUPs and for noncertified applicators
  – Training, age, CEUs, and supervision requirements

• Pennsylvania will not be greatly affected, many of the new regulations are already in effect via the PA Pesticide Regulations
Overall... Protect applicators & avoid mistakes
Commercial/Private Applicator Competency

• Private applicator exam must be:
  – Written
  – Without a “non-reader” option (22 states currently have a non-reader option)
  – Cover more comprehensive topics, similar to Core topics.
Commercial/Private Applicator Competency

• Establish categories for aerial, soil fumigation, and non-soil fumigation
  – Currently do not have private aerial applicator category in regulation
Commercial/Private Applicator Competency

• Establish categories for livestock protection products: Compound 1080 and M-44 devices
  – Currently have a livestock protection exam
  – USDA employees only
  – Currently no active applicators
Exam and Training Requirements

• Present identification for initial exam and recertification courses

• All exams be closed book and proctored
  – Current PA: In the process of closing all exams
    • Category 11 and 22 – Closed
    • Category 6, 7, and 9 – Closed by end of year
Noncertified Applicator Standards for Annual Training for use of RUPs

- Establishes more comprehensive training for noncertified applicators, similar to WPS handler training.
  - Currently have specific training outlined in regulations for pesticide technicians
- Must be trained by certified applicator, or a state designated trainer.
  - Certified applicator for at least one year
Supervisors of Noncertified Applicators

- Certified in category they supervise
- Ensure the noncertified applicator received his/her training
- Provide product labels to applicator *
- Ensure means of immediate communications *
- Maintain records of training
Age Requirement for Certified and Noncertified Applicators

• Must be at least 18 years old to be certified as private or commercial applicator
• Must be at least 18 years old for noncertified applicators applying RUPs

– Current PA law:
  • Private Applicators – 16 yrs
  • Pesticide Technicians – 16 yrs
  • Commercial Applicators – 18 yrs
Certification Period & Recertification

• 3 year recertification cycle
• Must earn half of credits in the last half of the licensing period
  – No current PA regulations, would be a nightmare to track
• 1 credit equals 50 minutes
  – Current PA: 1 credit equals 30 minutes
• Commercial Applicators must earn 6 Core credits and 6 credits per category
  – Current PA: 6 Core & 4-10 Category Credits
• Private Applicators must earn 6 Core credits and 3 category
  – Current PA: 6 Core & 6 Category
Revise State Plans

• Adopt proposed standards for noncertified applicator training or prohibit the use of RUPs by noncertified applicators working under direct supervision of certified applicators
Overall...

• Some regulation changes possible
• Increase possibilities of reciprocity agreements
  – State will have more unified regulations
• Once final rule is published we will have 4 years
to fully implement changes
• www.regulations.gov docket number EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0183
Third Party Testing... is moving along

• RFP out very soon
• Vendor selected by end of the year
• Exams already closed book:
  – 11: Household & Health Related Pests
  – 22: Interior Plantscapes
• Exams to close October:
  – 7: Lawn and Turf
  – 9: Aquatic Pest Control
• Exams to close by 2016:
  – 6: Ornamental and Shade Tree