

**Exam Knowledge Expectations for  
Qualified Applicator Certificate & Qualified Applicator License  
J – Demonstration and Research Category**

Use these knowledge expectations (KEs) to help study the suggested material,  
*Demonstration and Research Uses of Pesticides* (2003 Edition)

Knowing the information from all of the KEs should prepare you for taking the exam.

### **Chapter 1 Laws and Regulations**

- A. List some research uses of pesticides.
- B. Explain how research on genetically modified crops is treated in California.
- C. Describe the purpose of the California Research Authorization program.
- D. Describe the situations in which
  - a. you must obtain a California Research Authorization
  - b. you would be exempt from obtaining a California Research Authorization
- E. Distinguish between pesticide uses that are and are not in conflict with the label.
- F. List the steps necessary to complete a California Research Authorization.
- G. Describe the regulations that apply to the experimental unregistered use of pesticides.
- H. List the acreage limitations under a California Research Authorization.
- I. Describe the requirement to destroy crops treated with certain experimental pesticides and list the methods used to destroy a variety of crops.
- J. Explain when residue testing might be necessary when conducting experiments.
- K. List the types of notification you must provide to the local county agricultural commissioner when working under an approved California Research Authorization.
- L. Explain the requirements to fill out and submit Experimental Trial Reports and Experimental Pesticide Use Reports.
- M. Describe the posting requirements when using pesticides in various research situations.
- N. List the protective clothing required when using experimental compounds whose toxicity has not been fully evaluated.
- O. Explain the safety precautions to take when handling experimental pesticides.
- P. List the situations in which you are exempt from obtaining a restricted-use permit.
- Q. Describe the federal Experimental Use Permit (EUP).
- R. Explain the requirement to obtain a federal EUP, and the restrictions that apply to the experimental use of pesticides under an EUP.

### **Chapter 2 Research Experiments and Demonstrations**

- A. Define the two demonstration types and the situations that are best suited to each type.
- B. Describe the goal of research experiments.
- C. List the steps necessary to conduct a research experiment.
- D. Explain how to design an experiment to test a hypothesis objectively.
- E. Define terms and concepts that are fundamental to successfully setting up, conducting, and analyzing research experiments.

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- F. Describe the two main sources of experimental error.
- G. List some of the characteristics that can vary among experimental units that are receiving treatment.
- H. Explain how to avoid and prevent errors in experimental designs and while conducting experiments.
- I. Explain how blocking helps increase an experiment's validity.
- J. Describe procedures that help ensure treatment effects are measured in an unbiased way.
- K. Explain why check or control plots are important when conducting field research.
- L. Explain why replication is important when conducting research experiments.
- M. Explain why randomization is important when conducting research experiments.
- N. List the types of experimental designs typically used in field experiments.
- O. Describe the factors that influence a researcher's choice of experimental design.
- P. Explain how to collect data from a research experiment.
- Q. Describe various sampling procedures used to collect data.
- R. Describe Federal Insecticide Fungicide Rodenticide Act's (FIFRA) Good Laboratory Practice provisions.
- S. Define key terms related to the Good Laboratory Practice standards.

### **Chapter 3 Making Teaching Effective**

- A. Explain the importance of understanding the target audience.
- B. Describe the learning preferences of adults.
- C. List and describe the steps necessary to build effective curriculum for adult learners.
- D. Define performance objectives and explain what they should do.
- E. Describe how to create effective handouts.
- F. List methods for keeping your knowledge of pesticide application methods, safety, and appropriate uses up to date.
- G. Explain how to create a good teaching environment.
- H. List various teaching methods and explain the advantages and disadvantages of each.
- I. Explain how to incorporate hands-on activities and role-play into a demonstration.
- J. Explain how visual aids can help make a demonstration more effective.
- K. Describe methods used to evaluate the effectiveness of a teaching program.

### **Chapter 4 Protecting People and the Environment**

- A. Explain why health and safety hazards must be considered before making a pesticide application.
- B. Describe how people get exposed to pesticides.

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- C. Describe the ways pesticides can enter the body.
- D. Describe common symptoms of pesticide exposure in people.
- E. List the symptoms of heat stress.
- F. Describe ways that pesticides can impact nontarget organisms.
- G. Explain how pesticides get into groundwater and surface water.
- H. Describe ways to reduce the impact of pesticides on the environment.
- I. Describe procedures, additives, formulation types, and conditions that help keep pesticides on target.
- J. Describe the things researchers must do to ensure pesticides are handled safely.
- K. List the steps necessary to measure and mix pesticides properly.
- L. Explain how to triple-rinse empty pesticide containers and how to dispose of them properly.
- M. Describe required steps to take to help protect fieldworkers from pesticide exposure.
- N. Identify the ways in which applicators can help protect the public from pesticide exposure.
- O. Describe the proper weather conditions for the safe application of pesticides.
- P. Explain how to dispose of excess materials properly and legally.
- Q. Explain why it is important to clean application equipment after use, and list proper sites for cleaning.
- R. List the steps to take to ensure proper personal hygiene after handling pesticides.
- S. Describe where to find information about first aid for a person involved in a pesticide incident and explain what to do if
  - a. you get pesticides on your clothing
  - b. you get pesticides in your eyes
  - c. you inhale pesticides
  - d. you swallow pesticides
- T. Describe how to respond to the misapplication of pesticides.
- U. Describe what to do when faced with a pesticide leak or spill.
- V. Describe what to do when faced with a pesticide fire.
- W. Describe the liabilities associated with pesticide applications.

### **Chapter 5 Application Equipment**

- A. List the types of application equipment and describe the advantages and limitations of each type.
- B. List the types of application equipment used to apply dust or granular pesticides, and describe the situations in which each should be used.
- C. Explain the importance of thoroughly checking all components of application equipment before operating the equipment.

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- D. Explain why accurate calibration is essential to safe, effective pest control.
- E. Describe how to calibrate liquid sprayers, and be able to calculate speed, gallons/minute (for low and high pressure sprayers), and nozzle output using formulas.
- F. Calculate the amount of pesticide active ingredient or product to apply to a known area.
- G. List the steps necessary to calibrate dust and granule application equipment.
- H. Make the calculations needed to create a pesticide mixture of a certain percentage of active ingredient.
- I. Explain how to mix pesticides on a parts-per-million basis.