

Upcoming meetings will be held for farmers looking to obtain or renew their Private Pesticide Applicators license. These meetings are free and open to the public and will also include Ag Updates from Extension Agriculture specialists.

Private applicator licenses are required for producers of agricultural commodities to purchase and apply restricted use pesticides. The license allows the holder to apply these pesticides on property owned or rented by them or their employer.

While the meetings are free, each farm is required to have a Pesticide Applicator manual to obtain their license. Manuals will be available for purchase at the meetings for \$12. If you are renewing your license, please bring your old manual with you so that you are not required to purchase a new one.

Meetings will be held in Gentry, Worth, Mercer, Caldwell, Harrison, Daviess and Dekalb counties beginning on January 27th and going through February 19th. They will be approximately two hours in length and will begin at either 8:30 am or 6:00 pm to accommodate the attendee's schedule. Contact your local University of Missouri Extension office to see when the training will be held in your county and to register. If your schedule does not allow you to attend the training in your county, you are encouraged to attend a training session in a nearby county.

Topics covered during the Pesticide Applicator training will include pesticide labels, pest identification and management, off-target movement of pesticides, personal safety, pesticide application equipment, and pesticide storage. Topics covered during the Ag Updates will include, Beef Quality Assurance and the Show-Me Select Heifer Replacement Program, Strategies to Reduce Input Costs without Reducing Yield, Grazing Warm-Season Grasses, Farm Labor, New and Invasive Pests, and Feeding Cattle to maintain body condition score. The Ag Update topics may vary based on specialist availability.

If you have questions about these trainings or would like to know when sessions are offered, contact your local MU Extension office or call me, Andy Luke at (660) 425-6434.