

University of Florida  
St. Lucie County Extension  
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Contact: Ken Gioeli, (772) 462-1660  
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PRESS RELEASE  
GENERAL CERTIFICATION STANDARDS TRAINING & TESTING FOR  
AGRICULTURAL PESTICIDE APPLICATORS

The University of Florida / St. Lucie County Cooperative Extension will be conducting two-hour training and two-hour testing programs entitled "General Core Training for Agricultural Pesticide Applicators." Course dates are February 6<sup>th</sup>, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, June 4<sup>h</sup>, October 1, and December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008. Courses begin at 8:30 a.m. They are designed to teach participants about the laws, rules and regulations of pesticide application as well as methods that will enable applicators to apply pesticides in a manner that is safe for people and the environment. Upon completion of the training, Ken Gioeli, Extension Agent/Natural Resources, will be administering the first of two licensing exams. The cost of registration is \$10.

Pesticide applicators who purchase or use pesticides classified as restricted-use by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency must demonstrate that they meet certification standards established by the Agency under authority of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) as Amended. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services mandates applicator licensing requirements under Chapter 487. These mandates state that applicators must pass written examinations to be licensed. Applicators must re-certify either by re-examination or by attending pesticide education programs to acquire continuing education credits. The St. Lucie County Natural Resources Agent, often in conjunction with other agents, provided education training courses and licensing examination opportunities for local restricted-use pesticide applicators.

For more information about the General Certification Standards course, please call Ken Gioeli at University of Florida / St. Lucie County Cooperative Extension at (772) 462-1660.

**When:** February 6<sup>th</sup>, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, June 4<sup>h</sup>, October 1, and December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008  
**Time:** 8:30 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. (training)  
**Where:** St Lucie County Extension, 8400 Picos Road, Ste 101, Ft Pierce  
**Registration:** (772) 462-1660

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**Individuals with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations no later than one week prior to the course.**