

## Private Applicator Fumigation Endorsement Program



Under state requirements, which become effective March 1, 2001, Minnesota farmers seeking to apply fumigants to their on-farm stored grain need to obtain a Private Applicator Fumigation Endorsement for their Private Pesticide Applicator Certification. Fumigant retailers will need to have proof of private applicator fumigation endorsement (on the private applicator certification card) of the person applying the fumigant before allowing physical transfer of fumigants to the purchaser. The private applicator fumigation endorsement program is much like the private pesticide applicator certification program with a few differences.

To obtain a private applicator fumigant endorsement requires:

1. Being a currently certified private applicator
2. Passing a closed-book and monitored exam completed at a local county extension office
3. Paying the \$35.00 private applicator fumigation endorsement fee.

The University of Minnesota Extension Service recommends using properly constructed grain storage structures and good stored grain management practices to reduce the need to fumigate stored grain. For more information see the web site:

<http://www.bae.umn.edu/extens/postharvest>

Farmers needing to fumigate their stored grain are encouraged to hire a licensed commercial pesticide applicator certified in Category N: Stored Grain and Fumigation or a licensed Structural Pest Control Operator who is also licensed as a Fumigator.

The private applicator fumigation endorsement expires at the same time as a person's private pesticide applicator certification - no matter if the endorsement was obtained in the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd year of certification. When someone's private pesticide applicator's certification expires they will need to first recertify as a private pesticide applicator in the regular way, and then retake the private

fumigation endorsement exam to again have the fumigation endorsement on their private pesticide applicator certification.

## Private Applicator Fumigation Endorsement Manual

A private applicator fumigation endorsement training manual is available for private applicators who want to prepare for the private fumigation endorsement exam. Each chapter in the manual begins with a list of learning objectives to guide farmers to topics emphasized in the exam. The manual is available on the internet for download. Anyone can download the manual from the Pesticide Safety & Environmental Education web site:

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/pesticides>

The manual is in the easy to use PDF file format. Once downloaded, PDF files are can printed off a computer or can be read on a computer monitor. Private pesticide applicators without internet access or who do not wish to download the manual themselves should contact their local county extension office. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture provided funding for a person to work with the extension service to write the manual. It is greatly appreciated.

## Private Applicator Fumigation Endorsement Test

The private applicator fumigation endorsement exam must be completed at a local county extension office. It is a closed book monitored exam with true/false and multiple choice questions. Exam questions are based on the manual and emphasize legal requirements, label directions, and safety practices. Someone wanting to take the private fumigation endorsement exam should bring to his or her local county extension office:

- A photo ID
- Payment for \$35.00 fee (checks made out to the University of Minnesota)
- Current private pesticide applicator certification card or unexpired private applicator certification temporary permit letter.

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture's on-line private applicator certification database can also be checked for verifying certification status:

<http://www.mda.state.mn.us/lis/default.htm>

Expect at least two weeks to receive a private applicator fumigation endorsement temporary permit in the mail and a little longer to receive the Minnesota Department of Agriculture re-issued private applicator certification permanent card with the fumigation endorsement.

Persons who failed to pass the exam will be notified. A person may makeup to 3 attempts in one calendar year to pass the exam. North Dakota, Wisconsin and Iowa have long required an additional closed book monitored exam for currently certified private applicators to apply fumigants to on-farm stored grain.

### For More Information:

1) Go to in the Pesticide Safety & Environmental Education:

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/pesticides>

2) About fumigation testing or the manual contact:

Dean Herzfeld  
University of Minnesota Extension Service  
St. Paul, MN  
Tel: 612/624-3477  
Email: deanh@umn.edu

3) About private applicator fumigation endorsement requirements contact:

Pesticide Fertilizer Management Division  
Licensing and Certification Unit  
Minnesota Department of Agriculture  
Tel: 651/201-6615

4) Checking the certification and fumigation endorsement status of a Minnesota private pesticide applicators see the Minnesota Department of Agriculture web site:

<http://www.mda.state.mn.us/lis/default.htm>