Legislation new for 2011

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) is advising continuing education (CE) sponsors about the impact of recent legislation.

Assembly Bill 2122, which went into effect in January 2011, amended Section 11502.5 of the Food and Agricultural Code. The bill established minimum course requirements related to pesticides and pest management. It also requires DPR to act to approve or reject CE courses within 15 business days of receipt of an application.

As long as applicants are able to clearly present in their application how their courses emphasize pesticides and pest management, DPR will carry out the new requirements by approving courses that include plant health, organic and sustainable practices, water and air monitoring, residue mitigation, maximum residue levels, quarantine practices, and the on-farm storage of fumigants.

Additionally, within 15 business days of receiving a CE course application, DPR will act to either approve or deny it, according to the relevance of the course to pesticides and/or pest management. If deficiencies in the application require that DPR ask the provider for more information before acting on the request, the 15 working days will begin again when complete information is resubmitted to and received by DPR.

The full text of AB 2122 can be found at: http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/09-10/bill/asm/ab_2101-2150/ab_2122_bill_20100927_chaptered.pdf.

CE sponsors should still submit their applications as early as possible so that there is enough time to resolve any questions about the application and course agenda prior to the requested presentation date. DPR will make every effort to approve a CE course before the course date, but note that CE applications can not be approved after the course date has passed. Therefore, it is in the sponsors’ best interest to submit as early as possible. For more information or if you have questions about DPR's CE Program, please contact Laurie Brajkovich at lbrajkovich@cdpr.ca.gov.