

QUALIFIED APPLICATOR CERTIFICATE PEST CONTROL CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

This document provides general information to help applicators identify the most appropriate category for the type of pest control they will be performing or supervising. Contact the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) with questions.

Residential, Industrial and Institutional (Category A)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of restricted and general use pesticides, substances, methods, or devices to control pests in:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Residential areas and around households and immediate environments;• Industrial establishments, such as, packinghouses, food manufacturing and processing plants, warehouse, grain elevators and factories;• Stored or post-harvest commodity fumigations at facilities or on trucks, vans, or rail cars;• Mining and chemical processes;• Institutions, such as, schools, hospitals, libraries, auditoriums, and office buildings;• Landscaping of walkways, parking lots, and other areas adjacent to these buildings;• Non-landscaped outside areas, such as, storage yards, tank farms, or electrical substations that are directly related to the operation of buildings or facilities;• Treatment of cooling towers and evaporative condensers;• Sanitizing institutional potable lines, dairy milk lines, and other similar areas; and• Bird control on structures, when birds are damaging ornamental and turf plantings adjacent to structure.
This category does not cover the use of pesticides for landscape maintenance, nor does it include structural pest control for hire. Structural pest control involves the control of pests, which may invade households or other structures. A business that is involved in structural pest control for hire is licensed by the Structural Pest Control Board. For more information, contact the Structural Pest Control Board, www.pestboard.ca.gov ; or call (916) 561-8704.	

Landscape Maintenance (Category B)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of restricted and general use pesticides, substances, methods, or devices to control pests in:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natural or planted ornamental and turf landscaped areas and other outside areas around buildings;• Residential yards (including home gardens and orchards), recreation areas, schoolyards, vacant lots, storage yards, greenbelts, golf courses, cemeteries, parks, landscaped street medians, sidewalk areas and walkways, and parking lots directly related to landscaped areas;• Landscaped areas in enclosed shopping malls and indoor plants.
This category does not include direct application to running or standing water.	

Right-of-Way (Category C)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of restricted and general use pesticides, substances, methods, or devices to control pests in:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintenance of roads, highways, power lines, telephone lines, pipelines, canals, railroads or other similar sites;• Landscaped right-of-way areas.
This category does not include direct application to running or standing water.	

Plant Agriculture (Category D)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of restricted and general use pesticides, substances, methods, or devices to control pests in:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Production of food, feed, fiber, or ornamental crops;• Grasslands and non-crop agricultural areas;• Rice and similar crops grown in wet or flooded fields.
This category does not cover applications to running or standing water or field fumigation applications.	

Forest (Category E)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of restricted and general use pesticides, substances, methods, or devices to control pests in:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forest, forest nurseries, and forest seed-producing areas• Site preparation for tree planting, conifer release brush control projects, and stump treatment in forestry management.
This category does not include direct applications to running or standing water.	

Aquatic (Category F)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of restricted and general use pesticides, substances, methods, or devices to control pests in or on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standing or running water.
This category does not include the use of restricted use pesticides for health related, regulated pests, demonstration and research, sewer line root pest control purposes or applications to rice and similar crops grown in wet or flooded fields.	

Regulatory (Category G)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of restricted and general use pesticides, substances, methods, or devices to control pests in:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Official government programs for the control of regulated pests, such as CDFA quarantine programs for Mediterranean fruit fly, Asian citrus psyllid, etc.

Seed Treatment (Category H)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of restricted and general use pesticides, substances, methods, or devices to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protect seed for planting.

Animal Agriculture (Category I)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of restricted and general use pesticides, substances, methods, or devices to control pests on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animals and the facilities in which the animals are confined.

Demonstration and Research (Category J)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of restricted and general use pesticides, substances, methods, or devices when:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrating proper application techniques to others if conducting approved field research. • Pesticide Research Authorization form has been submitted and approved by DPR. See website for form http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/registration/regforms/ra/ramenu.htm.
This category is not required of applicators that demonstrate proper techniques, provided they hold all specific categories covering the type of pest control being performed.	

Health Related (Category K)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of restricted and general use pesticides, substances, methods, or devices to control pests in:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official programs for the management and control of pests having medical and public health importance, such as official government mosquito abatement programs.

Wood Preservation (Subcategory L)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of restricted and general use pesticides, substances, methods, or devices to control pests in:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wood damage; • Wood preservation application within the scope of Residential, Industrial and Institutional, and Right-of-Way pest control categories.

Antifouling Paints or Coatings Containing Tributyltin (Subcategory M)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antifouling paints or coatings containing tributyltin to control the growth of aquatic organisms on aluminum vessel hulls, commercial or recreational vessel hulls 82 feet or more in length, and/or on outboard motors and lower drive units.

Sewer Line Root Control (Subcategory N)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of restricted and general use pesticides, substances, methods, or devices to control:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roots in sewer lines.

Field Fumigation (Subcategory O)	
This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of restricted and general use fumigants to control pests in:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field soil only.
This category does not include fumigation of potting soil, soil in greenhouses, or tree/vine hole sites. It also does not include the use of fumigants for rodent and gopher control in fields.	

Microbial Pest Control (Subcategory P)

This category allows you to conduct microbial pest control when engaged in activities, which include:

- Sulfur dioxide fumigant to treat corks and wooden barrels used in wine production;
- Disinfect potable water systems;
- Industrial cooling towers and evaporative condensers.

Maintenance Gardener (Subcategory Q)

This category allows you to apply or supervise the application of general use* pesticides, substances, methods, or devices that is incidental to your commercial maintenance gardening activities in:

- Outdoor ornamental and garden areas surrounding public structures, such as buildings, brick walls, fountains, fences, statues;
- Outdoor ornamental and garden areas surrounding commercial parks, such as, offices, restaurants, warehouses, factories, stores, shopping centers, malls.
- Parks, golf courses, cemeteries, but only on ornamental or turf plantings near buildings (clubhouses, pro shops, restrooms) that are distinct and separate from the plantings that constitute open space landscaping in a park, golf course or cemetery itself.

***General Use versus Restricted Use Pesticides:**

Pesticides are classified into two groups, general use and restricted use. General use pesticides are available for purchase by anyone, provided they are applied according to label instructions on the individual's own property or with permission of the property owner. Restricted use pesticides are available only to certified applicators. Restricted use includes any materials that are hazardous to public health, farm workers, domestic animals, the environment, wildlife, or crops other than those being treated (CFR Title 40, Part 152.160-175).

A maintenance gardening business that engages in pest control for hire, incidental to their gardening business, must also obtain a Maintenance Gardener Pest Control Business License. See the Maintenance Gardener Pest Control Business License Packet for more information at:

http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/app_packets/mgardener.pdf.

This category does not include direct application to running or standing water.