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Gov. Gavin Newsom
Governor

Yana Garcia
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Environmental Protection

Agricultural Pest Control Advisory

Committee Meeting Summary

September 10, 2025

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Members Present (8): **Ronald Berg** – Pesticide Dealers, **Rick Miller** – Commercial License and Certificate Holders, **Dan Gudgel** – Pest Control Aircraft Pilots, **Jhalendra Rijal** – University of California, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, **Stephen Scheer** – California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association, **Jill LeVake** – Pesticide Registrants, **Margaret Ellis** – Board of Trustees of the California State University System, **Matt Scally** – Pest Control Maintenance Gardeners

Department of Pesticide Regulations (DPR) Enforcement, Licensing and Certification Staff (5): **Joshua Ogawa** – Branch Chief, **Alicia Scott** – Environmental Program Manager I, **Kenneth King** – Associate Governmental Program Analyst, **Sondra Gomez** – Associate Governmental Program Analyst, **Julia Baggett** – Staff Services Analyst

Guest (5): **Joan Orr** – Office Technician (Typing), **Terry Gage** – California Agricultural Aircraft Association, **Ruthann Anderson** – California Association of Pest Control Advisers, **Savannah Gosselin** – Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP, **Maryana Schmidt** – Pesticide Applicators Professional Association, **Harjapan Rai** – Associate Industrial Hygienist

Members Absent (4): **John Erisey** – Agricultural Pest Control Advisers, **Phil Mullins** – Agricultural Pest Control Businesses, **Timothy Smith** – Board of Governors of the California Community College System, **Jeanette Heinrichs** – General Public

I. Welcome – Alicia Scott, DPR Licensing and Certification

II. Administrative Topics – Alicia Scott, DPR Licensing and Certification

- a. Member and audience introductions
- b. If there are any comments to the June meeting notes, please let us know. If there are no corrections, they will be posted to the website.

III. DPR Updates – Joshua Ogawa, DPR Enforcement Headquarters

- a. DPR's Anticoagulant Rodenticide Mitigation Workshop will be held on 9/24/25 over Zoom from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM
 - i. You may join the workshop using this link: [09/24/2025 – DPR Anticoagulant Rodenticide Mitigation Informal Public Workshop - Department of Pesticide Regulation](#).
 - ii. The workshop will cover the following:
 - 1. Proposed mitigations for anticoagulant rodenticides
 - 2. DPR's ongoing reevaluation of rodenticides
 - 3. DPR's mitigation and reevaluation timeline

- b. The 2023 DPR Annual Pesticide Use report is available on the DPR website.
 - i. Please see DPR's page [Department of Pesticide Regulation Releases Annual Pesticide Use Report - Department of Pesticide Regulation](#) for information about the report.
 - 1. You may find the report's summary data at DPR's page [Pesticide Use Reporting - 2023 Summary Data - Department of Pesticide Regulation](#).
 - ii. The report illustrates 2023 trends in pesticide usage and application.
 - iii. The 2023 report uses the same data and interface as previous reports.
 - iv. DPR uses the Annual Pesticide Usage report data to see the trends in pesticide use and impacts of pesticide regulations.

- c. Online licensing update
 - i. DPR is on stage 2 of the online payment and licensing process.

- d. First committee meeting occurred for implementing AB 1016
 - i. The committee is meeting to create the requirements and knowledge expectations for an accredited unmanned pest control aircraft pilot's certificate program for private applicators.
 - ii. There is no required date for AB 1016 implementation.

IV. 2025 M-Z Licensing Renewal Information – Sondra Gomez, Licensing and Certification Program

- a. Dates for 2025 DPR licensing renewals
 - i. Renewal packets were mailed out in August.
 - ii. Please submit your renewal applications by October 1 to receive your renewed license/certificate by December 31.

- iii. Renewal application processing time may take up to 60 days. Renewal applications received after November 1 may take more than 60 days.
- b. Why is it important to renew early?
- i. Mailing your renewal application by October 1 provides time to address potential issues that may delay your renewal.
 - ii. Submitting your renewal by October 1 ensures you receive your license in time to register with the county prior to the New Year.
 - iii. Submitting your renewal early helps you avoid late renewal fees or retesting.
- c. Most common renewal issues
- i. Missing/incomplete:
 - 1. Renewal form
 - 2. Signature
 - 3. CE Record Renewal Summary form (LIC-141, page 2)
 - ii. Incorrect fee amount
 - iii. Missing/incorrect information on payment form
 - iv. Missing updated medical certificate (for manned pilots)
 - v. Missing proof of financial responsibility (for businesses)
 - vi. Invalid qualified person (for businesses)
- d. Address or name changes
- i. Always notify DPR immediately of any address or name change.
 - ii. Address and name changes must be done in writing.
 - 1. Emailing DPR is the fastest way to update your contact information.
 - 2. For name changes, mail in the [Address and/or Name Change/Replacement Card Form](#) (DPR-PML-002) with your name change documents.
 - iii. Notify DPR of any changes as soon as possible to ensure you receive your personalized renewal packet and renewed license card.
- e. Continuing Education (CE)
- i. CE must be completed during your valid license period.
 - 1. Be sure to check your issue date. Your valid period for CE credit begins when you were last issued and ends on your expiration date.

- ii. Submit your CE hours using the DPR CE Record Renewal Summary form (LIC-141, page 2). The CE Record Renewal Summary form is in your renewal packet.
 - iii. Regulations require license and certificate holders keep their CE records for three years. DPR may request copies of your CE course completion certificates.
- f. CE course options
- i. DPR recommends using DPR's website to check for available CE courses.
 - 1. There are many free courses available.
 - 2. Available courses are updated on the website monthly.
 - 3. Be sure to check the links for interactive online and non-English courses. These links are below the links for in-person and webinar/virtual courses.
- g. Tool to track your CE hours
- i. CE hours reported to DPR by course sponsors are now included on the [Lists of DPR Licensees](#).
 - 1. The hours associated with your license/certificate number are listed in the columns to the right side of the spreadsheet.
 - ii. The [Lists of DPR Licensees](#) CE totals do not replace the requirement for including the CE Record Renewal Summary form (LIC-141, page 2) with your renewal packet.
- h. DPR CE hours report
- i. You may email LicenseMail@cdpr.ca.gov with your full name and license number to request a detailed report of the CE course information and hours associated with your license.
 - ii. CE hours reports are public information/records.
 - 1. DPR will provide detailed CE course information to the email address that requests the course report.
- i. CE Summary Form
- i. Per 2024 regulations, license/certificate holders must submit a CE Record Renewal Summary form (LIC-141, page 2) with their renewal packet.
 - ii. Only the DPR approved CE summary form will be accepted.
 - iii. Only DPR approved CE courses can be used for your license or certificate renewal.

1. Ensure the DPR course code is provided on your course certificate. The DPR course code format is DPR-XXXX-XX.
 - a. Submitting non-DPR course codes will delay application processing.

- j. Three ways to submit your CE for renewal
 - i. Option 1: All required hours listed
 1. If the [Lists of DPR Licensees](#) displays the full hours required for your renewal, write “all hours verified” on the CE Record Renewal Summary form (LIC-141, page 2) and submit it with your renewal packet.
 2. You do not need to fill out the CE Record Renewal Summary form in detail.
 - ii. Option 2: Partial hours listed
 1. If some, but not all, of your required hours are shown on the valid license list, please complete the following:
 - a. Email LicenseMail@cdpr.ca.gov to request a detailed report of the CE courses DPR has associated with your license/certificate number.
 - b. Self-report any missing courses with all the course details using the CE Record Renewal Summary form (LIC-141, page 2). Submit the CE summary form with your renewal application.
 - iii. Option 3: No hours listed
 1. If the [Lists of DPR Licensees](#) shows zero hours or if options 1 and 2 are not a fit for you, please fill out the CE Record Renewal Summary form (LIC-141, page 2) completely.
 - a. Include all the course details of the DPR-approved courses you completed on the CE summary form. Submit the form with your renewal packet.

- k. How to fill out the CE Record Renewal Summary form (LIC-141, page 2)
 - i. When filling out the CE summary form, ensure that every field is filled out completely. Include the following information for each course:
 1. DPR course code (format DPR-XXXX-XX)
 2. Course title
 3. Course date
 4. Course location
 5. Course sponsor name
 6. CE hours earned

l. Course completion certificates

- i. DPR-approved course completion certificates must include the following:
 - 1. License/certificate holder's name
 - 2. License/certificate number and type
 - 3. DPR course code
 - 4. Course title
 - 5. Course date
 - 6. Course location (city or online/webinar)
 - 7. Course sponsor name
 - 8. Course hours earned for each CE category

m. General Information about CE

- i. It is the responsibility of the license or certificate holder to keep a record of their hours and provide them to DPR at the time of their renewal.
- ii. 2025 renewal audits
 - 1. When and how will audits be conducted for 2025 renewals?
 - a. Licensing staff audit every renewal by comparing what license/certificates submit on their CE summary form with the course attendance records reported to DPR.
 - b. Licensing staff will conduct random audits by requesting license/certificate holders to send DPR their course completion certificates.
- iii. Check DPR's website to confirm which courses are approved for CE credit. License and certificate holders may only receive CE credit from DPR-approved CE courses.
- iv. Stakeholders may check if a sponsor submitted attendance records on the DPR website.
 - 1. The course pdfs on the [Approved and Pending Continuing Education Classes](#) now include a column on the right that indicates the CE record submission status.
- v. CE course submission requirements
 - 1. Course sponsors are required to submit the course attendance records within 15 days of the course's completion.
 - 2. Sponsors must submit in-person and webinar course applications 30 days before the course date.
 - 3. Sponsors must submit interactive online course applications 60 days before the course begins.

n. Avoid Retesting

- i. Ensure all required CE hours are completed during your valid license period.

1. If you do not complete your CE requirement during your valid license period, you will be required to retest in Laws and Regulations and every category you operate in.
 2. If you submit your application early and DPR finds that you have not fulfilled your CE requirement, you may still have time to complete your CE before your expiration date.
- ii. DPR encourages you to include your email address with your renewal application so that we may contact you quickly regarding any renewal issues.
 - iii. Excess CE hours may not be transferred to your next renewal period.
- o. Sponsor records submissions
- i. DPR's database now checks the submitted first name and license number to ensure the correct licensee receives CE credit.
 - ii. When you submit attendance records, check to see if you receive a validation or rejection email.
 - iii. The CE hour totals on the [Lists of DPR Licensees](#) are updated nightly.
 1. Attendees may not see their CE hours updated on the Valid License List if the attendance record is not fully validated.
 - iv. License/certificate holders receive CE credit as long as they have a course completion certificate.
- p. General information about business license renewals
- i. DPR can only renew a business license if the qualified person (QP) has renewed.
 - ii. DPR recommends sending the business renewal and the QP renewal at the same time.
 - iii. You can register with the counties where you operate after DPR renews your license.
 - iv. You cannot operate without a current license and county registration.
 - v. DPR recommends businesses renew early to avoid late fees.
- q. How to check renewal status
- i. Check if your payment is processed
 1. If your payment is processed, DPR has received your renewal application.
 2. If it has been over 60 days since your payment processed and your license/certificate has not been renewed, please email LicenseMail@cdpr.ca.gov and check your email and mail for a renewal problem letter.

- ii. The DPR Website will provide updates on which renewals are being processed starting in October.
 - 1. DPR will send a GovDelivery to notify stakeholders when the renewal processing updates are available.
- iii. Check the [Lists of DPR Licensees](#) to see if your license has been renewed.
 - 1. The valid license list is updated nightly.
 - 2. After you are renewed, your card will be mailed to the address on file.

- r. Best way to get information quickly
 - i. Sign up for GovDelivery notifications on DPR's page [Apply for a License - Department of Pesticide Regulation](#). DPR sends many important information and updates regarding Licensing and CE by GovDelivery.
 - ii. Include your email address with all correspondence so DPR may quickly reach you for any renewal issues.

- s. Online licensing for renewal applications
 - i. DPR is on stage 2 of the online payment and licensing process.
 - ii. Anticipated timeline for online licensing
 - 1. DPR expects to finish stage 2 by spring of 2026.
 - 2. DPR hopes to offer online licensing by 2028.
 - iii. DPR is still determining if mailed applications will be accepted once online licensing is available.
 - iv. DPR is still determining how online licensing accounts will function for individuals and businesses.

V. DPR Licensing and Certification Renewal Update – Kenneth King, Licensing and Certification Program

- a. New licenses since June 1, 2025
 - i. QAL – 191
 - ii. QAC – 171
 - iii. DDA – 39
 - iv. PCA – 33
 - v. APC – 18 (4 manned, 14 unmanned)
 - vi. JPC – 3 (all unmanned)
 - vii. VCT – 3

- b. Renewal challenges

- i. Increase in the number of emails and phone calls
 - ii. The mail delivery time may be longer
 - iii. Higher volume of renewals received near the end of the year
- c. Top 6 renewal issues
 - i. Renewal form missing
 - ii. Renewal form not signed
 - iii. Missing CE records
 - iv. Incorrect payment amount
 - v. Proof of financial responsibility missing (for businesses)
 - vi. Qualified person (QP) not renewed (for businesses)
- d. Total number of licenses over the last 5 years
 - i. The total number of licenses decreased in 2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - 1. The total number of licenses has been climbing since 2021.
 - ii. There is stakeholder interest in annual statistics on the number of new licenses and dropped licenses.
- e. Renewal receipts
 - i. DPR recommends license/certificate holders make receipt requests by email.
 - 1. Please email LicenseMail@cdpr.ca.gov to request a copy of your receipt.
 - ii. License and certificate holders may also request a receipt by making a note on their renewal application.
 - 1. Please write your receipt request note on the front page of your application.
 - 2. Do not write a receipt request note on the [Licensee Visa and Mastercard Transaction Form](#).
 - a. The accounting department keeps this form. Licensing staff do not receive the credit card form.
- f. Application intake process
 - i. Applications and payments first go to CalEPA building to be processed by DPR's accounting department.
 - 1. The accounting department only processes payments. They do not determine if there are any issues with application or payment amount.

2. The accounting department has limits on the number of payments they may process each day.
- ii. Once accounting finishes processing the payments, the applications are sent to the licensing team.
 1. The licensing staff match the applications and payments, then begin processing the applications.
- iii. The application intake timeline may vary throughout the year depending on the volume of applications received.
- iv. Renewal applications must be post-marked by December 31 to avoid a late fee.
- v. DPR encourages license/certificate holders to submit their renewal applications by October to ensure they are renewed by January 1.

g. Refunds

- i. The renewal packet states that all fees are non-transferable and non-refundable.
- ii. DPR submits refunds to the State Controller's Office.
 1. Processing refunds may take up to 6-9 months.
 - a. Licensing does not have updates on when refunds will be processed.
- iii. DPR recommends license/certificate holders use caution when sending in duplicate payments/applications.

VI. Heat Illness and Personal Protective Equipment – Chemical-Resistant Suits –Harjapan Rai, DPR Worker Health and Safety Branch

a. Regulation background

- i. In the late 1980's, Title 3 CCR Section 6738.1 (g) was developed as a stop-gap measure to ensure employees wore chemical resistant suits when required.
- ii. Currently, Title 3, CCR section 6738.1 (g) requires employers to ensure that employees wear a full-body chemical-resistant suit that covers the torso, head, arms, and legs when a full-body chemical-resistant suit is required.
- iii. Prior to the formal promulgation of heat illness regulations by DIR's Cal/OSHA, subsection 6738.1 (g)(1) was added to address potential thermal load from wearing non-breathable chemical-resistant clothing.

b. Problem identified

- i. The section as written requires all chemical-resistant suits to have headwear incorporated.

1. However, not all pesticide product labels or restricted material permit conditions that require chemical-resistant suits require chemical-resistant headwear.
- ii. Since pesticide product labeling and permit conditions separately address when chemical-resistant headgear is required, existing section 6738.1 unnecessarily increases an employee's risk of heat illness.
- iii. Title 3, CCR Section 6738.1 (g)(1) is obsolete with DIR's adoption of heat illness regulations.
 1. Cal/OSHA has jurisdiction over workplace hazards, such as heat illness.

c. Proposed changes

- i. Remove the head-covering requirement when it is not required by pesticide label or required for heat dangers.
- ii. Delete section 6738.1 (g)(1) to avoid repeating Cal/OSHA's regulations
 1. Deleting this section will improve regulation clarity
- iii. Regulations will still ensure workplace safety.

d. Impacts/exemptions

- i. DPR does not anticipate any intentional or unintentional impacts from the proposed changes.
- ii. Employers are required to provide Heat Illness training to employees under Title 3, CCR sections 6724 (b) (15) and 6762 (b) (11).
- iii. Title 8, CCR section 3395 (b) alludes to enclosed cab exemption
 1. Individuals may sit in enclosed areas and if air-conditioning is provided and running.
- iv. Engineering controls covered under Title 3, CCR section 6738.4 (c)
- v. PPE exemption under Title 3, CCR section 6738.4 (c)

e. Contact information provided questions/concerns

- i. Please contact the Worker Health and Safety branch at whsfielddops@cdpr.ca.gov
- ii. You may contact Harjapan Rai at harjapan.rai@cdpr.ca.gov

f. Proposed regulation changes will be posted for public comments on Friday 9/12/25.

VII. Discussion - Next Meeting Agenda

a. Next meeting discussion requests

- i. Update on SprayDays California
 - ii. Legislation and regulation updates that may impact DPR
- b. The next APCAC meeting will take place at DPR's Bradshaw Regional Office on December 10, 2025, at 10:00 AM.