
Field Crop Pest Management

**A Guide for Commercial Applicators
Category 1A**

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INTRODUCTION

How to Use This Manual

This manual contains the information needed to become a certified commercial applicator in Category 1A, Field Crops. This manual is intended for use in combination with the *Pesticide Applicator Core Training Manual* (Extension bulletin E-2195), available through the Michigan State University Bulletin Office. However, this manual would also be useful to anyone interested in learning more about field crop pest management.

Category 1A, Field Crops, covers the management and control of common pests in alfalfa, corn, dry beans, soybeans, small grains, and sugarbeets. The manual presents basic scientific information on pest life cycles and emphasizes protecting non-target organisms and preventing the development of resistance in pests.

The Category 1A certification exam is based on information found in this booklet. Each chapter begins with a set of learning objectives that help you focus on what you should understand from each chapter. The table of contents helps you identify important topics and understand how they relate to one another through the organization of headings and subheadings. As you prepare for the

exam, read each chapter and answer the review questions. These questions are not on the certification exam. They are provided to help you prepare for the exam. Questions on the exam will pertain directly to the learning objectives.

The appendices and glossary, including an answer key (Appendix A), at the end of this manual provide supplemental information that will help you understand the topics covered in the chapters. Terms throughout the manual text that are bold and italicized can also be found in the glossary.

This certification manual benefits the applicator and the general public. By learning how to handle pesticides correctly, applicators can protect themselves, others, and the environment from pesticide misuse. For more specific information on how to become a certified applicator in Michigan, refer to the beginning of the core manual (E-2195) or the Michigan Department of Agriculture's Web site, <<http://www.mda.state.mi.us>>, or call the MDA at 1-800-292-3939.