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PCD Biocides November Newsletter

Welcome to the November 2023 Newsletter from the PCD (Pesticide Control Division, DAFM) Biocides Team.

In this newsletter PCD would like to inform interested stakeholders about the following upcoming issues that are relevant to the Pest Control industry:

- 1. Requirement to maintain CPE
- 2. Warning and Suspension letters due by end of November
- 3. Requirements to re-register if suspended
- 4. Training courses available
- 5. Inspections of PMU records

1. Requirement to maintain CPE

Pest Management Trained Professional Users (PMU's) are required to maintain CPE to be maintained on the PMU register which can be found at the following link <u>PRCD - Pest</u> <u>Management Trained Professional Users (PMUs) Register (agriculture.gov.ie)</u>. Due to Covid, the CPE requirements for years 2020 and 2021 were combined. All PMU's should be registered and fully compliant with the CPE requirements of one of the following CPE Schemes:

- IASIS,
- BASIS Prompt,
- BPCA.

You should now have received an update on your 2022 CPE from your registered scheme provider and be aware of your credit status for 2022. <u>If you are short credits for 2022, those credits must be made up in 2023 along with the full 2023 credit requirements.</u> If you have any questions on what is required, please contact your CPE provider.

2. Warning and Suspension letters due by end of November

The CPE credits were submitted to PCD by all three CPE scheme providers. We are currently reviewing this data. Letters/emails will be issued to PMU's by the end of November in the following instances:

- If you were not compliant in the years 2020-2021 and 2022 you will receive a PMU suspension letter. Your PMU registration will be suspended with immediate effect. Therefore, you cannot operate as a PMU without fully meeting the requirements to re-register.
- If you were compliant in the years 2020/2021 and not in 2022, <u>you will receive a</u> <u>warning letter</u>. You must complete the additional CPE to remain on the PMU register after 2023.

If you are fully compliant, you will not receive any letter/email from PCD.

3. Requirements to re-register as a PMU.

If your registration as a PMU is suspended, you must comply with the "new" requirements. An Ofqual Level 3 or equivalent qualification is required. If you don't have a level 3 qualification, you must complete the Lantra Level 3 in Pest management. Course providers can be contacted at this <u>link</u>.

- If you have an Ofqual level 3 or equivalent qualification, <u>you must complete double</u> <u>credits</u> to be reinstated on the PMU register.
- Double credits are not required for those completing the Lantra Level 3 to reregister.

4. Training courses available

The course providers offering Lantra Level 3 have been contacted and are aware that there are a number of PMU's about to be suspended from the register due to non-compliance with CPE requirements. Some of the course providers have stated that they will run the Lantra level 3 course this year if there is sufficient demand. Some providers have the capacity to run a number of courses if necessary.

PCD have requested details from the providers of courses. Information is included below for those that responded at the time of publication:

IASIS

The CPE workshop Group are holding the following 3 CPE workshops for PMUs online on Friday 15th December:

9.30am - Managing Non-Toxic Monitoring Methods – 20 CPE Credits
11.45am – New Developments in ILT/EFK Technologies – 15 CPE Credits
2.00pm – Urban Wildlife – 20 CPE Credits
To book a place on these workshops please email: cpeworkshop@independentbiologist.ie
CPE workshop may also be available in November if there is a demand for the workshops.

<u>Pest NI</u>

LANTRA Level 3 Award in Pest Management classroom will run Date. 12th-15th December 2023

Venue: Tallaght Business Centre, Unit 19, Whitestown Rd, Whitestown, Dublin 24, D24 TD42.

CPE one day course on Domestic Pests. Date. 29th November. Venue. Pillo Hotel Ashbourne

Course. Registration at this link **Domestic Insects CPE | pestni**

5. Inspections of PMU records

A number of PMU's will be selected for inspection of their records. Records will be checked to ensure the products are used as per label instructions and the use is adequately recorded. Please keep an eye on your email (email address provided at registration) for requests which will be sent shortly. We can discuss with you how best to review your records depending on if they are paper/electronic and you will receive a period of time to provide access to all your records for specific years.

The Biocides Team.