

Weekly Ag Report
Cheryl Lauritsen, Ag Commissioner's Office
January 24, 2018

Good Morning and Happy New Year! This is Cheryl Lauritsen from the Lassen County Agriculture Commissioner's Office. I hope that all of our radio listeners had a great holiday season and that you are ready for the New Year. Speaking of the New Year, it is time to renew your restricted materials spray permit or your operator id number. The best way to do this is to make an appointment with our office. When you come for your appointment, be sure to bring your current permit, any site changes that you will be making, a list of pesticides you currently have in possession and those you plan to purchase, and last, but not least, any use reports that you may not have already turned in to our office. Either permit can be obtained free of charge as long as all of the requirements are met at renewal time. At your appointment, we will go over all of your information and, if everything is in order, renew your permit.

Just a reminder, your permit is only good for one year and your Private Applicator Certificate, otherwise known as your brown card, is generally good for 2 years. If your brown card has expired, be sure to bring any continuing education records with you. You need 6 hours of continuing education every two years, and these hours must be completed before the brown card expires. Continuing ed hours can be gotten by attending an agriculture meeting that offers CE hours or by doing a course on line. For more information about the online courses, please contact our office.

In the event that you did not acquire continuing education hours prior to the expiration of your brown card, you will have to take a written exam. Study material may be found on the California Department of Pesticide Regulation website and the exam will take about an hour.

The Lassen County Agriculture Commissioner's Office will be holding their continuing education course on March 7th & 8th in the Agriculture Department at the Lassen Community College. We are currently working on the details, but this course will offer continuing education hours as well as provide valuable and useful information. Some of the topics to be covered are: turf and ornamental operations, be aware of bees when spraying, efficiency with spray equipment, integrated insect management and an update of DPR laws and regulations. The McArthur Farm Supply Winter Ag meeting will be Thursday March 1st at the McArthur fairgrounds and also offers continuing education hours.

If you have any questions concerning pesticide use or would like to make an appointment, our office phone number is 530-251-8110. In the event that no one answers, please leave a message on the machine. Thank you and enjoy this lovely winter weather.