

SELF STUDY REFERENCE MATERIALS FOR INSECT, RODENT, PLANT DISEASE AND WEED CONTROL EXAMS

ALL CATEGORIES

COMMERCIAL CERTIFICATION

Individuals who are not currently commercially certified in any state must pass the general standards certification examination before a license and/or permit can be issued. The general standards certification study manual is available for a fee from:

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REGULATIONS GOVERNING COMMERCIAL INSECT, RODENT, PLANT DISEASE AND WEED CONTROL WORK

Chapter 11 of the Regulation of Professional Services, Subchapter 01. Available online at: <http://www.mdac.ms.gov/bureaus-departments/plant-industry/>. (Go to Bureau of Plant Industry/Regulation of Professional Services and click tab that states Regulations) or enter: <http://www.mdac.ms.gov/wp-content/uploads/11-Regulation-of-Professional-Services.pdf>.

MISSISSIPPI COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE PUBLICATIONS (Additional Study Material)

Subject to current availability. Mississippi State University Extension Service publications can be accessed online by going to www.extension.msstate.edu, clicking on “Publications” and searching for the title of the publication you are interested in. Note that although some of these publications are for homeowners, rather than commercial situations, they can still be very useful for learning the life cycle, habits, and damage caused by specific pests and for learning which pests are most important in each of these commodity areas. Do not contact Bureau for extension service publications.

P1322 Establish and Manage Your Home Lawn
P1858 Insect Control of Commercial Turf
P1861 Greenhouse Tomatoes: Pest Management in MS
P1874 Forest Herbicide Safety: Environmental Concerns & Proper Handling
P1962 Pesticides – Benefits and Risks
P2036 Organic Vegetable IPM Guide
P2086 Management of Sports Fields in Mississippi
P2154 Spiders: Brown Recluse & Black Widow
P2331 Control of Insect Pests in and Around the Home Lawn
P2336 The Southern House Mosquito and Related Species
P2347 Insect Pests of the Home Vegetable Garden
P2369 Insect Pests of Ornamental Plants in the Home Landscape
P2407 Control of Argentine Ants and Odorous House Ants in the Home
P2429 Control Fire Ants in Your Yard
P2443 Control Household Insect Pests
P2471 Insect Control Guide for Agronomic Crops
P2472 Insect Pests of Roses
P2483 Integrated Pest Management in the Home Landscape
P2493 Control Fire Ants in Pastures, Hayfields and Barnyards
P2494 Control Fire Ants in Commercial Fruits, Nuts and Vegetables
P2530 Mosquitoes, West Nile, and Other Encephalitis Viruses: What You Can Do to Protect Yourself
P2568 Protect Your House from Termites
P2597 Control Fleas on Your Pet, in Your House, and in Your Yard
P2652 Insect Pests of Houseplants
P2699 Identification Guide to Adult Mosquitoes in Mississippi – no longer available as a .pdf, must contact local Extension office to request a bound copy.
P2717 Fall Armyworms in Pastures and Hayfields
P2765 What Homebuilders Need to Know About Termites
P2858 Disease and Insect Control for Homegrown Peaches and Plums
P2896 Signs and Symptoms of Emerald Ash Borer
P2938 Crape Myrtle Bark Scale Identification and Control

Extension web sites can also be an excellent source for information when preparing for specific exams. One useful way to study is to prepare a list of the pests that are important in the commodity area to which you are testing and use online web resources to learn about the biology, identification, habits, damage, and control methods for each pest. Focus primarily on information from Mississippi State University Extension Service and surrounding southeastern states. Some useful MSU-ES web sites for insect pest management areas are:

Termites

<http://extension.msstate.edu/termites>

Fire Ants

<http://extension.msstate.edu/insects/fire-ants>

Home Lawn Insects

<http://extension.msstate.edu/lawn-and-garden/insects-home-lawns>

Ornamental Plant Pests

<http://extension.msstate.edu/lawn-and-garden/insects-ornamental-plants>

Vegetable Garden Insects

<http://extension.msstate.edu/insects-vegetable-gardens>

Pests in the Home

<http://extension.msstate.edu/insects/household-insects>

Insect Pests of Hayfields and Pastures

<http://extension.msstate.edu/agriculture/forages/insects-forage-pests>

RECOMMENDATION: ALL INSECT, RODENT AND PLANT DISEASE CONTROL EXAMINATIONS

The Bureau of Plant Industry recommends, as preparation for exams, to be proficient in entomology, principles of pest control, insect identification, insect damage identification and if applicable plant disease identification. Numerous textbooks and websites are available and will aid in preparation for these exams. The Bureau encourages thorough training and study, before attempting these exams.

CATEGORY WDI (WOOD DESTROYING INSECT CONTROL), CATEGORY UPL (CONTROL OF INSECT PESTS OF UTILITY POLES) AND CATEGORY GRC (GENERAL PEST AND RODENT CONTROL)

* Truman's Scientific Guide to Pest Control Operations – by G. W. Bennett, J. M. Owens, and R. M. Corrigan. Book can be obtained from various online sources. (Useful for Category WDI and GRC exams)

* Category VII(A) – Structural Pest Control Certification Training Manual. Available from Mississippi State University, Box 9775, Mississippi State, MS 39762-9775; Phone 662-325-5829. (Useful for Category WDI and GRC exams)

* Training Manual for Registered Technicians – Available from Mississippi State University, Box 9775, Mississippi State, MS 39762-9775, Phone 662-325-5829 (Useful for Category WDI and GRC exams)

* The Mallis Handbook of Pest Control – by A. Mallis, D. Moreland, and S.A. Hedges. Book can be obtained from various online sources. Use the 9th ed. (Useful for Category WDI and GRC exams)

* Subterranean termites – their prevention and control in buildings. USDA, Forest Service. Available online at: <https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/26674> (Useful for Category WDI exam)

CATEGORY HCP (HORTICULTURAL PEST CONTROL)

* Category III Certification Study Manual. Obtained from Mississippi State University, Box 9775, Mississippi State, MS 39762-9775, Phone 662-325-5829.

* Handbook of Turfgrass Insect Pests. Entomological Society of America, P.O. Box 85080, Richmond, VA 23285-4690

- o <https://www.entsoc.org/Pubs/Books/Handbooks/turf>

* Cranshaw, Whitney. *Garden Insects of North America: The Ultimate Guide to Backyard Bugs*. Princeton University Press, 2004.

* Johnson, Warren T., and Howard H. Lyon. *Insects that Feed on Trees and Shrubs*. Comstock Publishing Associates, 1991.

* Vittum, Patricia J., et al. *Turfgrass Insects of the United States and Canada*. Comstock Publishing Associates, 1999.

* Fermanian, Thomas W., et al. *Controlling Turfgrass Pests*. Pearson, 2002.

* Tufts, Craig. Foreword. *National Wildlife Federation Field Guide to Insects and Spiders of North America*, by Arthur V. Evans, Sterling, 2007.

CATEGORY ORP (ORCHARD PEST CONTROL)

* Select from appropriate Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service Publications

- o http://extension.msstate.edu/sites/default/files/publications/publications/p0736_0.pdf
- o <http://extension.msstate.edu/sites/default/files/publications/publications/p2369.pdf>
- o <http://extension.msstate.edu/sites/default/files/newsletter/bugwise-newsletter/2009/bw0409.pdf>

* Southeastern Peach, Nectarine and Plum Pest Management and Culture Guide

- o https://secure.caes.uga.edu/extension/publications/files/pdf/B%201171_16.PDF

CATEGORY DAP (DOMESTIC ANIMAL PEST CONTROL)

* Category I(B) – Agricultural Animal Pest Control Certification Training Manual. Available from Mississippi State University, Box 9775, Mississippi State, MS 39762-9775, Phone 662-325-5829.

CATEGORY FUM (FUMIGATION PEST CONTROL)

* The Mallis Handbook of Pest Control – by A. Mallis, D. Moreland, and S.A. Hedges. Book can be obtained from various online sources.

* Category VIIB – Fumigation Pest Control Certification Training Manual. Available from Mississippi State University; Phone 662-325-5829.

* Labels for registered fumigants, safety data sheets and training manuals or safety information may be obtained from the registrants or online.

CATEGORY AGP (AGRICULTURAL PEST CONTROL)

* Category 1A – Agricultural Plant Pest Control Certification Training Manual. Available from Mississippi State University, Box 9775, Mississippi State, MS 39762-9775, Phone 662-325-5829.

* 2025 Insect Control Guide for Agronomic Crops (P2471) on Mississippi State University Extension website <https://extension.msstate.edu/>.

CATEGORY MBF (MOSQUITO AND BITING FLY CONTROL)

* Truman's Scientific Guide to Pest Control Operations – by G. W. Bennett, J. M. Owens, and R. M. Corrigan. Book can be obtained from various online sources.

* Identification and Geographical Distribution of the Mosquitoes of North America, North of Mexico – by R. F. Darsie Jr. and R. A. Ward. Book can be obtained from various online sources.

* Select from appropriate Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service Publications

- o <http://extension.msstate.edu/sites/default/files/publications/publications/p2336.pdf>
- o http://extension.msstate.edu/sites/default/files/publications/publications/P2530_web.pdf

* Category VIII – Public Health Certification Training Manual. Available from Mississippi State University Extension; Phone 662-325-5829.

* The entire manual is not used for studying only the pertinent sections listed below will assist in review for exam.

- o Introduction – page 1
- o How Insects Affect Humans – pages 1-2
- o Mosquitoes – pages 39-62
- o Application Equipment – pages 63-85
- o Pesticides and Groundwater – pages 86-91

* Mississippi State Department of Health

- o www.msdh.state.ms.us

* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- o <https://www.cdc.gov>

RECOMMENDATION: ALL WEED CONTROL EXAMINATIONS

The Bureau of Plant Industry recommends, as preparation for exams, to be proficient in botany, principles of weed science and weed identification. Numerous textbooks and websites are available and will aid in preparation for these exams. The Bureau encourages thorough training and study, before attempting these exams.

CATEGORY AGW (AGRICULTURAL WEED CONTROL)

*Category I(A) – Agricultural Plant Pest Control Certification Training Manual. Available from Mississippi State University, Box 9775, Mississippi State, MS 39762-9775, Phone 662-325-5829.

*Weeds of the South. Edited by Charles T. Bryson and Michael S. DeFelice. Book can be obtained from various online sources.

CATEGORY AQW (AQUATIC WEED CONTROL)

* Weed Control Guidelines for Mississippi: Mississippi Agricultural & Forestry Experiment Station, MSU, MS. May be obtained from Extension Weed Scientist, P. O. Box 9555, Mississippi State, MS 39762, Phone 662-325-2311. Also available online at:

- o http://extension.msstate.edu/sites/default/files/publications/publications/P1532_web.pdf

*Category V – Aquatic Pest Control Certification Training Manual. Available from Mississippi State University, Box 9775, Mississippi State, MS 39762-9775, Phone 662-325-5829.

CATEGORY ROW (RIGHT-OF-WAY WEED CONTROL)

* Weed Control Guidelines for Mississippi: Mississippi Agricultural & Forestry Experiment Station, MSU, MS. May be obtained from Extension Weed Scientist, P. O. Box 9555, Mississippi State, MS 39762, Phone 662-325-2311. Also available online at:

- o http://extension.msstate.edu/sites/default/files/publications/publications/P1532_web.pdf
- o Refer to chapter titled “Woody Plants” for studying.

*Category VI – Right-of-Way Pest Control Certification Training Manual. Available from Mississippi State University, Box 9775, Mississippi State, MS 39762-9775, Phone 662-325-5829.

*Category II – Forest Pest Control Certification Training Manual. Available from Mississippi State University, Box 9775, Mississippi State, MS 39762-9775, Phone 662-325-5829.

*Weeds of Southern Turfgrasses (Golf Courses-Lawns-Roadsides-Recreational Areas-Commercial Sod). Co-authored by various Cooperative Extension Services. Book can be obtained from various online sources.

*Forest Plants of the Southeast and Their Wildlife Uses – by James H. Miller and Karl V. Miller. Book can be obtained from various online sources.

*Weeds of the South. Edited by Charles T. Bryson and Michael S. DeFelice. Book can be obtained from various online sources.

CATEGORY HCW (HORTICULTURAL WEED CONTROL)

* Weed Control Guidelines for Mississippi: Mississippi Agricultural & Forestry Experiment Station, MSU, MS. May be obtained from Extension Weed Scientist, P. O. Box 9555, Mississippi State, MS 39762, Phone 662-325-2311.

Also available online at:

- o http://extension.msstate.edu/sites/default/files/publications/publications/P1532_web.pdf
- o Refer to chapter titled “Turf” for studying.

*Category III – Ornamental Pest Control Certification Training Manual. Available from Mississippi State University, Box 9775, Mississippi State, MS 39762-9775, Phone 662-325-5829.

*Category VII (3) – Industrial Weed Control Certification Training Manual. Available from Mississippi State University, Box 9775, Mississippi State, MS 39762-9775, Phone 662-325-5829.

*Weeds of Southern Turfgrasses (Golf Courses-Lawns-Roadsides-Recreational Areas-Commercial Sod). Co-authored by various Cooperative Extension Services. Book can be obtained from various online sources.

*Forest Plants of the Southeast and Their Wildlife Uses – by James H. Miller and Karl V. Miller. Book can be obtained from various online sources.

*Weeds of the South. Edited by Charles T. Bryson and Michael S. DeFelice. Book can be obtained from various online sources.

*Color Atlas of Turfgrass Weeds, A Guide to Weed Identification and Control Strategies by L.B. McCarty, J.W. Everest, D.W. Hall, T.R. Murphy, and F. Yelverton. Book can be obtained from various online sources.