



## Restricted Agricultural Remedies and the Pest Control Operator Licence

Paula Bester and Paul Hardman  
Citrus Growers' Association (CGA)

This Cutting Edge seeks to clarify recent changes associated with the legal use of crop protection products, including by growers. These changes originate from Act No. 36 of 1947 and will impact citrus producers going forward. First, an explanation of the restricted agricultural remedies is provided, followed by the need for a pest control operator licence when these products are purchased or used.

### Restricted Agricultural Remedies

Restricted agricultural remedies were defined in regulations published in August 2023 under the Fertilizers, Farms Feeds, Agricultural Remedies, and Stock Remedies Act (No. 36 of 1947). Registration holders of all restricted agricultural products (based on their final formulation and not merely the active ingredient) had to submit labels and safety data sheets to the Registrar's Office by the end of October 2024 for restriction amendments. Restricted agricultural remedies will now have a restriction notice shown on the product labels and safety data sheets, and their sale and use are limited to persons with an appropriate licence or those supervised by someone with such a licence. Crop Life SA subsequently published a list of the restricted agricultural remedies in December 2024, based on the information provided by the registration holders.

The restricted agricultural remedies should not be confused with the substances of concern classified as a 1A or 1B Carcinogen, Mutagen, or Reproductive Toxin – which is a separate matter being dealt with by the Registrar's office.

### Pest Control Operator Licence

According to The Pest Control Operator Regulations of 18 February 2011, buyers and end-users of restricted agricultural remedies need a pest control operator (PCO) licence or be directly supervised by a registered PCO. However, because the affected agricultural remedies were

only recently restricted and communicated as such, this is a fairly new regulatory development.

Persons with a degree or diploma in agriculture can apply for a PCO license at the Registrar's Office. The indication from the Registrar is that these applications will be prioritised to prevent pest and disease outbreaks on farms, due to a lack of PCO licences. Stakeholders are encouraged to see Crop Life's communication for details on who requires a PCO licence and how to obtain such a licence.<sup>1</sup>

Persons without a degree or diploma in agriculture will need to complete a short course in the safe handling of restricted remedies at any of the recognized institutions (see Crop Life SA list)<sup>2</sup>. After completing the short course, they will require at least 6 months of practical experience in the use of restricted remedies under the supervision of a registered PCO. The practicality of this arrangement was raised as a concern due to the current lack of registered PCOs.

The PCO requirement was previously communicated at the Citrus Sustainability Forum of 4 October 2024. At the time, industry bodies could submit feedback to Crop Life SA and CGA/CRI supported the suggested phase-in period of the requirement, as well as fast-tracking licences for growers or end-users with the appropriate credentials. The Citrus Academy circulated a PCO Grower Survey shortly thereafter to determine how many citrus growers have a PCO licence or could immediately apply for one, having the necessary qualifications and experience.<sup>3</sup> The feedback, although limited, showed that the majority of the participants, or someone within their enterprise, could immediately apply for a PCO licence.

CGA/CRI conducted a risk assessment to determine which restricted agricultural products are registered for use on citrus or in citrus orchards and whether suitable alternative products that are not restricted exist. This assessment showed that some pre-harvest insecticides and herbicides will be affected (see Annex 1), and limited access to some of these products might be problematic. The restricted agricultural products are also now indicated as such on the Agri-Intel database.



Crop Life SA will host an online training session explaining how to apply for a PCO license on **4 February 2025 at 09:00**. Please see attachment No. 4 for the agenda and Microsoft Teams details to join.<sup>4</sup>

#### Footnotes

1: Restricted Use Agricultural Remedies – What does it mean for farm owners and agricultural workers?

*Released by CropLife South Africa: 24 January 2025*

2: Information regarding the registration of a pest control operator in accordance with Act No. 36 of 1947.

3: From the Desk of the CEO (43/24) of 25 October 2024.

4: Guidance on PCO Registration. Tuesday, 4 February 2025 at 09:00 – 11:00, online via MS Teams.



### **Beperkte landbou-chemiese produkte en die plaagbeheer-operateurlisensie**

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Hierdie Snykant beoog om duidelikheid te verskaf aan sitrusprodusente aangaande onlangse veranderinge rakende die wettige gebruik van sekere landbou-chemiese produkte. Hierdie veranderinge kom van Wet No. 36 van 1947 en sal 'n impak hê op sitrusprodusente. Eerstens word 'n verduideliking van die beperkings op landboumiddels gegee, gevolg deur die vereiste van 'n plaagbeheer-operateurlisensie wanneer hierdie produkte gekoop of gebruik word.

#### **Beperkte landbou-chemiese middels**

Beperkte landbou-chemiese middels word gedefinieer in 'n regulasie wat in Augustus 2023 gepubliseer was onder die Kunsmis, Plaasvoere, Landboumiddels en Veemiddels Wet (Nr. 36 van 1947). Registrasiehouers van alle beperkte landbou-chemiese produkte (gebaseer op die finale produkformulasie en nie nêr die aktiewe bestanddeel nie) moes etikette en dokumentasie oor veiligheidsdata teen die einde van Oktober 2024 by die Registrateur se kantoor indien vir aanpassings van etikette, om aan te dui dat die middels beperk is. Beperkte landbou-chemiese middels sal nou 'n beperkingskennisgewing op die produk-etiket en dokumentasie oor veiligheidsdata hê, en die verkoop en gebruik sal beperk wees tot persone met 'n lisensie of dié wat onder direkte toesig van 'n gelisensieerde persoon val. Crop Life SA het in Desember 2024 'n lys van die beperkte landbou-chemiese middels gepubliseer, gebaseer op die inligting wat deur die registrasiehouers verskaf is.

Die beperkte landbou-chemiese middels moet nie verwar word met kommerwekkende middels (die sogenaamde *substances of concern*) wat geklassifiseer word as 'n 1A of 1B Karsinogeen, Mutageen of Reproductiewe Toksien nie – wat 'n aparte saak is wat deur die Registrateur se kantoor hanteer word.

#### **Plaagbeheer-operateurlisensie**

Volgens die Plaagbeheer-operateurregulasie van 18 Februarie 2011 moet kopers en eindgebruikers van beperkte landbou-chemiese middels 'n plaagbeheer-operateurlisensie (*pest control operator* of te wel PCO-lisensie) hê, of direk onder toesig wees van 'n geregistreerde PCO. Omdat die betrokke landbou-chemiese middels egter eers onlangs as beperk geklassifiseer en gekommunikeer is, is hierdie 'n redelike nuwe regulatoriese ontwikkeling.

Persone met 'n graad of diploma in landbou kan by die Registrateur se kantoor aansoek doen vir 'n PCO-lisensie. Die Registrateur het aangedui dat hierdie aansoeke geprioritiseer sal word om plaagen siekte-uitbrake op plase te voorkom as gevolg van 'n tekort aan PCO-lisensies. Belanghebbendes word aangemoedig om Crop Life se kommunikasie te raadpleeg vir besonderhede oor wie 'n PCO-lisensie benodig en hoe om dit te bekom.<sup>1</sup>

Persone sonder 'n graad of diploma in landbou sal 'n kort kursus in die veilige hantering van beperkte landbou-chemiese middels by enige van die erkende instellings moet voltooi (sien Crop Life SAllys)<sup>2</sup>. Ná voltooiing van die kursus sal hulle ten minste ses maande praktiese ondervinding moet opdoen in die gebruik van beperkte middels, onder toesig van 'n geregistreerde PCO. Die praktiese uitvoerbaarheid van hierdie reëling is as 'n bekommernis aangedui weens die huidige tekort aan geregistreerde PCO's.

Die PCO-vereiste is reeds op 4 Oktober 2024 tydens die aanlyn Sitrus Volhoubaarheidsforum (*Citrus Sustainability Forum*) gekommunikeer. Op daardie stadium kon industrie-liggame terugvoer aan Crop Life SA indien, en CGA/CRI het die voorstel ondersteun om 'n infaseringstydperk vir die vereiste toe te laat, asook die versnelde uitreiking van lisensies vir produsente of eindgebruikers met die nodige kwalifikasies. Die Sitrus Akademie het kort daarna 'n PCO-produsente-opname uit gestuur om te bepaal hoeveel sitrusprodusente reeds 'n PCO-lisensie het of dadelik vir een kon aansoek doen op grond van hulle kwalifikasies en ervaring.<sup>3</sup> Die terugvoer, alhoewel beperk, het getoon dat die meerderheid deelnemers, of iemand binne hul onderneming, onmiddellik vir 'n PCO-lisensie kon aansoek doen.



CGA/CRI het 'n risiko-assessering gedoen om te bepaal watter beperkte landbou-chemiese produkte vir gebruik op sitrus of in sitrusboorde geregistreer is, en of daar geskikte alternatiewe produkte beskikbaar is wat nie beperk is nie. Hierdie assessering het getoon dat sommige van die voor-oes insekdoders en onkruidodders geraak sal word (sien Bylae 1), en beperkte toegang tot sommige van hierdie produkte moontlik problematies kan wees. Die beperkte landbou-chemiese produkte word nou ook so aangedui in die Agri-Intel-databasis.

Crop Life SA sal op **4 Februarie 2025 om 09:00** 'n aanlyn opleidingsessie aanbied om te verduidelik hoe om vir 'n PCO-lisensie aansoek te doen. Sien asseblief aanhegsel nr. 4 vir die agenda en Microsoft Teams-besonderhede om aan te sluit.<sup>4</sup>

#### Voetnotas

- 1: Restricted Use Agricultural Remedies – What does it mean for farm owners and agricultural workers? *Released by CropLife South Africa: 24 January 2025.*
- 2: Information regarding the registration of a pest control operator in accordance with Act No. 36 of 1947.
- 3: From the Desk of the CEO (43/24) of 25 October 2024.
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## Annex 1/ Bylae 1

Summary of the Restricted Agricultural Remedies Registered for Use on Citrus Trees or in Citrus Orchards.

DISCLAIMER: This list is based on information shared willingly with Crop Life SA by the registration holders and may not be an exhaustive list of all restricted agricultural remedies registered in South Africa on citrus trees or in citrus orchards. Stakeholders are encouraged to ask their agricultural chemistry supplier which products are now classified as restricted agricultural remedies. This list should be considered indicative only. Noticeably, all the formetanate, methamidaphos, mevinphos, prothiofos and 10 of the 12 methomyl products are now restricted.

Opsomming van die Beperkte Landboumiddels Geregistreer vir Gebruik op Sitrusbome of in Sitrusboorde.

VRYWARING: Hierdie lys is gebaseer op inligting wat vrywillig met Crop Life SA gedeel is deur die registrasiehouers en mag dalk nie 'n volledige lys van alle beperkte landboumiddels wees wat in Suid-Afrika op sitrusbome of in sitrusboorde geregistreer is nie. Belanghebbendes word aangemoedig om by hul landbouchemiese verskaffer navraag te doen oor watter produkte nou as beperkte landboumiddels geklassifiseer is. Hierdie lys moet slegs as 'n aanduiding beskou word. Opvallend is dat alle formetanate-, methamidaphos-, mevinphos-, en prothiofosprodukte, asook 10 van die 12 methomylprodukte, nou as beperkte landbouprodukte geklassifiseer is.

Active substance/ Aktiewe bestanddeel	Product trade name/Produknaam	Product registration number/ Produkregistrasienumer
Abamectin	FarmAg Abamectin 18 EC	L10439
Azinphos-methyl	Azinphos 200 SC	L5588
Cadusafos	Rugby 10G	L4110
Cadusafos	Soccer 100 EW	L9122
Chlorfenapyr	Hunter 24 SC	L8307
Dichlorvos	Devipan 100	L4669
Ethoprophos	Procap 15 GR	L9118
Fenamiphos	Atador	L7167
Fenamiphos	FarmAg Fenamiphos 400 EC	L10720
Fenamiphos	Fenamiphos 400 EC	L7647
Fenamiphos	Bonfire 400 EC	L7646
Fenamiphos	Nemacur 400 EC	L0367
Fenbutatin oxide	Mitador	L6953
Fenbutatin oxide	Roper 550 SC	L9049
Fenbutatin oxide	Crystal 550 SC	L9050
Fenpropathrin	Acathrin 200 EC	L7629
<b>Formetanate (carbamate)</b>	<b>Dicarzol 500</b>	<b>L8082</b>
<b>Methamidophos</b>	<b>Methastem 585 SL</b>	<b>L6639</b>
<b>Methamidophos</b>	<b>Bitrad Methamidophos</b>	<b>L7015</b>
Methidathion	Arythion 420 EC	L9388
Methidathion	Methidathion 420 EC	L7584
Methomyl	Methomex 900 SP	L5254
Methomyl	Methomex 200 SL	L5253
Methomyl	Mylomex 200 SL	L4367
Methomyl	Mylomex 900 SP	L4783
Methomyl	Spitfire 900 SP	L8197
Methomyl	FarmAg Methomyl 90 SP	L3436
Methomyl	Methomyl 200 SL	L7100
Methomyl	Masta 900 SP	L9449

**JOU HEFFING WERK VIR JOU – PRODUSENTE SE HEFFINGS WORD AANGEWEND OM DIE AKTIWITEITE VAN DIE CRI TE BEFONDS**



Methomyl	Methomyl 90 SP	L7189
Methomyl	Methomate 200 SL	L8123
<b>Mevinphos</b>	<b>Phosdrin 500 SL</b>	<b>L4995</b>
Omethoate	Folimat 800 SL	L2316
Paraquat	Agriquat 200 SL	L6297
Paraquat	Agroquat 200 SL	L4871
Paraquat	Chesa 200 SL	L11048
Paraquat	Paragone 200 SL	L4588
Paraquat	Sharda Paraquat 200 SL	L9432
Paraquat	Paraquat 200 SL	L2215
Parathion	Parathion 500 EC	L4297
<b>Prothiofos</b>	<b>Tokuthion 960 EC</b>	<b>L0924</b>
Terbufos	Terfos 15 G	L7582
Terbufos	Counter FC 15G	L5571
Terbufos	Terbufos 15 GR	L7186

## Restricted Use Agricultural Remedies – What does it mean for farm owners and agricultural workers?

*Released by CropLife South Africa: 24 January 2025*

The new regulations relating to agricultural remedies were published on 23 August 2023 under the Fertilizer, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act (Act No. 36 of 1947), which defined a new class of agricultural remedies referred to as restricted agricultural remedies. These remedies are agricultural remedies for which the Registrar has set out certain limitations on the sale and use of the products, as well as certain conditions for the labelling thereof.

It is important to note that restricted agricultural remedies are not the same as substances of concern, some of which are currently being phased out in South Africa. Restricted remedies and substances of concern both fall in the category of highly hazardous pesticides, however, the criteria for these two classes differ. The criteria for restricted agricultural remedies are mostly dependent on the remedy being regarded as acutely toxic. Substances of concern on the other hand are mostly regarded as toxic by chronic exposure, such as the potential of the substance to cause cancer, induce genetic mutations or interfere with reproduction or the unborn child over long-term exposure. These criteria, however, are not mutually exclusive and some remedies may fulfil the criteria for both classifications.

Although restricted agricultural remedies were only defined in the Regulations relating to agricultural remedies in 2023, the requirement for these remedies to be restricted to pest control operators (PCOs) has been included in the Pest Control Operator Regulations since 2011. These regulations stipulate that employees who handle restricted agricultural remedies specifically must be registered as PCOs or perform such duties under the direct supervision of a registered PCO. This means that a registered PCO must be physically present at the time and place where restricted agricultural remedies are applied.

In addition, these remedies may only be sold to a registered PCO, who, upon purchase will need to provide proof that they are sufficiently qualified and registered to administer the remedy. In both cases (sales and application), the PCO must be registered within the applicable field of registration related to the remedy being sold, for instance, if a remedy is sold for use in agriculture (excluding aerial application or fumigation which has their own fields of registration), the PCO must be registered in the field of agriculture and forestry.

If the designated person responsible for acquisition of agricultural remedies on a farm is not the person who is registered as a PCO and applying or overseeing the application of these restricted agricultural remedies, it is possible for a designated person who is not a PCO to purchase a restricted agricultural remedy on behalf of a registered PCO. In this case the PCO must accompany the representative to the supplier or distributor for the first purchase. They will have to provide a certified copy of the PCO registration certificate and a signed letter to the supplier or distributor giving consent to the designated person to purchase the restricted remedy on their behalf; said PCO certificate and consent letter must be kept on file by the supplier or distributor. Note however, that this sales restriction applies to the end-user of the product only, such as the farm owner or agricultural worker. In other words, if a supplier sells an agricultural remedy to a distributor or agent, who then sells the agricultural remedy to the end-user, the distributor or agent does not need to be registered as a PCO.

In addition, the regulations also stipulate that a restriction notice must appear on the label of the agricultural remedy to indicate the limitations on use. Registration holders of restricted use agricultural remedies had until 31 October 2024 to submit their revised labels to the Registrar for approval, meaning some of the products currently in circulation may not yet display the notice on the main panel, however, some of them could include an approved over-sticker with the necessary

notice as an interim measure until the new stock with the approved label is in circulation. These restrictions will also appear in Section 1 of the safety data sheet (SDS).

It is of paramount importance that all players in the value chain understand what their responsibilities are in terms of these products so that we can ensure compliance with all the necessary laws and regulations governing the industry.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Examples – When is a PCO registration required for restricted use agricultural remedies?

- A farm owner who buys restricted use remedies to apply on his/her farm? **Yes.**
- An agricultural worker who buys restricted use remedies on behalf of the farm owner to apply on the farm? **Yes.**
- A farm owner, agricultural worker or designated person who buys restricted use agricultural remedies on behalf of a PCO? **No, but the PCO will need to be appropriately registered and provide the necessary documentation to the supplier or distributor selling the restricted agricultural remedies.**
- A farm owner or agricultural worker who applies restricted use remedies? **Yes, unless the person operates under the direct supervision (i.e. physically present at the time of application) of an appropriately registered PCO.**
- A sales agent who buys restricted use remedies from a supplier to sell to a farm owner or representative? **No.**
- A farm owner or agricultural worker who buys or applies an agricultural remedy that is not classified as a restricted use remedy? **No.**
- The manufacturer of the remedy selling it to a distributor, farm owner or agricultural worker? **No, but whoever is selling to the end-user must ensure that the end-user is appropriately registered as a PCO or that they have the relevant documentation to purchase the remedy on behalf of the PCO.**

### Process for obtaining a PCO license

Pest control operators are also regulated under Act No. 36 of 1947, and a person must apply to the Registrar of Act No. 36 of 1947 of the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) to become registered as a PCO. The application forms are available on the DALRRD website. Pest control operators are registered for specialised areas of pest control and the following fields of registration are available:

- Fumigation
- Aerial application
- Agriculture and forestry
- Industrial vegetation and noxious weeds
- Landscape
- Supplemental and/or remedial wood treatment
- Structural
- Any other relevant specialisation

Each field necessitates specialised training and registration to ensure that the PCO has the appropriate knowledge and skills to safely and successfully apply the restricted remedy. As a result, a PCO who is registered to conduct fumigation may not administer structural pest control remedies unless obtaining additional structural pest control registration. Remedies that are registered for use in agriculture will require a PCO to be registered for the field of agriculture and forestry.

- The fees for applying for registration as a PCO are promulgated annually by DALRRD in the Government Gazette. Below are some of the key requirements and steps to obtain PCO registration:



- A person must do an accredited PCO course to obtain a national certificate in pest control from a relevant accredited academy in the field of his/her specialisation. Please note that such a certificate is not a PCO registration, it merely serves as proof to DALRRD that the applicant has been trained appropriately in a particular field of expertise.
- The person must then undergo practical and experiential training under a registered PCO for six to 12 months, depending on the relevant field of registration, after which the person must be assessed by an accredited assessor to ascertain whether the person is qualified to apply for PCO registration.
  - A person with a diploma or degree in a biological field such as entomology, pathology, crop protection, weed science, or any relevant qualification may be exempted from the requirement of practical experience depending on prior experience.
- The person must undergo a medical examination by a registered health care practitioner and must submit the template report completed by a qualified medical practitioner with their application.
- The person must submit the application for registration as a PCO to the Registrar of Act No. 36 of 1947 using the appropriate application forms including proof of accredited training, assessment or tertiary qualifications, health certificate and payment of the required application fees.

Following the approval of the PCO registration application, the PCO registration certificate will be valid for a period of three years. To retain the registration, the PCO must submit a renewal application before the validity term expires.

#### **DISCLAIMER**

This statement is based on CropLife SA's interpretation of promulgated acts, regulations and notices as received from the Registrar of Act No. 36 of 1947 and does not constitute a legal opinion. CropLife SA, its members and staff shall not be held liable for any damages, commercial or otherwise, to any parties as a result of their actions or interpretation of this statement.

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#### **ENDS**

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#### **Note to Editor:**

CropLife South Africa is a non-profit industry association that serves and represents responsible manufacturers, suppliers and distributors of sustainable crop protection and public health solutions in the agricultural, public health, non-crop and consumer sectors of South Africa. We enable our members to be providers of environmentally compatible solutions that ensure sustainable, safe and affordable food production, and therefore food security, in South Africa.

## **INFORMATION REGARDING THE REGISTRATION OF A PEST CONTROL OPERATOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACT NO. 36 OF 1947**

Pest control operators (PCO's) are regulated under Act No. 36 of 1947, and a person must apply to the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) to become registered. Pest control operators are certified in specialised areas of pest control. Each field necessitates specialised training and certification to ensure that the PCO has the appropriate knowledge and skills to safely and successfully apply the restricted remedy. As a result, a PCO certified to conduct fumigation may not administer structural pest control remedies unless obtaining additional structural pest control certification. Remedies that are registered for use in agriculture (with the exception of aerial application and fumigation), will require a PCO to be certified in the field of "agriculture and forestry".

Accompanying this letter is the documentation circulated by DALRRD that describes the process of registration of a PCO. Below are some of the key requirements:

- A person must do a course to obtain a national certificate in pest control from a relevant accredited academy.
- The person must obtain practical experience under a registered PCO for 6 to 12 months, depending on the relevant field of certification.
- A person with a diploma or degree in a biological field such as entomology, pathology, crop protection, weed science, or any relevant qualification may be exempted from the requirement of practical experience depending on prior experience.
- The person should undergo a medical examination and must submit the template report completed by a qualified medical practitioner with their application.

Following the approval of the PCO application, the certificate will be valid for a period of three years. To retain the certificate, the PCO must submit a renewal application before the validity term expires. It is essential that PCOs provide evidence that they are competent and actively working in the field in which they have obtained the certificate. To help the industry register PCOs, the following is a list of accredited academies that offer national certificate in pest control.

### **Pest Management Academy**

The Pest Management Academy (PMA) offers a Level 4 NQF course in Agriculture and Forestry as part of its skills development program. Available in both classroom and E-learning formats, the classroom sessions are held over three days on scheduled dates, while the E-learning option allows students up to one year to complete the course at their own pace. The academy also offers supervision for pest control operator candidates subject to terms and conditions. For more information on the course offered and PCO supervision, please contact the PMA.

**Website:** <https://www.pestmanagementacademy.com/pest/>

**Contact number:** 0861 99 99 00 / 083 294 8022 / 011 453 0075

**Email address:** [enquiries@pma.training](mailto:enquiries@pma.training)

## **PCITA**

The Pest Control Industries Training Academy (PCITA) offers a range of courses at NQF Level 5, available in classroom, online and E-learning formats. Classroom and online sessions are held over three days on designated dates, while the E-learning option allows students 30 days to complete the course at their own pace. Additionally, the academy offers supervision for pest control operator candidates. For more details on available courses and to enquire about PCO supervision, please contact PCITA.

**Website:** <https://www.pcita.org.za/>

**Contact number:** 012 654 7708

**Email address:** admin@pcita.org.za

## **DeltaTrax Projects**

DeltaTrax Projects offers a certificate at NQF level 4. The course is available in classroom, online and E-learning formats to suit different learning preferences. Classroom and online sessions are typically conducted over three days. For groups of five or more candidates, classroom sessions can be arranged at a location of your choice. E-learning format allows students to complete the course at their own pace and provide students access to a 24/7 backup support line for assistance. For more information on available courses and to enquire about PCO supervisors, please contact DeltaTrax Projects.

**Website:** <https://www.deltatrax.co.za/training/certificate-pest-control-operations/>

**Contact number:** 012 566 3315 / 082 551 7109

**Email address:** admin@deltatrax.co.za

## **Grain Training Institute**

The Grain Training Institute offers an NQF Level 5 course, which is available in classroom, E-learning, and correspondence formats. Classroom sessions are held over two weeks on scheduled dates, or alternatively a date can be arranged at a central location if five or more students are interested. Both E-learning and correspondence options allow students up to six months to complete the course. The correspondence format is specifically designed for students without computer access. For more information and course schedules, please contact the Grain Training Institute.

**Website:** <https://www.gtinstitute.co.za/>

**Contact number:** 071 312 7413 / 083 227 8161

**Email address:** info@gtinstitute.co.za

### **Invader Plant Specialists**

Invader Plant Specialists offers comprehensive training and mentoring in various areas of invasive alien plant control and bush encroachment management. While they currently do not provide training specifically tailored to the pest control operator field in forestry and agriculture, they do offer a range of other specialized courses related to invasive plant management. For more details on available courses, please contact Invader Plant Specialists directly.

**Website:** <https://www.invaderplantspecialists.com/>

**Contact number:** 021 976 6127 / 083 413 7411 / 083 412 7411

**Email address:** invaderplantis@gmail.com

### **New Africa Skills Development**

New Africa Skills Development offers in-classroom courses, typically held over five days. While the training sessions primarily take place at their main campus in KwaZulu-Natal, they provide flexibility for clients nationwide. For groups of 10 or more candidates, the course can be delivered at a location of the client's choosing. For more information on course availability, schedules and locations, please contact New Africa Skills Development.

**Website:** <https://www.nasd.co.za/>

**Contact number:** 033 330 7002 / 083 677 0710

**Email address:** admin@nasd.co.za

### **AVCASA**

The course previously known as the AVCASA Basic Crop Protection Course has been transferred to CropLife South Africa. Although the AVCASA course prior to the transfer had the relevant accreditation for use in support of PCO registration, during the transfer, the course unfortunately lost its accreditation. The CropLife South Africa Basic Crop Protection Course remains similar to the AVCASA Basic Crop Protection Course with modifications to the curriculum to align with current legislation. CropLife SA is investigating options to reinstate the required accreditation. The course is offered in an E-learning format, allowing students to enrol at any time throughout the year and complete the course at their own pace, within a 12-month period. For more information, please contact CropLife South Africa.

**Website:** <https://basiccropprotection.easy2learn.co.za/Default>

**Email address:** training@croplife.co.za



agriculture, land reform  
& rural development

Department:  
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



## **GUIDANCE ON PCO REGISTRATION**

CropLife SA in collaboration with DALRRD will host an online information and training session on how to comply with the requirements around restricted agricultural remedies. The session will take place on **Tuesday, 4 February 2025 at 09:00 – 11:00, online via MS Teams** (link included below).

<b>1. What is a restricted agricultural remedy?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Definition according to the regulations</li><li>b. How to identify a restricted agricultural remedy based on the label and SDS</li><li>c. The requirements around a restricted agricultural remedy</li></ul>	Roleen la Grange (CropLife SA)
<b>2. Process for registration as a PCO</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Fields of PCO registration</li><li>b. Requirements in terms of courses, degrees, diplomas, prior experience, or supervised practical experience.</li><li>c. Forms that need to be completed and submitted</li><li>d. Medical examination: what needs to be done and why it is necessary</li><li>e. Where to submit the application and timeframe for evaluation</li></ul>	Mulisa Ratigidima (DALRRD)
<b>3. Brief overview of accredited academies that offer courses in pest control</b>	Anushka Gokul (CropLife SA)
<b>4. Rationale for restrictions (phasing out of highly hazardous pesticides)</b>	Elelwani Ramabulana (DALRRD)
<b>5. Q&amp;A session</b>	DALRRD / CropLife SA

**To join the meeting, please click on the link below:**

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Meeting ID: 380 554 049 942

Passcode: KZ6Vf9zb