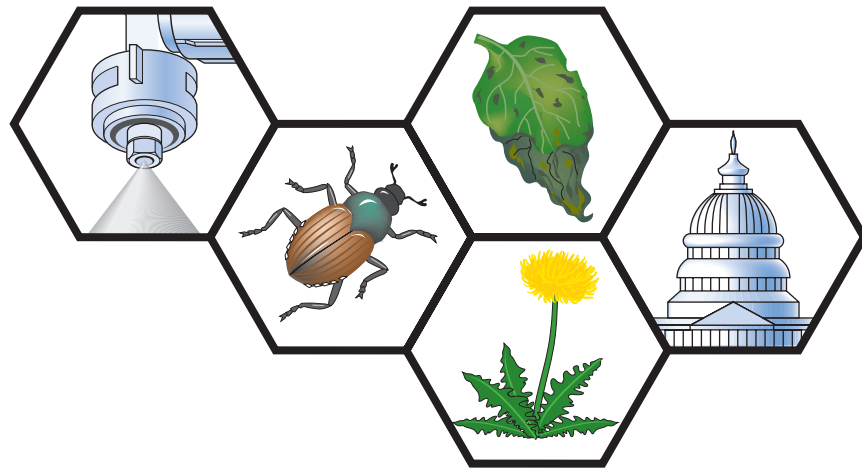


**University of Illinois
Extension**

**Pesticide Safety
Education Program**



**ANNUAL REPORT
2017-2018**

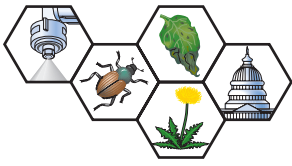
Program Highlights and Impacts

- 44 Clinics Offered
 - 2 State Agency Clinics
 - 22 Commercial Applicator Clinics
 - 16 Private Applicator Clinics
 - 4 Commercial Test-Only Clinics
- A total of 13,045 people received pesticide certification training
 - 10,119 Commercial Applicators and Operators
 - 2,926 Private Applicators
- Six issues of *The Illinois Pesticide Review* newsletter were published
 - The online newsletter received 43,824 pages visits
- Seventeen issues of *The Home, Yard, and Garden Pest Newsletter* were published
- The PSEP Office processed 10,492 training clinic registrations. The online registration option continued to provide 24-hour access to easy and efficient registration for clinic attendees. Clientele also continued to have the options of registering by mail or by phone. Telephone calls placed during business hours were provided personal service. Calls placed after business hours were greeted with an automated telephone service.
- The PSEP Office processed orders for 7,854 Pesticide Applicator Training Manuals and Workbooks. An additional 830 publications were sold during pesticide applicator clinics.
- Sarah Hughson was hired as the program's entomologist.

Sarah received a B.S. degree in biology from Saginaw Valley State University, followed by M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Entomology from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her graduate research focused on western corn rootworm beetle behavior related to insect resistance management requirements in Bt cornfields.

- Maria Turner was hired as the program's integrated pest management specialist.

Maria studied at Southern Illinois University and received both her Master's and Bachelor's degrees in agriculture education with an emphasis in agriculture safety and health. In the last 12 years, Maria has worked side-by-side with producers conducting field research on soybeans, corn, and organic vegetable production. She also delivered pesticide recertification programs for the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service in Pike County, Indiana.



Illinois Pesticide Safety Education Program

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Program Mandate

Authority

Illinois law, in accordance with the Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act, requires that anyone who purchases or uses pesticides classified as “restricted use” must be certified as a commercial pesticide applicator or operator, or a private (farmer) pesticide applicator. In addition, those who apply “general use” pesticides commercially must also be certified. The responsibilities of the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDA) and University of Illinois Extension (Extension) in pesticide certification and training are clearly defined. The IDA, as lead agency, has responsibility for the certification and issuing of permits or licenses to persons who apply pesticides. Extension, working in cooperation with IDA staff, is responsible for conducting educational training programs for private, commercial, and non-commercial pesticide applicators and operators.

Purpose

Since 1966, Extension has been conducting training schools for private applicators, and commercial agricultural and urban operators and applicators. The purpose is to train applicators and operators in the proper and safe use of pesticides to prevent misuse and to avoid accidents. In addition to keeping applicators up-to-date on new developments in both chemical and nonchemical pest control methods, the training sessions help to prepare applicants to pass the certification examinations required for obtaining a license. This quality pesticide safety education is ultimately vital to Illinois residents in terms of public health protection and environmental stewardship.

Support

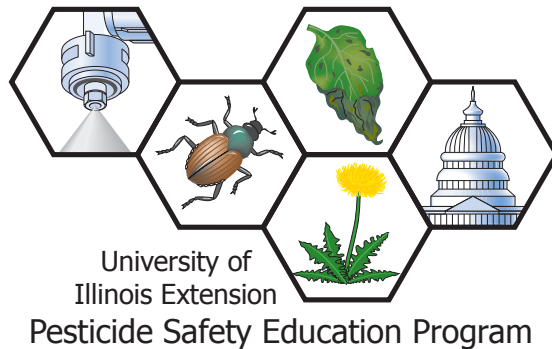
Initial funding for the Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) was provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) through the USDA Federal Extension Service, starting in 1974. These funds have been reduced over the years in amount and also in value due to inflation.

The Pesticide Control Fund, approved by the Illinois State Legislature in August 1985, provides funds to the IDA “for the purpose of conducting a public educational program on the proper use of pesticides and for other activities related to the enforcement of this act.” This fund provides the bulk of the dollars needed to conduct educational programs related to the safe and proper use of pesticides.

State Lead Agency Cooperation

Since 1998, the PSEP team has worked with the Illinois Department of Agriculture to review exam questions (based on our PSEP manuals) for use in the certification process. As a result, both parties feel more comfortable with the exams given to our clients. During the past year, PSEP assisted the IDA in reviewing exam questions on new aquatics and general standards certification exams.

Close interaction with the Illinois Department of Agriculture regarding the number of attendees at each clinic and other operational issues results in consistent information from both training and testing personnel to our PSEP clinic attendees.

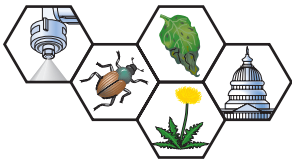


ILLINOIS

Extension

**COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER
& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**





Illinois Pesticide Safety Education Program

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PSEP Specialists



Patty Bingaman

Extension Assistant, Office Assistant
Department of Crop Sciences

Facilitates operational functions of the PSEP team including publication data, processing orders along with the monetary obligations. Handles the telephone queries and collects program registrations.



Travis Cleveland

Extension Specialist, Plant Pathology
Department of Crop Sciences

Provides subject matter expertise and training in pesticide training with an emphasis on plant pathology. Provides diagnostic support for the UI Plant Clinic. Coordinates PSEP annual report, commercial and private PSEP trainer scheduling, and the Home, Yard and Garden Pest Newsletter. Co-coordinates Illinois' Worker Protection Standard outreach.

<https://cropsciences.illinois.edu/people/profile/tclevela>



Matt Gill

Outreach Specialist, Application Equipment
Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Provides subject matter expertise and training in pesticide application equipment and calibration. Conducts special aerial calibration clinics, research, and pesticide drift reduction programs. Maintains and coordinates storage of PSEP supplies and equipment.

<https://abe.illinois.edu/directory/gill14>



Sarah Hughson

Extension Specialist, Entomology
Department of Crop Sciences

Provides subject matter expertise and training in entomology, specializing in herbivorous insects. Provides insect identification support and IPM recommendations for the UI Plant Clinic. Serves as a member of the Illinois Structural Pest Control Advisory Council with Illinois Department of Public Health and a planning committee member with the Purdue Pest Management Conference.

<https://cropsciences.illinois.edu/people/profile/hughson2>

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Jean Miles

PSEP Program Facilitator
Department of Crop Sciences

Coordinates PSEP clinics. Conducts clinic preregistration and PSEP publication distribution. Maintains financial accounts, develops new databases, and prepares special reports and brochures. Coordinates acquisition, reprinting, and marketing of PSEP study material.
<https://cropsciences.illinois.edu/people/profile/jmiles1>



Maria Turner

Extension Specialist, Pesticide Safety - Horticulture
Department of Crop Sciences

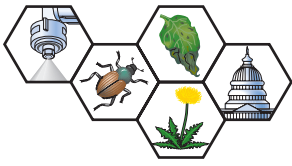
Provides subject matter expertise and training in pesticide safety and integrated pest management. Coordinates private applicator training program. Co-coordinates PSEP social media. Provides expertise in organic pest control.
<https://cropsciences.illinois.edu/people/profile/mrestrep>



Michelle Wiesbrook

Extension Specialist, Weed Science
Department of Crop Sciences

Provides subject matter expertise and training in pesticide safety with an emphasis on horticultural weed science. Serves as IPR newsletter editor, collecting and organizing material; co-coordinates social media information and ensures its timely publication. Co-coordinates Illinois' Worker Protection Standard outreach. Facilitates accreditation of trainings through various professional organizations.
<https://cropsciences.illinois.edu/people/profile/buesinge>



Illinois Pesticide Safety Education Program

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Steering Committee

The PSEP Steering Committee represents the two departments housing PSEP Specialists as well as off-campus staff, serving in program administration and advisory capacities as various opportunities and challenges arise. The committee members are familiar with the PSEP program and its mission. They represent the interests of their disciplines, associated clientele, and departments, with a variety of expertise, experiences, and perspectives.



Patrick Tranel

Chair of the PSEP Steering Committee

Professor, Interim Head of the Department of Crop Sciences



Tom Voigt

Professor of Turfgrass, Landscape, and Energy Grasses

Department of Crop Sciences Representative

Support Trainers

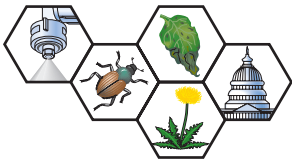
The following professional educators assisted PSEP specialists with Private Applicator Training Clinics and Commercial Applicator Training Clinics. We thank them for their support.

- Kelly Allsup
- Bruce Black
- Chris Enroth
- Dennis Epplin
- Duane Friend
- Laurie George
- Doug Gucker
- Richard Hentschel
- Russ Higgins
- Kari Houle
- Ken Johnson
- Jim Morrison
- Phil Nixon
- David Robson
- Marion Shier
- Martha Smith
- Teresa Steckler
- James Theuri
- Elizabeth Wahle



Dennis Epplin (above) and Jim Morrison (right) assisting with Private Applicator Training





Illinois Pesticide Safety Education Program

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Pesticide Safety Education Program

Administrative Office

The University of Illinois Extension Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) maintains an office to carry out needed administrative and secretarial functions. Close interaction with the Illinois Department of Agriculture regarding specific clinic operations results in consistent information from both training and testing personnel to our PSEP clinic attendees.

Clientele Communication Options

Pesticide Safety Education Program clientele have multiple options available to help register for training clinics or purchase educational materials. The PSEP website (www.pesticidesafety.illinois.edu) provides links to a convenient “one stop shop” for clinic registration and ordering of study material. The system was designed specifically for PSEP and has been viewed as the leading registration/ordering system in Extension. Clientele can also access the online training programs through the PSEP website.

In addition, the telephone system includes 24-hour voice mail, an automated attendant to assist the caller in selecting which option is needed and a direct rollover option to the Illinois Department of Agriculture. There are currently 56 voice mail lines so that a busy signal does not occur. With the high volume of in-coming calls, this telephone system helps to direct patrons to the phone service they need in a timely manner. Many customers still want to be reassured that their online registration was received and is being processed.

Commercial and Private schedules, plus other pertinent clinic information is also available on the University of Illinois Pesticide Safety Education website. A listing of PSEP publications including the most recent publication date is available on this site. Clients have the added option to print and mail the forms to register for clinics and/or order study materials.

Educational Materials

The PSEP Office conducts the sale and distribution of over 35 manuals, workbooks and pest guides. Customer response is positive because they are able to register and/or order desired material with one action, either via telephone or our online system. Mailing of requested educational materials is promised within 72 hours; however, this is usually accomplished within the same day. The number of publications sold from the PSEP office during the 2017-2018 season was 7,854. An additional 830 publications were sold at private and commercial clinics last season.

Clinic Registration

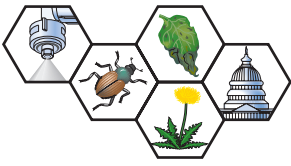
Forty-four clinics were scheduled for the 2017-2018 applicator training season. The majority of the clinics, 22, were for commercial applicators, while 16 clinics were conducted for private applicators. Two state agency clinics were held prior to the season. State agency clinics provided additional training and testing opportunities for applicators employed by the Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, etc. Four test only sessions were also conducted at various times during the training season.

During the 2017-2018 training season, 8,313 Commercial registrations were processed in the PSEP office resulting in a training volume of 10,119. Additionally, 2,179 Private transactions lead to a private training volume of 2,926. A total of 13,045 people received pesticide safety training during the 2017-2018 training season.

Financial Accountability

An additional responsibility of the PSEP office is the monitoring of receivables. At this printing, all outstanding payments have been resolved. This is accomplished by the combination of on-going database management plus the utilization of set office procedures.

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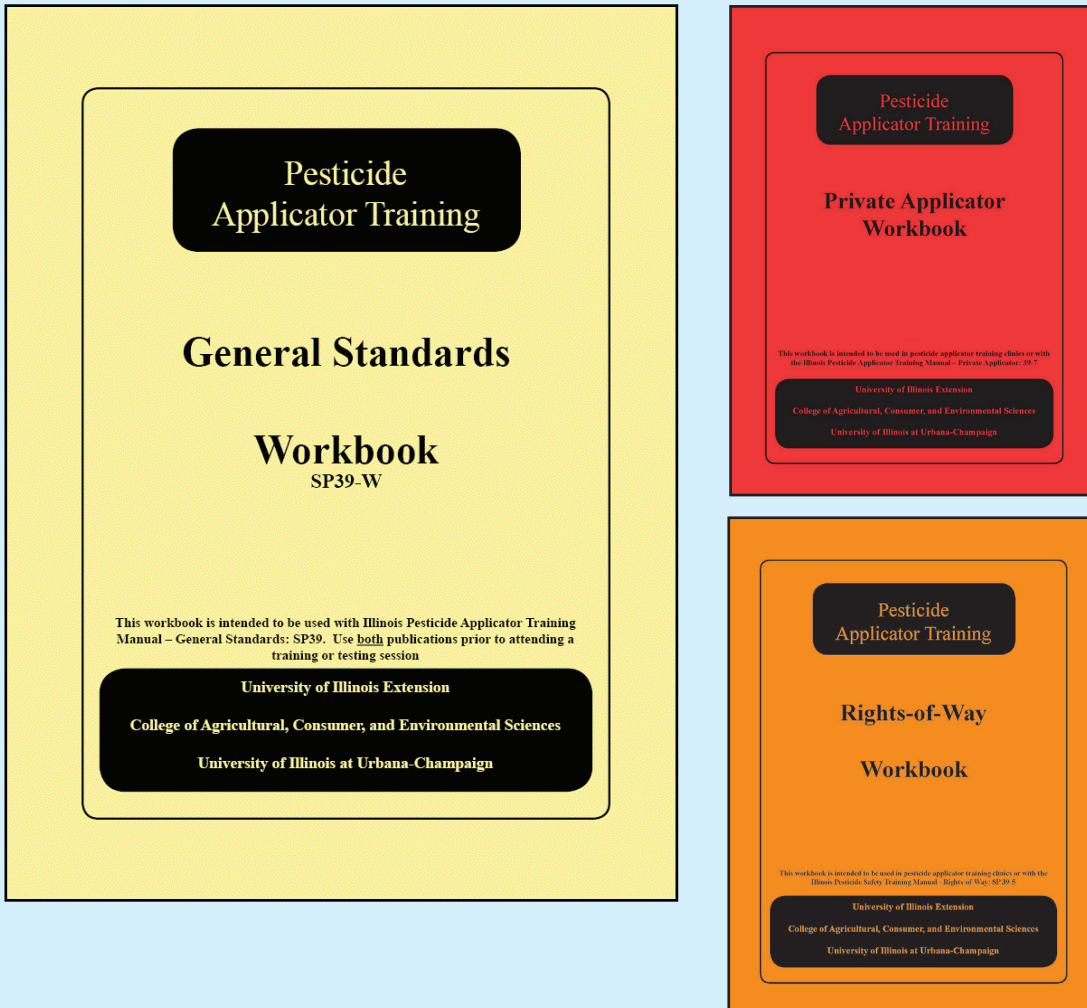
Educational Materials

University of Illinois PSEP publishes twenty-one manuals that address most areas of pesticide certification in Illinois. Ten workbooks are produced to cover the twelve most commonly licensed areas. Our manuals and workbooks continue to be used not only as references and learning tools before and during training clinics, but also as self-tutorial guides for those who wish to study on their own. These publications allow us to educate more operators and applicators than those who attend PSEP clinics.



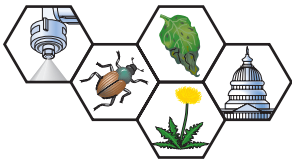


Recently Revised Publications



Revised Training Manuals, Workbooks, and Presentations

The General Standards Workbook, Private Applicator Workbook, and Rights-of-Way Workbook were revised and published during this reporting period. Additionally, the Ornamentals and Turf Workbook, Grain Facility and Seed Treatment Workbook, and Mosquito Workbook were reviewed and reprinted. The following presentations were revised: General Standards, Field Crops, Grain Facility, Rights-of-Way, Ornamentals, Turfgrass, and Mosquito.



Commercial PSEP Clinics

Twenty-two pesticide training and certification clinics for commercial applicators and operators were conducted during 2017-2018 training season. Two additional clinics were conducted to meet the needs of state agencies. One general standards training session was conducted at the Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association's annual conference. During the training season, 10,119 commercial applicators and operators received training (See Table 1). In addition to the General Standards, training was offered for the following categories: Field Crops, Turf, Ornamentals, Rights-of-Way, Aquatics, Seed Treatment, and Mosquito.

General Standards trainings covered 8 topics over a 3.5 hour session. Training topics included: Understanding Pesticides, Pesticide Application Equipment and Drift Reduction, Human Pesticide Protection, Equipment Calibration and Examples, Integrated Pest Management, Pesticides and the Environment, Labels and Labeling, and Pesticide Laws and Regulations.

Category trainings ranged from 1.5 hours to 3.5 hours in duration. Topics covered during the training sessions were specific to the category.

Training clinic attendees were offered a workbook. Workbooks were formatted as "guided notes" to encourage engagement, highlight important points from the presentations, and to facilitate full and accurate notes. University of Illinois Extension Pesticide Safety Educators presented the various topics and were available to respond to any questions.

Trainers

PSEP Specialists conducted the training clinics. Extension Educators and other Extension Specialists throughout the state also assisted with the trainings. PSEP Specialists provided assistance to the training efforts of these Extension Educators by furnishing PowerPoint presentations, notes, and other training materials. This afforded additional educational contacts for the participating Extension Educators and allowed the campus-based staff to pursue additional activities. All mosquito category training sessions were conducted by specialists employed by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Evaluation

Teaching evaluations are occasionally conducted during General Standards trainings with the goal of identifying strengths and weaknesses within the program. Evaluation questions focus on the clinic registration process, the quality of individual sections within the General Standards training as well as the quality of the program as a whole. Evaluations from year to year consistently show satisfaction and utility of the program.

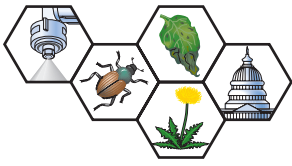
Continuing Education Units

Clinic attendees received continuing education points from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) for both Turf and General Standards trainings. International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) members received educational credits for attending the Ornamentals category training. Many of our clients are Certified Crop Advisors and received CCA education credits for Field Crops and Seed Treatment. The Illinois Department of Public Health issued CEUs for completion of General Standards training.

Table 1. Attendance by Category for 2017-2018 Commercial PSEP Clinics

CLINIC DATE	LOCATION	GS	S	T	O	FC	MOS	ROW	AQ	TOTAL
Nov. 13-14	Mt. Vernon	245	16			60		56		377
Nov. 28-29	Springfield	228	28			37		76		369
Dec. 14-15	Sandwich	191	22			48				261
Dec. 18-19	Champaign	380	87			138				605
Jan. 4-5	Peoria	342				118		37		497
Jan. 11-12	Rockford	198		70	45					313
Jan. 17	Peoria IFCA	56								56
Jan. 18-19	Mt Vernon	305		30	22		37	67		461
Jan. 23-24	Matteson	209		52	30				11	302
Jan. 29-30	Champaign	360		84	62			57		563
Feb. 1-2	Crystal Lake	278		95	33			75		481
Feb. 6-7	Jacksonville	198				88				286
Feb. 13-14	Springfield	384		78	49			83		594
Feb. 20-21	Alsip	260		77	35			63		435
Feb. 27-28	Collinsville	386		74	33			135	30	658
Mar. 6-7	Skokie	276		97	39			29		441
Mar. 13-14	Peoria	341		89	28				22	480
Mar. 22-23	Moline	268		55	32			78		441
Mar. 26-27	Rockford	325		72	16		55	113		581
Apr. 3-4	Matteson	269		44	12		44	34		403
Apr. 10-11	Collinsville	224					49	81		354
Apr. 23-24	Alsip	255		55	22		33	49		414
Apr. 25-26	Skokie	232		61	22				27	342
May 2-3	Des Plaines	202		21			30	51		304
May 9-10	Springfield	87					14			101
Total		6499	153	1057	480	483	262	1086	90	10119

GS=General Standards; PM=Plant Management; S=Seed Treatment; T=Turfgrass; O=Ornamentals; FC=Field Crops; MOS=Mosquito; ROW=Rights-of-Way; AQ=Aquatics



Illinois Pesticide Safety Education Program

Online Training Courses

A variety of interactive online training programs are available to assist applicators preparing for category exams. These courses also serve to expand training opportunities to areas of the state where on-site training is not feasible.

The training modules are scripted, as well as voiced. Lessons are self-paced and can be completed in approximately 3 hours. Users can choose to finish them all at once or over the course of several days. Additionally, participants can review any of the previously accessed modules. Training modules cost \$15.

During this reporting period, online training courses included:

Demonstration and Research

The Demonstration and Research training course is designed for people who demonstrate safe and effective use of pesticides to public, as well as for people who supervise or conduct field research with pesticides. Training modules include: Laws and Regulations, Pesticide Characteristics, Experimental Design, Calibration, and Plant Injury Diagnosis.



Plant Management

Plant Management is geared towards commercial applicators managing interiorscapes. Training modules include: cultural requirements and stress management; common insect and disease pests and their controls; and application equipment and calibration.



Grain Facility

The Grain Facility course covers topics related to stored grain pest management and is for those who manage pests around grain elevators or other grain holding facilities. This convenient online course helps prepare applicators for the Grain Facility category exam. Private Applicators, who plan to fumigate their own grain, can use an abbreviated version of this training course to prepare for the Grain Fumigation exam. Modules include: insect identification and control; storage molds of grains; and rodent and bird pests.



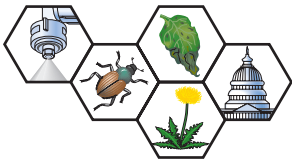
Vegetable Crops



The Vegetable Crops online training modules were developed to provide applicators with the knowledge needed to pass the Vegetable Crops category exam. The training covers four areas – Diseases, Insects, Weed Management, and Application Equipment and Calibration.

The diseases module deals with the common diseases of cucurbits, tomatoes and peppers, and sweet corn. The

Insect module includes chewing and sucking insects, focusing on the pests for specific vegetables. Weed management deals with the issues involved with controlling weeds as well as a few weeds for identification. Application Equipment and Calibration deals with the current innovations in spray application, and basic calibration equations.



Private Applicator Training Clinics

Private Applicator clinics are designed for grain farmers, orchardists, and small acreage farmers (vineyards, vegetable growers, etc.) who apply restricted-use pesticides on their properties or managed lands. While similar to General Standards training, Private Applicator clinics put an added emphasis on changing technology, modes-of-action and reducing pesticide resistance, environmental issues including drift and stewardship with emphasis on protecting pollinators, and human pesticide protection.

Private applicator training and recertification needs were met with 16 regional training clinics and 30+ test-only clinics. Private Applicator training clinics are taught by University PSEP staff members with assistance from local county Extension educators and retired regional Extension educators. Private pesticide testing occurs immediately after training, with an average passing rate greater than 95%.

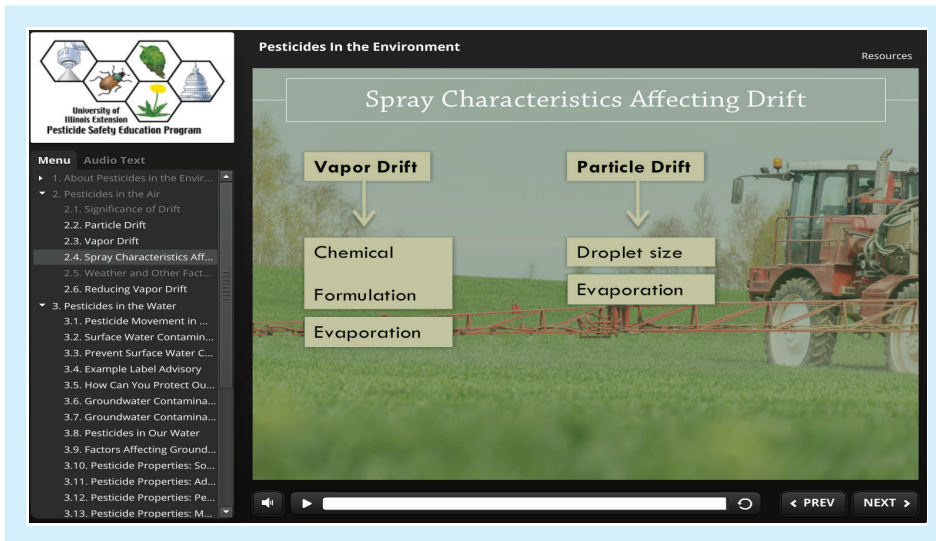
Table 2. Attendance for 2017-2018 Private Applicator Trainings Clinics

Clinic Date	Location	# Clinic Attendees
Nov. 15	Mt Vernon	137
Nov. 27	Springfield	141
Dec. 5	Carterville	101
Dec. 8	Champaign	247
Dec. 13	Utica	211
Jan. 3, 2018	Galesburg	181
Jan. 10	Rock Falls	191
Jan. 26	Bloomington	290
Feb. 8	Quincy	131
Feb. 16	Effingham	300
Feb. 22	Bradley	212
Mar. 1	Collinsville	175
Mar. 9	Champaign	176
Mar. 12	Peoria	172
Mar. 21	Moline	124
Mar. 28	Rockford	137
	Total:	2926



Online Private Applicator Training

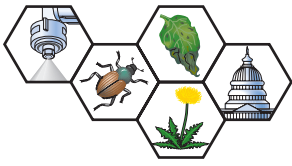
The online private applicator training course allows a person to obtain training without attending a training clinic or working through the Private Applicator Training Manual and Workbook. Access is through a password obtained after the online training fee is paid. The training is organized into the same topics as the manual and face-to-face training. Presentation typically consists of an illustration or photo with accompanying written and narrated text. Slide progression is controlled by the trainee so participants can go back to visit previous slides as well as skip slides with familiar content. The modules also include interactive activities. Testing is not available online. The trainee makes arrangements to take the test at a testing only session or at an IDA office.



Spanish Online Private Applicator Training

(Revised Spring 2018)

A Spanish translation of the online private applicator training was updated May 2018. The training modules were reformatted, and numerous new pictures were added as well as new interactive activities. The training is organized into the same topics as the manual and face-to-face training.



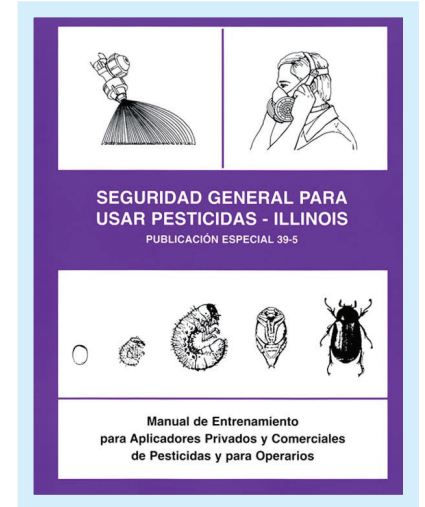
Illinois Pesticide Safety Education Program

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Bilingual Training

Hispanic clientele are progressively becoming a larger proportion of our clientele. Many have excellent English language skills and are fully capable of understanding training and testing in English. Others have difficulty with English, but still must pass an English written exam to obtain pesticide certification due to most pesticide labels being in English only.

In previous years, we provided separate Bilingual General Standards Training Clinics in the Chicago metropolitan area. The presentations consisted of short passages of spoken English followed immediately by the spoken Spanish translation. This method served the dual purpose of conveying the information so that it is understood and increased the understanding of English. Unfortunately, face to face bilingual clinics have been discontinued due to poor attendance. Individuals seeking bilingual training are directed to the Spanish version of our online private applicator training. A Spanish general standards manual and a bilingual workbook are also available.



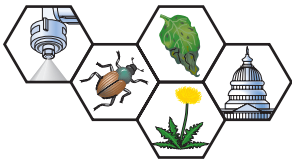
Worker Protection Standard

Travis Cleveland and Michelle Wiesbrook coordinated the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) efforts. We answer questions and provide guidance on how to comply with the Worker Protection Standard regulation. We also work to inform employers, employees, IDA inspectors, and educators about the WPS through newsletter articles and during PSEP clinics. We keep up-to-date on new developments through training sessions, new publications, e-mail, and other methods.

Operation S.A.F.E. Fly-ins

The purpose of an Operation S.A.F.E. fly-in is to make sure aerial applications are made accurately and safely. At a fly-in clinic, an aerial applicator can view the spray pattern, determine effective swath width, and examine the spray droplet size created by the aircraft. If corrections need to be made, the applicator can make adjustments to the aircraft setup and then immediately re-run the aircraft over the flight line to verify that the changes have improved the spray pattern or droplet size. In many cases an aerial applicator may run multiple series over the flight line, checking the different setups they use for the various spray application rates they use throughout the course of a spraying season. For instance, nozzle orifice size, nozzle deflection angle, and the number of nozzles used on the boom can vary depending on the GPA (gallons per acre) that the applicator is setting the aircraft up to apply.

Date	Location	Number of Aircraft Tested	Number of Test Runs
September 12-14, 2017	Grandin, ND	3	71
October 10, 2017	Chilton, WI	1	21
November 6-9, 2017	Clewiston, FL	8	72
April 8-12, 2018	Pantego, NC	8	59
May 22-23, 2018	Mattoon, IL	11	81
May 24, 2018	Waupon, WI	2	25
June 5, 2018	Boone, IA	11	52
June 12, 2018	Rochelle, IL	9	57



Illinois Pesticide Safety Education Program

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Mass Media

Through radio, television, newspapers, and magazines, PSEP specialists increased client knowledge of proper pesticide application, new developments in human and environmental pesticide safety, and recently enacted rules and regulations. Newspaper and magazine articles were published as the result of news interviews or news releases produced by PSEP specialists. Radio programs were used to promote proper pesticide use.

Illinois Pesticide Review

Six issues of The Illinois Pesticide Review newsletter were published this year. This bimonthly newsletter is written by PSEP specialists to address pesticide safety issues, regulatory information, and changes in pesticide registration and label status. Each issue contains at least one in-depth article addressing current pesticide issues or pesticide-related activities. The newsletter is available on the Pesticide Safety Education website. There were 36,483 visits to the Illinois Pesticide Review website during this reporting period.

PSEP Website

The Pesticide Safety Education website (www.pesticidesafety.illinois.edu) continues to provide up-to-date information. The site features fact sheets, tips, links to relevant websites and resources, The Illinois Pesticide Review newsletter, an online registration system for clinics and an online ordering system for training manuals and workbooks.

These efforts serve to keep clientele up-to-date about pesticide safety issues outside of the PSEP clinics that they attend. Important information is communicated to the clientele when it is needed. In addition, many homeowners and other Illinois residents learn how to apply pesticides correctly and safely in and around their homes. There were 404,166 “page views” on the website during this report period.

Table 4. Total Views for Various Pages Associated with the Pesticide Safety Education Program Website July 2017 - June 2018	
Pesticide Safety Education Program Homepage	404,166
Online Private Applicator Training (English)	354,533
Online Private Applicator Training (Spanish)	3,531
Illinois Pesticide Review Newsletter	36,483

Facebook

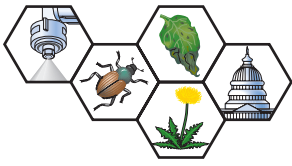
The PSEP Facebook page continues to grow in its use. It provides yet another avenue for timely information to be delivered to pesticide users and other interested parties. This Facebook page frequently posts article links for the Illinois Pesticide Review, the Home, Yard, and Garden Pest Newsletter, and the Bulletin. It also serves as a platform for clients to have their pest control and licensing questions answered by PSEP Specialists.

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Like us on Facebook

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Pesticide Safety Education Program**



Illinois Pesticide Safety Education Program

Homeowner Programs

Illinois homeowners and other residents are educated by Extension on proper pesticide use through the Master Gardener Program and various gardening, home safety, and other programs. The PSEP specialists wrote the Pesticide Safety and Weeds sections and revised the Plant Diseases and Insects sections of the current *Illinois Master Gardener Handbook*. They also developed several of the color slide presentations used to train Master Gardeners and deliver training sessions for beginning and advanced Master Gardeners.

Pest Management for the Home Landscape provides important pest management information on specific pests to Illinois residents. Included in this guide is a section on pesticide safety. Much of this pest guide was written by PSEP specialists.

An online training site for retailers who sell pesticides called, “Responsible Pest Management for Retailers” was developed by PSEP specialists and support trainers. The training consists of modules with quiz questions. There were 7,493 visits to the site throughout the year.

Community Garden Pest Management Training Module. This module is part of the University of Illinois Extension’s Community Garden Series. Michelle Wiesbrook created the content and did the voicing for this module which covers the basics of pest management including weeds, insects, and diseases as well as chemical control, reading the label, and licensing requirements.

Making Pesticide Applications in School and Community Gardens - Fact sheet updated 2017



Hort Answers

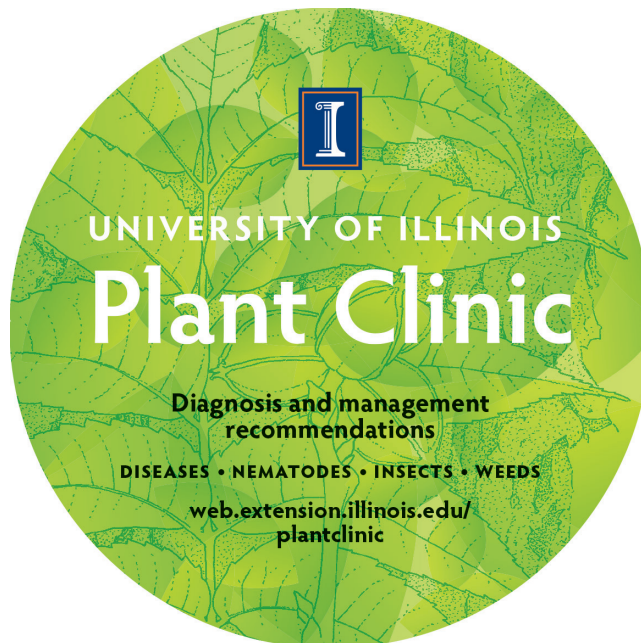
The Hort Answers website provides access to a wide variety of horticultural disease, insect pest, herbicide injury, and plant culture information. PSEP specialists continue to be involved in its content. Hort Answers logged 420,341 page views during the reporting period.

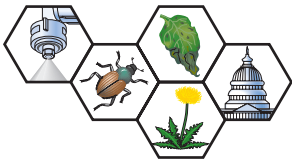
AskHort

Many PSEP team members contributed to the development of AskHort, a computer-based answering system that allows regional Extension offices to ask horticulture questions, which are then funneled to specialists and Extension educators. Questions posted to the system typically result in a less than 24-hour turn-around for answers. PSEP team members continue to provide expertise for this resource.

University of Illinois Plant Clinic

The University of Illinois Plant Clinic offers services in plant and insect identification, diagnosis of disease, insect, and weed problems and provides appropriate control recommendations. The success of the Plant Clinic relies on cooperation of many specialists at the University of Illinois. PSEP specialists are among those who contribute expertise to the Plant Clinic.





Illinois Pesticide Safety Education Program

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Professional Involvement by PSEP Specialists

Professional Societies and Associations

- American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators (AAPSE)
- American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE)
- Arbor Day Foundation
- Entomological Society of America (ESA)
- Illinois Agricultural Aviation Association (IAAA)
- Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB)
- Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association (IFCA)
- Illinois Turfgrass Foundation (ITF)
- National Agricultural Aviation Association (NAAA)
- National Agricultural Aviation Research & Education Foundation (NAAREF)
- Pre-State FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group (Pre-SFIREG)
- North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS)
- The Pesticide Stewardship Alliance (TPSA)
- Weed Science Society of America (WSSA)

University Committees

- Crop Sciences Extension and Outreach Committee
- Crop Sciences Academic Professional Promotion Committee
- Crop Sciences Candidate Search Committee
 - Extension Specialist Pesticide Safety Education: Entomology
 - Extension Specialist Pesticide Safety Education: Integrated Pest Management
- Extension Horticulture Development Team
- Purdue Pest Management Conference Planning Committee

Other Committees

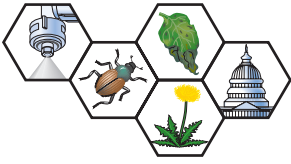
- American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators Board of Directors
- American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators Professional Development Committee
- Illinois Interagency Committee on Pesticides
- Illinois Structural Pest Control Advisory Council
- Illinois Worker Protection Stakeholders Committee
- USEPA Region 5 State and Federal Regulatory Committee

Other Programs and Invited Talks Given by PSEP Specialists

- Spray Droplet Size and Nozzle Selection. Midwest Tractor Supply. Baldwin, IL.
- What's Happening at the U of I Plant Clinic. University of Illinois Master Gardener Coordinators Chat
- Aerial Research Project – Evaluating swath width changes by nozzle deflection and boom width under in-wind and crosswind scenarios, 2 aircraft, 81 runs

Professional Improvement Participation by PSEP Specialists

- US EPA Certification and Training, and Worker Protection Standard Update American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators. Conference Call
- American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators National Workshop, Fargo, North Dakota
- Best Practices for Aerial Pesticide Applications. US EPA. Webinar
- Champaign County Garden Walk, Champaign, IL
- Dealing with Darling Dastardly Deer. Advanced Training Webinars for Master Gardeners. Webinar
- Entomological Society of America, Entomological Society of Canada & Entomological Society of British Columbia Joint Annual Meeting
- Illinois Agri-Women Personal Development Day for Women in Ag, Champaign, IL
- National Pesticide Safety Education Center & American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators – Annual Leadership Conference
- National Turfgrass Entomology Workshop
- The Pesticide Stewardship Alliance Annual Meeting, Memphis, TN
- Powdery Mildew: Biology & Management in The Garden. Advanced Training Webinars for Master Gardeners. Webinar
- Purdue Pest Control Conference, W. Lafayette, IN
- University of Illinois Agronomy Day, Urbana, IL
- University of Illinois Annual Extension Conference, Urbana, IL
- University of Illinois Extension Horticulture Team In-service, Urbana, IL
- University of Illinois Weed Science Field Day, Urbana, IL



Illinois Pesticide Safety Education Program

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Summary of Accomplishments

<u>Accomplishment</u>	<u>Date of Completion</u>
Online Private Applicator Training.....	All Season
Aerial Fly-In Clinics Conducted.....	All Season
Illinois Pesticide Review Newsletter Published (6 issues).....	Bi-monthly
Home, Yard, and Garden Pest Newsletter 17 Issues	17 Issue Per Year
Commercial PSEP Clinics Scheduled (24)	July 2017
Commercial Testing Only Sessions Scheduled (4).....	July 2017
Private PSEP Clinics Scheduled (16)	July 2017
Commercial PSEP Clinic Schedule Booklet Published	August 2017
Private PSEP Clinic Schedule Published.....	August 2017
Private Applicator Workbook Revised	August 2016
Sarah Hughson Hired as Illinois PSEP’s Entomology Specialist	October 2017
Maria Turner Hired as Illinois PSEP’s IPM Specialist	October 2017
Rights-of-Way Workbook Revised	October 2017
Private Applicator Workbook Revised	October 2017
Private Pesticide Training PowerPoint Presentations Revised.....	November 2017
Commercial Pesticide Training PowerPoint Presentations Revised	November 2017
Vegetable Manual Text Revised and Edited.....	December 2017
Fruit Manual Text Revised and Edited.....	December 2017
Private PSEP Clinics Conducted (16).....	March 2018
Commercial Pesticide Training Evaluations	April 2018
Commercial PSEP Clinics Completed (24 clinics)	May 2018
Revised Private Bilingual Private Applicator Online Training Published	May 2018

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& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

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