

Agriculture

CENTRAL KANSAS EXTENSION DISTRICT NEWS

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December 2024

Upcoming Events

December

4 Sorghum Connection Winter Series

24-1 Offices Closed

January

21,28 Succession Planning Series



Extension Offices Closed

As the holiday season approaches, we want to inform you that both our Minneapolis and Salina offices will be <u>closed from **December 24th** and will reopen on **January 2nd**. During this time, our team will be taking a well-deserved break to celebrate the holidays with friends and family.</u>

We appreciate your continued support and partnership throughout the year. Wishing you a joyful holiday season filled with peace, happiness, and quality time with loved ones. We look forward to connecting with you in the new year!

Warmest regards, CKD









SORGHUM CONNECTION WINTER SERIES

DECEMBER 4, 2024 | SALINA
DECEMBER 5, 2024 | HAYS
DECEMBER 6, 2024 | GARDEN CITY



REGISTER HERE:



Attention Kansas Producers: Important Changes to Private Applicator Certification Process



Starting January 1, 2025, there will be significant changes to the way private applicator certification and testing are handled in Kansas. These changes stem from new federal requirements issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for pesticide certification across the country. As part of the state's response, the Kansas Department of Agriculture has introduced House Bill 2607, which has now been approved by the legislature. The new rules will impact how applicators earn and maintain their certification to apply restricted-use pesticides.

What Does This Mean for You?

For those seeking private applicator certification, there will now be **three options** to choose from when obtaining or renewing your certification. Each option offers flexibility to accommodate different learning preferences and needs. Here's what you need to know:

1. Closed-Book Examination (Still Available at Extension Offices)

While the book exam option remains available, new rules will be implemented like the closed book policy. Stay tuned for further instructions from your local county extension office regarding any procedural changes.

2. In-Person Training

This option allows applicators to attend an in-person training session to gain their certification. This training will include the necessary information to prepare applicators for certification and ensure they understand pesticide safety practices.

3. Online Training (CanvasPro)

An online training program hosted through CanvasPro will be available. This course consists of 6 modules, each with review materials and activities to complete. It's designed for those who prefer to complete their training remotely and at their own pace.

Why the Changes?

The changes are part of a larger effort to meet federal EPA standards for pesticide certification and to enhance safety and environmental stewardship in pesticide application. This update allows Kansas to offer more flexible and accessible training options while ensuring that applicators are well-informed on best practices and regulatory requirements.

What Should You Do Next?

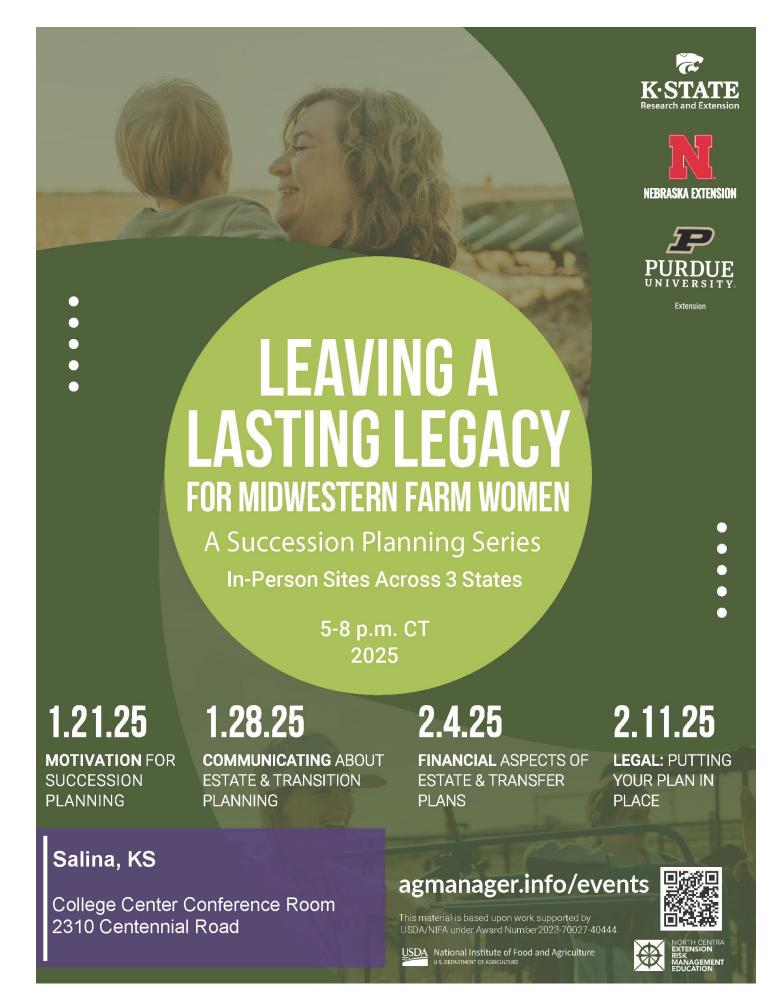
Stay Informed: Keep in contact with your county extension office for detailed information on the new certification process, including any specific rules for the closed-book exam.

Prepare for the Transition: Plan ahead to ensure you meet the certification requirements by January 1, 2025. Choose the option that works best for your schedule and learning style.

Complete Your Training: Whether you prefer in-person or online training, be sure to complete all required modules or sessions before your certification expires.

The Kansas Department of Agriculture and county extension offices are committed to making this transition as smooth as possible for producers. With the new options available, there's more flexibility than ever to keep your certification current and stay compliant with state and federal pesticide regulations.

Stay tuned for more information and updates, and don't hesitate to reach out to your local extension office with any questions.





Central Kansas Extension District *Minneapolis Office*307 N. Concord, Suite 190
Minneapolis, KS 67467-2129

Address Service Requested

The enclosed material is for your information. If we can be of further assistance, feel free to call or drop by the Extension Office.

Sincerely,

Jay Wisbey

District Extension Agent Crop Production jwisbey@ksu.edu

Salina Office

K-State Polytechnic 2218 Scanlan Ave. Salina, KS 67401-8196 785-309-5850 Fax: 785-309-5851 **Justine Johns**

District Extension Agent Livestock Production jwho4@ksu.edu

Minneapolis Office

307 N. Concord, Suite 190 Minneapolis, KS 67467 785-392-2147 Fax: 785-392-3605