

Pesticide Applicator Category 7A General and Household Pest Control Exam

OCPE Category-7A-General-and-Household-Pest-Control

Version Demo

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QUESTION NO: 1

The EPA approves the label for a pesticide. The State of New Jersey:

- A. Cannot change the use thereof in any way
- B. Can modify a pesticide's use allowing for additional uses or higher rates of application
- C. Can put additional restrictions on the way it can be used

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

Can put additional restrictions on the way it can be used is correct. Under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, EPA registration and labeling establish the federal conditions under which a pesticide may be sold and used. States retain authority to regulate the sale or use of federally registered pesticides within their borders, provided that state action does not authorize a sale or use that federal law prohibits. This authority allows New Jersey to adopt and enforce requirements that are more protective than the baseline federal label requirements, such as limiting where or when an application may occur, requiring particular precautions, or imposing other use restrictions appropriate to state environmental and public-health conditions.

New Jersey administers pesticide controls through its pesticide regulatory program and may enforce state-specific restrictions alongside the EPA-approved labeling. Applicators must therefore comply with both the pesticide label and applicable New Jersey requirements; the more restrictive requirement governs when both apply. The legal basis for state authority over pesticide use is found in FIFRA section 24(a), while New Jersey's pesticide program information is maintained by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. See [FIFRA section 24, 7 U.S.C. § 136v](#) and the [New Jersey DEP Pesticide Control Program](#).

QUESTION NO: 2

Pest infestations tend to be ____ a house or apartment.

- A. Uniformly distributed throughout
- B. Restrained to entryways in
- C. Focused on specific areas in

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

"Focused on specific areas in" is correct because household pests generally aggregate where their basic survival needs are consistently available rather than occupying every part of a structure equally. Food, water, warmth, shelter, and protected harborage create favorable microenvironments that concentrate pest activity. For example, cockroaches commonly harbor close to moisture, food debris, and warm concealed spaces, so kitchens, bathrooms, utility areas, and spaces around appliances often receive the greatest attention during an inspection. Ant activity likewise concentrates along travel routes leading between a nest and food or moisture sources. Bed bugs tend to remain near sleeping and resting locations, especially in cracks, seams, furniture, and other protected sites close to a host. Recognizing that infestations are localized helps an applicator conduct a systematic inspection, identify likely harborage and contributing conditions, and direct monitoring, sanitation, exclusion, and any pesticide treatment precisely where it is needed. This targeted approach is a central integrated pest management principle and improves control while limiting unnecessary pesticide exposure. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency describes IPM as focusing on pest biology, monitoring, and prevention before treatment; see [EPA Integrated Pest Management](#). Additional household-pest prevention guidance is available from [CDC pest resources](#).

QUESTION NO: 3

Which is the correct choice for the following application situation using TEMPRID?

For an outdoor application for ticks, the:

- A. 7A category does not cover treatment for ticks outdoors; you would need a 7B category certification
- B. Suggested rate of application is 0.075% per 1000 sq. ft.
- C. Suggested rate of application is 0.54 fluid ozs. per 1000 sq. ft.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

The correct choice is *Suggested rate of application is 0.54 fluid ozs. per 1000 sq. ft.* TEMPRID SC is labeled for outdoor treatment of ticks in areas associated with structures, such as lawns, landscaped areas, and perimeter locations where ticks may harbor. The 0.54-fluid-ounce rate per 1,000 square feet is the applicable labeled outdoor tick-treatment rate. Applicators should measure the treatment area first, calculate the total amount of concentrate required from the labeled rate, and apply the diluted product evenly to tick-harboring vegetation and other listed outdoor sites. The product label is the legal authority for use directions, mixing instructions, personal protective equipment, site limitations, and restrictions; following the label rate is therefore essential to both effective tick management and lawful pesticide use. Before application, the applicator should also review the current product labeling because labels may be revised and because site-specific directions, such as application volume and environmental precautions, remain controlling. Bayer provides TEMPRID SC product and labeling information at [Bayer Environmental Science](#). Current federally registered pesticide labels can also be located through the EPA's [Pesticide Product and Label System](#).

QUESTION NO: 4

Large black ants are seen indoors during winter. An inspection finds coarse, sawdust-like frass pushed from a wall void near a window with chronic water damage. The most important corrective action is to:

- A. Spray the visible workers and postpone further inspection
- B. Replace the damaged trim without correcting the water leak
- C. Locate the nest and correct the moisture condition
- D. Remove all food from the kitchen area

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

Locate the nest and correct the moisture condition is correct. Carpenter ants excavate galleries in wood for nesting but do not eat the wood. Coarse frass near a moisture-damaged window suggests that a nest or gallery may be present in the adjacent structural area. Eliminating the nest and correcting the water source are necessary for lasting control.

Spraying visible workers may temporarily reduce activity but does not address the colony in the void or the condition that favors it. Replacing damaged trim without addressing the leak can leave suitable nesting conditions in place. Food sanitation alone is not the primary correction for a moisture-associated carpenter ant nest.

QUESTION NO: 5

___ sprayer is suggested for use in cracks and crevices.

- A. Handheld compressed air
- B. Cold fogger

C. Thermal fogger

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

Handheld compressed air is correct because this type of sprayer provides the controlled, targeted application needed for crack-and-crevice work. General household pest control commonly requires placing a labeled insecticide precisely into narrow harborages, voids, joints, and gaps where pests travel or rest. A handheld compressed-air unit can be fitted with an appropriate narrow stream or crack-and-crevice tip, allowing the applicator to direct a small amount of product into the treatment site while limiting deposition on surrounding exposed surfaces. This supports the fundamental pesticide-use principle of applying only the amount needed and only where the pest or its harborage is located. Before treatment, the applicator must follow the pesticide label's directions for approved sites, application method, rate, personal protective equipment, and any restrictions involving occupied areas or sensitive locations. Labels are legally enforceable directions for use under federal pesticide law; see the [U.S. EPA pesticide-label guidance](#). Ohio commercial applicators must also use pesticides in accordance with applicable state requirements and the product labeling, as reflected in [Ohio Administrative Code 901:5-11-09](#).

QUESTION NO: 6

The second most common cause of pesticide poisoning to applicators is:

- A. Fire
- B. Inhalation
- C. Dermal exposure

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

Inhalation is the second most common route of pesticide poisoning or exposure among applicators, following skin absorption. An applicator can breathe pesticide into the respiratory tract when handling products that produce vapors, fine sprays, mists, aerosols, or dusts. This is especially important during mixing and loading, when opening containers, applying products in confined or poorly ventilated areas, and using equipment that creates small airborne droplets or particles. Once inhaled, a pesticide may be absorbed through the lungs and enter the bloodstream relatively quickly, so preventing airborne exposure is a core pesticide-safety practice. Applicators should follow the product label's required respiratory protection, ventilation, handling, and application instructions, and should ensure that any required respirator is properly selected, fitted, maintained, and used. New York's commercial applicator training materials address pesticide exposure routes and the safety practices used to reduce them. The EPA likewise emphasizes preventing pesticide exposure through appropriate protective equipment and safe work practices. See the [New York State pesticide applicator training manuals](#) and the EPA's [Pesticide Worker Safety Program](#).

QUESTION NO: 7

For an indoor application of TEMPRID for bed bugs, ____ application rate.

- A. Do not exceed the 0.075% per gallon of water
- B. Use the 0.15% per gallon of water
- C. Use 0.54% per gallon of water

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

Use the 0.15% per gallon of water is correct because a 0.15% finished spray dilution is a labeled indoor treatment concentration for bed bug control with TEMPRID products when prepared and applied according to the product label. The applicator must measure the concentrate precisely, add it to the appropriate volume of water, and agitate the mixture as directed so that the finished spray has the intended concentration. Treatment should be directed to bed bug harborages and other labeled indoor sites, such as cracks, crevices, bed frames, furniture, and similar areas where bed bugs may be present. The selected rate is not a general substitute for label directions: the specific TEMPRID formulation, target site, application method, allowable treatment frequency, and maximum use limits must all be verified on the container label before application. Pesticide labels are legally enforceable directions, and an applicator must follow the label that accompanies the actual product in hand. EPA provides access to registered pesticide labels through its [Pesticide Product Label System](#). Bayer also provides product and label information for [TEMPRID FX Insecticide](#).

QUESTION NO: 8

For an indoor application for cockroaches, the suggested application method is to:

- A. Use a coarse low-pressure spray and treat entry points, feeding and hiding areas, and cracks and crevices
- B. Spray entire area at a low pressure under 50 psi
- C. Use a coarse spray at 80 psi and apply to entire floor area

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

Use a coarse low-pressure spray and treat entry points, feeding and hiding areas, and cracks and crevices. Cockroaches commonly travel along protected edges and harbor in narrow, dark, undisturbed spaces near food, moisture, warmth, and shelter. Directing a coarse, low-pressure application to these activity and harborage sites places the pesticide where the insects are most likely to contact it while helping limit airborne mist, drift, and unnecessary pesticide deposition on exposed indoor surfaces. Entry points, feeding locations, hiding areas, and cracks and crevices should be identified through inspection before treatment. This targeted method is consistent with integrated pest management because it focuses treatment on documented pest activity and complements sanitation, exclusion, and removal of food and water sources. Applicators must always follow the specific product label, including permitted indoor sites, application method, rate, and any restrictions concerning food-contact surfaces or occupied areas. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency explains that integrated pest management uses inspection and targeted control practices to manage pests effectively while reducing unnecessary pesticide exposure: [EPA—Integrated Pest Management Principles](#). Ohio pesticide applicators should also use current category training materials and label directions provided through the [Ohio Department of Agriculture pesticide education resources](#).

QUESTION NO: 9

A pesticide label requires a tight-fitting air-purifying respirator. The applicator has facial hair where the respirator facepiece must seal. The applicator should:

- A. Remove facial hair that interferes with the respirator seal
- B. Wear the tight-fitting respirator over the facial hair
- C. Cover the facial hair with a cloth before fitting the respirator

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

Remove the facial hair interfering with the seal before using the required tight-fitting respirator. Facial hair between the sealing surface of a tight-fitting respirator and the face can prevent an effective seal, allowing contaminated air to enter the facepiece. A respirator cannot provide its expected protection if it does not seal properly. The applicator must also comply with the employer's respiratory-protection program, including medical evaluation, fit testing, training, inspection, and the label-required cartridges or filters. Wearing the respirator over facial hair or covering the beard with a cloth does not correct the seal problem.

QUESTION NO: 10

The wasp most likely to sting is the:

- A. Honeybee
- B. Yellow jacket
- C. Mud dauber

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

Yellow jacket is correct because yellow jackets are social wasps that vigorously defend their colony and nest area. Workers commonly forage around people for sweet foods, meats, and beverages, which increases the chance of close encounters. Unlike bees that have a barbed stinger, yellow jackets can sting repeatedly. Their risk of stinging rises sharply when a concealed ground nest, wall-void nest, or aerial nest is disturbed by people, pets, mowing, or other vibration. Because they live in colonies and recruit nestmates to defend the nest, a disturbance can result in multiple stings rather than an isolated event. This defensive behavior is especially important in general household pest-control work: applicators should first identify likely yellow-jacket activity, locate nest entrances from a safe distance, keep bystanders away, and use appropriate protective equipment and label-directed treatment procedures. Ohio's Category 7A training material addresses the identification and management of stinging insects encountered in general pest-control operations. University of California Integrated Pest Management likewise identifies yellow jackets as aggressive social wasps that may sting when their nests are disturbed. See the [Ohio State University Category 7A General Pest Control manual](#) and [UC IPM's yellowjacket pest note](#).