



RIDGETOWN
CAMPUS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pesticide Safety Certification Extensions End December 31, 2021

RIDGETOWN, ON (December 7, 2021)

Ontario farmers who need to purchase and use Class B and C pesticides on their farms must be certified via the Grower Pesticide Safety Course. This certification is valid for 5 years. The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks extended the validity of grower certificates that expired on or after January 1, 2020 to allow growers who were unable to renew their certification during the COVID-19 pandemic to renew their certificates until December 31, 2021.

The Ontario Pesticide Education Program has many options for growers to become certified in 2022. Options include the very popular online course, which offers information and assessments that can be completed at the learner's convenience. Also available are in-person Refresh & Rewrite courses which provide a 1 hour refresh of course material before writing the test. All in-person options follow local public health guidelines. These options are available to growers requiring first time certification or to re-certify through registration on the [Ontario Pesticide Education Program](#) website or by calling 1-800-652-8573.

The Ontario Pesticide Education Program has offered courses since 1987. The courses focus on pesticide safety, health and environmental risk management, pesticide application and integrated pest management. Currently over 22,000 growers, 1,300 vendors and nearly 300 on-farm instructors are certified through the program. The program is supported by growers, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, pesticide manufacturers and retailers.

For more information, please contact:

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