



**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (MDA)  
TECHNICIAN TRAINING PROGRAM OUTLINE  
CATEGORY 3 - ORNAMENTAL AND TURF PEST CONTROL**

effective 1/1/25

“MDA-3” = Approval Code

“MDA-3” is a Missouri approved Pesticide Technician Training program for Category 3, Ornamental and Turf Pest Control.

**1. “MDA-3” APPROVED CLASSROOM TRAINING** (8 hours minimum) will consist of reading and studying the current versions of the following materials:

- A. The National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual;
- B. The Category 3 – Ornamental and Turf Pest Control Manual; and
- C. The Missouri Pesticide Use Act (Chapter 281 RSMo and regulations).

The Core and Category 3 Manuals may be purchased from the University of Missouri Extension Publications Office by calling 573-882-7216 or by ordering online at:

<https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/mp731> .

The Missouri Pesticide Use Act is available online and free of charge at:

<https://agriculture.mo.gov/plants/pdf/pesticideuseact.pdf> .

The above outlined training meets the following minimum times established for each classroom topic: 1.5 hours of Pest Identification, 1 hour of Equipment, 1.5 hours of Pesticides, 30 minutes of Alternative Control Methods, 1 hour of Labels, 1 hour of Pesticide Hazards and Safety, 30 minutes of Pesticide Spills, and 1 hour of Pesticide Laws. At a minimum, list these times per classroom topic on the **Pesticide Technician Notice of Training** form.

**2. “MDA-3” APPROVED ON-THE-JOB (OTJ) TRAINING** (16 hours minimum) must meet the following criteria:

- A. The OTJ practical training must cover each topic in the following “**MDA-3” ON-THE-JOB TRAINING OUTLINE**. The suggested times, at a minimum, must be used; and
- B. The OTJ practical training must be done in the physical presence of a Certified Commercial Applicator licensed in Category 3.

**3. “MDA-3”** classroom and OTJ training is to be verified on a **Pesticide Technician Notice of Training** form. The form, along with the **Pesticide Technician Application**, is available online at <https://agriculture.mo.gov/plants/pesticides/technician.php> .

#### **4. “MDA-3” ON-THE-JOB TRAINING OUTLINE:**

##### **A. PEST IDENTIFICATION: (suggested time 1 hour)**

Trainees shall acquire and demonstrate the ability to identify pests commonly found in ornamental and turf pest control. This topic includes the identification of potential harborage, damage caused by, and conditions which favor the existence of ornamental and turf pests.

##### **B. EQUIPMENT: (suggested time 10 hours)**

Trainees shall acquire and demonstrate the ability to use, maintain, and calibrate equipment commonly used to control pests in ornamental and turf pest control.

##### **C. PESTICIDES: (suggested time 2 hours)**

Trainees shall acquire and demonstrate the ability to properly use, mix, handle, store, and dispose of pesticides commonly used in ornamental and turf pest control.

##### **D. ALTERNATIVE CONTROL METHODS: (suggested time 1 hour)**

Trainees shall acquire and demonstrate the ability to use common non-chemical methods of ornamental and turf pest control, including Integrated Pest Management practices.

##### **E. PESTICIDE HAZARDS AND SAFETY: (suggested time 1 hour)**

Trainees shall acquire and demonstrate the ability to use personal protective equipment, proper waste and container disposal methods, and safety procedures that minimize non-target contamination.

##### **F. PESTICIDE SPILLS: (suggested time 1 hour)**

Trainees shall acquire and demonstrate the ability to control, report, and clean up pesticide spills. This shall include: the use of personal protective equipment during cleanup; containment practices and chemical absorption materials; and procedures used to reduce the possibility of pesticide spills.