Paraquat Dichloride New Label Certification Requirements

**RESTRICTED USE PESTICIDE**
**DUE TO ACUTE TOXICITY**

FOR USE ONLY BY CERTIFIED APPLICATORS – NOT TO BE USED BY UNCERTIFIED PERSONS WORKING UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A CERTIFIED APPLICATOR.

If an uncertified individual handles a paraquat product bearing this labeling restriction pictured above, the use is in conflict with the registered labeling and in violation of Food and Agricultural Code section 12973. This requirement applies equally to both growers and pest control businesses using products with labeling bearing this requirement.

A grower or grower employee applying paraquat in accordance with the revised labeling must have a:

- Private Applicator Certificate (PAC),
- Qualified Applicator Certificate (QAC) with Category D, or
- Qualified Applicator License (QAL) with Category D.

Pest Control Business (PCB) employees must have a:

- QAC in the appropriate category,
- QAL in the appropriate category, or
- Journeyman Pest Control Pilot Certificate (apprentice pilots are not certified applicators).

A PCB employee may NOT use paraquat under a PAC. In Title 3 of the California Regulations (3 CCR) section 6000, a PAC is defined as:

**“Private applicator”:**

(a) an individual who uses or supervises the use of a pesticide for the purpose of producing an agricultural commodity as defined by Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, section 171.2(a)(5) (July 1, 2013) on property owned, leased, or rented by him/her or his/her employer; or

(b) a householder who uses or supervises the use of a pesticide outside the confines of a residential dwelling for the purpose of controlling ornamental, plant or turf pests on residential property owned, leased, or rented by that householder.

The private applicator definition in 3 CCR is written in accordance with the restrictions placed upon a private applicator federally. Under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) a Private Applicator is defined as:

A “private applicator” is a certified applicator who uses or supervises the use of any pesticide which is classified for restricted use for purposes of producing any agricultural commodity on property owned or rented by the applicator or the applicator’s employer or (if applied without compensation other than trading of personal services between producers of agricultural commodities) on the property of another person.

Therefore, allowing an employee of a PCB to obtain a PAC to apply paraquat under the new label requirements is in direct conflict with FIFRA.