News column for use week of December 23, 2024 Luke Byers, Crop Production Agent River Valley Extension District K- State Research and Extension December 20, 2024

KDA Postpones Effective Date for Changes to Private Pesticide Applicator Certification

In recent weeks, the Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA) announced rule changes coming to the Private Pesticide Applicator Certification. The Department originally planned to put these rule changes into effect on January 1st, 2025. These would have included a change from an open-book exam to a closed-book exam for initial certification.

Due to substantial public response of general dissatisfaction with the rollout of these new rules, KDA has reconsidered its January 1st effective date. This means that the process for earning or renewing your **Private Pesticide Applicator Certification will NOT change on January 1st**, **2025.** Open-book exams will continue to be administered at your local extension office as usual. KDA plans to eventually put their new rules into effect, but it will not be on January 1st. We at the River Valley Extension District will be sure to promptly pass along any new information that is passed down from KDA as we receive it.

If you have any questions about these changes, please contact Luke Byers, River Valley Extension District Agriculture & Natural Resources Agent, at 785-632-5335, or by email at lsbyers@ksu.edu.

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