State of California DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE COUNTY LICENSING PROGRAM Licensing Examinations For

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL INSPECTOR/BIOLOGIST

SEPARATE EXAMINATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING INSPECTION LICENSES:

PESTICIDE REGULATION (Full Examination)

INVESTIGATION & ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING (Full Examination)

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT: (Full Examination) INSECT AND DISEASE PEST MANAGEMENT (Subcategory) VERTEBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT (Subcategory) WEED CONTROL (Subcategory) APIARY REGULATION (Subcategory)

COMMODITY REGULATION (Full Examination)

PEST PREVENTION AND PLANT REGULATION: (Full Examination) PLANT QUARANTINE AND PEST DETECTION (Subcategory) NURSERY AND SEED REGULATION (Subcategory)

Online application for county licensing examinations is available at:

https://apps4.cdfa.ca.gov/countylicensingexam/

Candidates applying for the County Agricultural Inspector/Biologist <u>and</u> County Weights and Measures Inspector examinations will be scheduled for both examinations on the same day. Candidates may apply for no more than three examinations whether they be full examinations or subcategories. Fees <u>must</u> accompany the application. Under special circumstances, refunds <u>may</u> be issued. Applications submitted without payment will <u>not</u> be accepted. <u>Transcripts and/or Diploma must be submitted with the application by the final filing date or will be rejected. Fax: 916-651-9079 or email: pmontez@cdfa.ca.gov</u>

FEES: SEE FEE SCHEDULE ON LAST PAGE FOR FULL EXPLANATION.

Make Check or money order payable to: Cashier, Department of Food and Agriculture.

CONTINUOUS FILING INFORMATION	Applications will be accepted continuously and must be filed, or POSTMARKED , <u>no later</u> than the <u>CUT-OFF</u> date with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Cashier, 1220 "N" Street, Sacramento, California 95814. <i>Applications</i> <i>postmarked or personally delivered after the cut-off date will be held over for the</i> <i>next examination</i> .
<u>CUT-OFF DATES</u> MAY EXAM: MARCH 15, 2013	If you have a disability and need special testing arrangements, please state on the "Application for Licensing Examination Form 13-037." You will be contacted to
AUGUST EXAM: JUNE 28, 2013	make specific arrangements.
DECEMBER EXAM: OCT. 18, 2013	The application, Form 13-037 <u>must be accompanied</u> by a Notice of Time and Place of Examination, Form 13-086. Both forms are available from the California Department of Food and Agriculture, 1220 "N" Street, Room 444, Sacramento, California 95814 or from any County Agricultural Commissioners' and/or Sealers' of Weights and Measures Office. You may also get the forms online at: <u>https://apps4.cdfa.ca.gov/countylicensingexam/</u>
Written Examination Dates:	<u>May</u> examinations will be held during the week of May 6 - 10, 2013. <u>August</u> examinations will be held during the week of August 19 – 23, 2013. <u>December</u> examinations will be held during the week of December 9-13, 2013.
Place of Examination:	County employees will be scheduled in the county in which they work and/or the county in which examinations are administered. Others will be scheduled in the county in which they live.

→→→ SUBMIT A COPY OF TRANSCRIPTS AND/OR DIPLOMA WITH APPLICATION ←←←

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

<u>Either I</u>

1) Possession of one or more valid statewide specific category licenses as a County Agricultural Inspector/Biologist.

Or II

2) Possession of a Bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college with specialization in:

(A) One or more appropriate disciplines in agricultural, biological, chemical, or physical sciences

<u>Or III</u>

(B) Any discipline with a minimum of 30 semester units, or equivalent, in one or any combination of the following disciplines:

- 1. Agricultural Science,
- 2. Biological Science,
- 3. Chemical Science,
- 4. Physical Science,
- 5. Mathematics, and/or
- 6. Statistics

(3) The educational requirements in subsection (a)(2)(B) may be satisfied if specialized requirements of the Bachelor's degree program include any combination of one or more of these disciplines totaling at least 30 semester units, or equivalent, or may be satisfied through additional college level education, or combination thereof.

If a person is registered as a senior student in an accredited four-year college in one of the specializations above, he/she will be admitted to the examinations, but a license will **not** be issued until proof of graduation is provided by the applicant.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE POSITION

County Agricultural Inspector/Biologists are employed by County Departments of Agriculture. These Departments are authorized by Section 2126 of the Food and Agricultural Code to designate these employees as either Agricultural Inspectors or Agricultural Biologists.

Under the direction of a County Agricultural Commissioner, a County Agricultural Inspector/Biologist enforces laws and regulations contained in the Food and Agricultural Code and in the California Code of Regulations pertaining to the office of County Agricultural Commissioner, and may, under contract, work in federal certification or enforcement programs.

A county agricultural inspector/biologist performs such other duties and activities as the County Agricultural Commissioner prescribes, such as services to the public, to farmers, to home gardeners, and to home owners; must be able to keep accurate records, to prepare clear, concise and accurate reports, and speak effectively.

In those counties where provision is made for various grades of county agricultural inspector/biologist and/or supervisory positions, certain administrative and supervisory duties may be performed by certain county agricultural inspector/biologists. These higher county agricultural inspector/biologists positions require either specialized knowledge in a particular field of agriculture or possession of licenses of qualification in various fields of agricultural inspection.

County Agricultural Inspector/Biologists should be willing to increase their basic knowledge and to accept and fulfill increasing responsibilities because it is from the ranks of county agricultural inspector/biologist that future Deputy County Agricultural Commissioners and County Agricultural Commissioners are developed.

The salary for a County Agricultural Inspector/Biologist is set by the county in which employed and varies from county to county.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE EXAMINATION

PERSONAL CALCULATORS MAY BE USED IN THE EXAMINATIONS. The examination will consist of multiple-choice questions in the subjects listed in the Scope of the Examinations. A separate examination is given for each subject. Each candidate may elect to be examined in one, two, or three of five subjects. A minimum rating of 70 percent must be attained for a passing score.

Candidates applying for both County Agricultural Inspector/Biologist and County Weights and Measures Inspector examinations, or either one, will limit themselves to a total of no more than three (3) subjects. Only candidates who already possess a subcategory license may elect to take a subcategory to complete the license.

Candidates must not only qualify in the California Department of Food and Agriculture examinations for licenses of eligibility, but must meet all of the requirements of the county which may include an additional examination.

A license of eligibility will be issued to each successful candidate to cover one or more of the five (5) different types of inspection work for which qualified.

After each examination is processed, a list of the candidates who were successful in the examination is sent to all County Agricultural Commissioners Offices.

The examination will cover the subject matter and those applicable sections of the Food and Agricultural Code and California Code of Regulations that are in effect at the final filing date of the examination.

SCOPE OF THE EXAMINATIONS

1. **<u>Pesticide Regulation</u>** - (120 Questions - Time allowed - 2 hours)

(Pesticide Use Enforcement). Examples of subject matter included in the examination. Knowledge of:

- Laws and regulations pertaining to pesticides and pest control.
- Licensing and certification requirements.
- Economic poisons; pesticide types, formulations, toxicity, hazards, residues, and labeling.
- Pesticide application equipment, application techniques, and label interpretation.
- Field inspections and record audits.
- Calibration of pesticide application equipment.
- Investigation and Environmental Monitoring (120 Questions Time allowed 2 hours) (Pesticide Use Enforcement) - Examples of subject matter included in the examination. Knowledge of:
 - Administrative procedures and hearings.
 - Enforcement actions and standards.
 - Environmental monitoring and hazard assessment.
 - Investigative procedures and sampling techniques.
 - Pest management systems. (Grapes).
 - Public and media relations.

3. <u>Integrated Pest Management</u> - (120 Questions - Time allowed - 2 hours).

(Insect and Disease Pest Management, Vertebrate Pest Management, Weed Control and Apiary Regulation). Examples of subject matter included in the examination. Knowledge of:

- Identification, life histories, treatments, thresholds, monitoring techniques, hosts, and relative importance of and types of damage caused by <u>common</u> insects, mites, snails and slugs, nematodes, and diseases of agricultural crops and ornamental plants commonly grown in California.
- Principles of plant pest management including chemical, cultural, and biological means i.e. biological control
- Major crops grown in California and areas of the State where they are grown.
- Botany, plant culture, and physiologic and genetic disorders of plants.
- Identification and protection measures for federally listed endangered species associated with vertebrate pest control.
- The crop depredating mammals and birds of California and the type depredation they cause.
- The methods and procedures used for the management for each of the depredating animals.

Integrated Pest Management continued......

- The animal-borne diseases transmissible to man, methods of transmission, vectors and the importance of the disease.
- The laws, regulations and guidelines affecting the authority and responsibilities of governmental agencies and private individuals performing vertebrate pest management activities.
- Safe application of agricultural chemicals.
- Fundamentals of economic botany, native flora including classification and distribution of noxious weeds in California.
- Methods, techniques and equipment used in the survey, detection, identification, suppression, control and eradication of noxious weeds.
- Fundamentals of the botany and plant physiology of poisonous plants and their toxic effects.
- Chemical, biological, cultural and other means of control of agricultural weeds.
- The use of herbicides, their mode of action and possible hazard to susceptible crops.
- State and Federal laws pertaining to the control of noxious weeds.
- Weed pest ratings.
- Safe application of agricultural chemicals.
- Food and Agricultural Code provisions pertinent to bee management.

4. <u>Commodity Regulation</u> - (120 Questions - Time allowed - 2 hours)

(Fruit, Vegetable and Egg Quality Control) - Examples of subject matter included in the examination. Knowledge of:

- Defects, maturity, marking and labeling requirements, standard containers and sampling requirements pertaining to fruits, vegetables and eggs.
- Packing and marketing of fruits and vegetables.
- California standardization and egg laws.
- Fruits, vegetables, seasons and their areas of production.
- Direct marketing.
- Organic products.
- Investigative and enforcement techniques.

5. **Pest Prevention and Plant Regulation** - (120 Questions - Time allowed - 2 hours)

(Plant Quarantine & Pest Detection, and Nursery & Seed Regulation). Examples of subject matter included in the examination.

Knowledge of:

- Methods of pest detection; pest and plant identification; commodity treatment; life histories and host plants of pests; distribution of pests, insects, mites, snails, slugs, nematodes, weeds, plant diseases, mammals, and birds.
- Federal and State plant quarantines.
- Plant quarantine provisions of the Food and Agricultural Code.
- Phytosanitary inspection and certification.
- Plant propagation and taxonomy.
- Methods of detection, identification, control and distribution of pests of nursery plants, insects, mites, snails, slugs, nematodes, weeds, and plant diseases.
- Laws, regulations, and inspection procedures and practices pertaining to nursery stock.
- Agricultural seeds, vegetable seeds, weed seeds, and prohibited and restricted noxious weed seeds.
- Laws and regulations pertaining to seed inspection programs including definitions, licensing, assessment, county subvention program, the Seed Advisory Board, seed certifying agencies, labeling requirements, sampling violations, and general procedures pertaining to seed inspection.
- Culture, handling, packaging, labeling and marketing seeds.

RIGHT OF APPEAL

Within thirty (30) days after the notice of examination results has been mailed, a candidate may appeal in writing to the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, 1220 "N" Street, Sacramento, California 95814, to have written examination papers reviewed on the ground of errors which may have been committed in the rating.

RENEWAL OF LICENSES

Licenses of eligibility for County Agricultural Inspector/Biologist are valid for five (5) years unless revoked.

Licenses of eligibility shall be renewed upon expiration without further examination if the holder is employed in a county agricultural inspector/biologist or weights and measures position, the California Department of Food and Agriculture or with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.

A holder of a license of eligibility who is <u>not</u> employed in a county agricultural inspector/biologist or weights and measures inspector position, with the California Department of Food and Agriculture or with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, but who otherwise meets the minimum qualifications for the class, or has served as an incumbent in the class, may apply to renew the license prior to its expiration upon successful completion of a requalifying examination.

A SUGGESTED READING LIST FOR COUNTY AGRICULTURAL INSPECTOR/BIOLOGIST EXAMINATIONS IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: <u>http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/employment_county_reading_list.html</u>

FEE SCHEDULE

EXAMINATION TYPESAMOUNT DUEFull Examinations\$75.00• Full Examination plus one (1) additional examination (full examination)\$150.00• Full Examination plus two (2) additional examinations (full examination)\$225.00• Full Examination plus one (1) subcategory examination.\$125.00• Full Examination plus two (2) subcategory examinations.\$145.00

Subcategory Examinations

•	Subcategory examination	\$50.00
•	Subcategory plus one (1) additional subcategory examination	\$70.00
•	Subcategory plus two (2) additional subcategory examinations.	\$90.00

Please remit the amount indicated with your application.

Revised 1/9/2013