Frequently Asked Questions: Understanding and Obtaining the GI-BMP Certification and Limited Certification for Urban Landscape Commercial Fertilizer License University of Florida / IFAS Palm Beach County Cooperative Extension Service



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Beginning in January of 2014, anyone who applies fertilizers commercially will be required to hold a Limited Certification for Urban Landscape Commercial Fertilizer (often called the "fertilizer license") issued by the Bureau of Entomology and Pest Control. Anyone who applies fertilizers should hold this license beginning in 2014, (or sooner in cases where local ordinance have been passed). A Green Industries Best Management Practices (GI-BMP) certificate of completion is a prerequisite to applying for the fertilizer license, and is issued to individuals who pass the post-test with a 75% or better. Successful completion of the GI-BMP is proof of training, but is not the fertilizer license itself. You can read more about Palm Beach County's Fertilizer Ordinance here:

http://www.pbcgov.com/coextension/horticulture/commercial/pdf/fertOrdinanceCountyFactSheet.pdf. Below are some of the most frequently asked questions about the GI-BMP training and application for "fertilizer license"

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- I'm not sure if I or my employee(s) passed the GI-BMP post-test. How can I find out?
 - Visit http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/professionals/certification-lists/cert-county-name.shtml. Click on "Palm Beach" to view all professionals who have successfully completed this training. Note: this is not proof of the "fertilizer license", but proof that the prerequisite was earned.
 - o Additionally, you can call 561.233.1759 a minimum of 4 weeks after your GI-BMP class (if you took the class through Palm Beach County Extension), with the date you took it, and we can look it up for you.
- I passed my GI-BMP post-test, but I need to request a replacement certification card. How do I order a replacement?
 - Request a duplicate certificate at the GI-BMP website:
 http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/professionals/BMP replace certificate form.htm. You will need either your training ID number or the date and location of your training.
- My information on file with the state GI-BMP office needs to be changed. How do I change my address?
 - You can update your address and employment information here:
 http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/professionals/BMP contact update form.htm. You will need either your training ID number or the date and location of your training.
- I have my GI-BMP certificate of completion. What do I need to do to obtain my Limited Certification for Urban Landscape Commercial Fertilizer ("fertilizer license")?
 - Complete the FDACS Division of Agricultural Environmental Services application
 (http://www.pbcgov.com/coextension/horticulture/commercial/pdf/APPLICATION FOR LIMITED CERTIFICATION.pdf) along with a check for \$25.00, a photo, and a copy of your GI-BMP certificate to the address on the application. We recommend that you keep the original GI-BMP certificate for your records.
- I applied to FDACS for my "fertilizer license" but never received it. What do I need to do?
 - You can verify that it was issued and obtain your license number by searching for your name here:

 http://app1.flaes.org/ceu/PersonSearch.asp. If your application was not missing any information, it was sent to the address you provided. To request a replacement, you can call 850-617-7973 or email

 (cherie.trimble@freshfromflorida.com) to inquire about a replacement. Duplicates are sent to your address on file, and changes in address must be made in writing to the state.



Process for obtaining GI-BMP Certificate and "Fertilizer License"

Remember, the label is the law; be sure to use products only in a manner consistent with the manufacturer's directions on the labels.

Please use and ensure that others use fertilizers and pesticides safely.