

# PEST MANAGEMENT OFFICER (HEALTH AND NUISANCE PEST MANAGEMENT) PROGRAMME (E-LEARNING)



The way the world thinks about health and wellbeing is changing. Governments now recognise that reducing health inequalities needs more prevention than cure.

If present and future generations are to enjoy a healthy and satisfying life, we need to identify the broad range of environmental health problems which face us and address them before they become unmanageable.

One of these problems is the health impact of urban pests. This is a worldwide problem which can be overcome with effective pest control management techniques and the application of good practice.



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#### **INTRODUCTION**

Pest management professionals play an important role in preserving public health through their efforts in reducing or eliminating pest populations in both urban and rural settings.

The Health and Nuisance Pest Management course is designed to equip students with the disciplinary or conceptual knowledge related to the significant impact that pests have on public health, the processes and procedures applicable to the management of a range of health and nuisance pests, and the specific pest management requirements in sensitive or special accounts such as food establishments, schools, care centres and hospitals.

The Pest Management Industry is regulated by the articles stipulated in the Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No. 36 of 1947), as amended.

#### WHO SHOULD ENROLL?

Individuals who wish to follow a career in the pest management industry, and registered pest control operators/technicians who wish to broaden the scope of their service delivery.

## **COURSE DESIGN**

Online, working at own pace. The course must be completed within twelve months of date of enrolment.

# **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

After successful completion of this course students should be able to demonstrate understanding of:

- The risks posed by urban pests and the factors that influence a successful pest management operation
- The importance of pest management in public health and the significant impact that pests have on public health

- The specific needs and/or rules pertaining to pest management operations in sensitive or special accounts
- The processes and procedures applicable to the management of a range of health and nuisance pests
- The role of pest management in the food industry; the pre-requisite nature of pest management in a HACCP programme; the control methods applied in food manufacturing / warehousing establishments; and the control methods applied in retail food establishments

# **COURSE PROCESS REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Course Manuals and Workbooks**

 Students are required to study the course material and complete the workbooks.

# **Practical Work Experience**

 Students are required to work under supervision of a P-registered Pest Management Officer (Mentor), experienced in the relevant field of pest management, for a minimum period of 6 months or 12 months respectively, depending on the specialised field of pest management for which they have enrolled.

#### **Course Duration**

 A period of 18 to 24 months is recommended for the completion of the course, inclusive of the required period of work experience.

## **COURSE CONTENT**

# The Pest Management Officer FOUNDATIONAL PROGRAMME:

- Module GKM101 The Regulatory Framework of the Pest Management Industry
- Module GKM102 Pesticides and Safety Practices
- Module GKM103 Inspection Principles and Procedures
- Module GKM104 Biology, Damage Patterns and Identification of Pests

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- Module GKM105 Pesticide Application Equipment
- Module GKM106 Pest Management Principles, Planning and Monitoring
- Module GKM107 Customer Services and Teamwork

Students complete a multiple-choice questionnaire after each module, 70% must be achieved. A Completion Certificate will be issued for successful completion of the Pest Management Officer Foundational Programme.

# SPECIALISATION COURSE SKM205 Health and Nuisance Pest Management Topics:

- Module 1 Factors that Influence a successful pest management operation
- Module 2 Pests and public health significance
- Module 3 Sensitive or special accounts
- Module 4 Control of health and nuisance pests
- Module 5 Food handling establishments

Students complete a multiple-choice questionnaire after each module, 70% must be achieved. A Completion Certificate will be issued for successful completion of the Health and Nuisance Pest Management Programme

# **COURSE FEES**

#### **New/First time students:**

Full course, i.e. Pest Management Officer Foundational Programme consisting of seven modules (GKM 101 to GKM 107) + The Health and Nuisance Pest Management Specialisation Course

Price: R5 200-00.

Time to complete: 12 months

Persons who are in possession of a valid P-Registration (licence), and who wish to enrol for the Health and Nuisance Pest Management Specialisation Course

Price: R3 800-00.

Time to complete: 6 months

**Practical Assessment:** upon completion of the course material and the required minimum period of work experience, apply to PCITA to undergo a practical assessment.

Price: R1 500-00

Time: Within 3 months after completion of the course

A re-assessment fee of **R300** shall be payable after failing a module for the second time

#### **REGISTRATION PROCESS**

Students may, upon production of the Certificate of Competence and the duly signed and stamped Work Experience Log (Record), apply for registration as a Pest Management Officer with the Registrar, Department of Agriculture authorising a person to provide pest management services.

## **CERTIFICATION**

The Foundation for Professional Development will award successful participants with a certificate of completion. PCITA will issue a Certificate of Competence.