SPCB IPM CE Committee Hour changes
(Branch 1 will be excluded from this conversation)

Currently:
8 hr laws/regs
4 hr tech per branch
2 IPM
4 hr general
16 hours for one branch every three years, 20 for two branches

Options (all examples are for one branch):

- Make all 4 tech IPM for each branch (total 16 for one and 20 for two)
- Make 4 IPM, 2 tech, 2 general (total 16 for one and 18 for two)
- Make 4 IPM, 4 tech, and remove the general (total 16 for one and 20 for two)
- Make 4 IPM, 4 tech, and 4 general (total of 20 for one branch and 24 for two)

Questions for discussion

- Does this effect total number of required hours to renew? How?
  - Currently 5.33 hrs per years; increase to 7-8 hrs per year = 21-24 hr required for renewal
  - possible breakdown: 8 hr laws/regs, 4 tech, 5 IPM, 4 general
- Does this effect the laws/regs hours? How?
- Does the renewal interval effect this? How?
  - Currently 3 year renewal cycle
  - What about 2 or 4 year renewal cycle?
- Does changing any total hours required effect the branch one renewals?
- Is there a way to incorporate IPM in the laws/regs category to account for part of those hours? (i.e. 8 hr l/r with 2 of those IPM, 4 tech, 2 IPM, 2 general = 16 total hours)
- How will this effect the renewals of Applicators?
  - There are aspects of IPM that this set of licensees are not allowed to be held accountable to.

SPCB IPM CE Committee: Possible criteria for what can be given IPM credits

- Based on the definition in section 1984
- Structural integrated pest management (IPM) means a systematic decision making approach to managing pests, which focuses on long-term prevention or suppression with minimal impact on human health, property, the environment, and non-target organisms. Structural IPM incorporates all reasonable measures to prevent pest problems by properly identifying pests, monitoring population dynamics, and using behavioral, physical, biological or chemical pest population control measures to reduce pests to acceptable levels. If a pesticide application or other intervention is determined to be necessary, the selection and application of the intervention shall be performed in a manner that minimizes risk to people, property, the environment, and non-target organisms, while providing effective pest management.
(b) For the purpose of this section, intervention means an action, device, product or practice that is intended for the prevention, control, management, elimination or abatement of a pest.
    - For the purpose of this section, intervention means an action, device, product or practice that is intended for the prevention, control, management, elimination or abatement of a pest.
- Topics that could be involved
    - Insect identification and biology including breedng sites and conducive conditions for the success of the pests
    - Preventative actions that can be taken for the pest to discourage them from establishing a population
        - Habitat modification
        - Sanitation practices
    - Actions that can be taken to prevent access into the building
    - Tolerances or acceptable numbers for each pest dicussed in the specific environments that the pest may be found (I.e. interior vs exterior, residential vs commercial, warehouse vs food processing plant, etc.)
    - Curative actions that can be taken if pest is found to be present
        - Non-chemical (I.e vacuuming, trapping, etc.)
        - Chemical (I.e. Baits, sprays, etc.)
    - Discussion of the impact of formulations including their use in certain situations
    - The environmental benefit of IPM
    - Monitoring techniques and equipment including their use and how to read/interpret the data
    - How to perform an inspection for the pests discussed
    - Examples of documentation tha could be included
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Suggestions to Structural IPM Continuing Education Committee by Naresh Duggal

Purpose: Enhancing pest management knowledge and skills of licensed structural pest control service providers in solving pest issues using integrated approach.

Why there is a need to improve current continuing education requirements for pest control license holders?

The need for delivering safe pest management (the core vision of the California Structural Pest Control Board's vision) to consumers is beyond question. Currently, services offered in the marketplace are reactive, driven by economics whereby most consumers often opting for pesticide applications the only tool they know to solve their pest problem.

Consumers have diverse views and preferences about pesticide use. The public generally believes that insects, diseases, and other pests need to be controlled but also believes that there are effective alternatives to pesticides. This diversity has important implications for public policy, marketing, and risk communication. Public is becoming increasingly concerned about the impact of pesticides on their health and the local ecosystem. While the debate continues about whether pesticide residue problems are real or perceived, there are real problems all should be directing their efforts toward solving that is less reliance on pesticides in solving pest problems. Pesticides are not a homogeneous group of chemicals. There are many different chemicals with many different characteristics, potential health risks and potential environmental effects.

The solution to public concerns lies within promoting and practicing integrated pest management (IPM). However, transitioning from pesticide centric services to an overall integrated approach is often challenging. Besides continued efforts to make consumer aware of IPM (an environmentally sensible approach), concerted efforts (including legislative support and actions) are also required to build capacity –

- ✓ A licensed workforce which is trained, equipped with IPM knowledge and skills, solving pest problems with less reliance on pesticides.

- ✓ A licensed workforce which can deliver site specific IPM services to variety of sensitive public environments such as single and multi-family housing residences, office complexes, schools, daycares, nursing and retirement homes, food service restaurants, cafeterias, food and non-food retail outlets, lodging and hospitality, hospitals and clinics, transportation systems, parks and more.
- ✓ A licensed workforce that communicates and relate benefits of IPM approach to consumers

This can only be accomplished through a standardized training curriculum and pest control license renewal requiring adequate hours of continuing education in IPM. Many pest control operators (small to large) have mentioned that they continuously train their service employees in IPM. Some of them have documented process of their in-house trainings and many others send their employees to attend workshops hosted by their trade associations. It can be safely assumed that the industry has interest in providing continuing IPM education to their employees and many of them have vested resources to do so. The one those who already provide adequate IPM training should not have any difficulty documenting these hours and others who don't will follow the minimum standards as suggested here.

In the last decade, the University of California has also invested significantly in developing urban and community IPM training resources and made these available on-line. Several of UC IPM projects (research, outreach, demonstrations) are also funded by the CA Structural Pest Control Board and the Department of Pesticide Regulation.

All of this demonstrates that all stakeholders including consumer, industry, research, academia and legislative body have vested interest in seeing IPM takes a strong foothold in the structural pest control marketplace and becomes mainstream service to the consumer thus protecting public health and environment.

Several avenues of providing IPM knowledge and skills to licensed professional can be explored including private, commercial and institutional educators. However, a legislative mandate from

the Structural Pest Control Board will help streamline minimum standards (adequate number of hours and curriculum) to be followed by all licensed pest control service providers.

What is the suggested path to follow?

A suggested path to set minimum standards and adequate number of hours of training is as follows:

1. **Pesticide Laws and Regulations**

   Consider a minimum of 8 hours of continuing education per licensing period of 3 years for all Branch 1, Branch 2 and Branch 3 – Applicator, Field Representative and Operator

2. **Structural IPM Education**

   Consider a minimum of 54 hours of structural IPM continuing education per licensing period of 3 years in following categories:

   a. General Pest Management for Branch 2 – Applicator, Field Representative and Operator

   b. Wood Destroying Pest Management for Branch 1 and Branch 3 – Applicator, Field Representative, and Operator

3. **Safe and Effective Use of Pesticide and Pesticide Equipment; Protecting Self, People and Pets, and the Environment (air and water resources, endangered species, non-target organisms):**

   Consider a minimum of 20 hours of continuing education per licensing period of 3 years

   a. Pesticide and Pesticide Equipment Safety for Branch 2 – Applicator, Field Representative and Operator

   b. Pesticide and Pesticide Equipment Safety for Branch 1– Applicator, Field Representative and Operator

   c. Pesticide and Pesticide Equipment Safety for Branch 3– Applicator, Field Representative and Operator

What it means in terms of hours of investment over three year period? When consumer protection, public health and safer environment is at stake and of prime importance, investing a

total of 80 hours in trade related continuing education over 6240 (3 years) working hours of a pest management professional is a fair investment (1.28 percent of total work output).

Which primary topics fairly represent Pesticide Laws and Regulations?

Suggested topics include:

- ✓ Structural pest control act and regulations
- ✓ Structural pest control licensing and certification

Which primary topics fairly represent Structural IPM Education?

Managing pest using integrated approaches is a broader practice than just applying pesticides. It is therefore necessary to standardize structural IPM continuing education that fairly represent the intent of definition as defined under CA SPCB Act and Regulation. In the context of structural pest control, the California Structural Pest Control Board (SPCB) has adopted the following definition for Structural IPM:

a. Structural integrated pest management (IPM) means a systematic decision making approach to managing pests, which focuses on long-term management or suppression with minimal impact on human health, property, the environment, and non-target organisms. Structural IPM incorporates all reasonable measures to prevent problems by properly identifying pests, monitoring population dynamics, and using cultural, physical, biological, and chemical pest population control measures to reduce pests to acceptable levels. If a pesticide application or other intervention is determined to be necessary, the selection and application of the intervention shall be performed in a manner that minimizes risk to people, property, the environment, and non-target organisms, while providing effective pest management.

b. For the purposes of this section, intervention means an action, device, product or practice that is intended for the prevention, control, management, elimination or abatement of a pest.

Developing licensed pest management professionals (not just pesticide applicators) who offer integrated pest management services will require continuing education on following:

- ✓ Pest identification
- ✓ Life cycle and habits
- ✓ Damage
- ✓ Management
    - o monitoring, inspection, detection,
    - o prevention,
    - o non-chemical management including
        - ▪ structural sanitation, housekeeping and maintenance
    - o biological controls
    - o chemical controls using reduced risk or low impact pesticide chemistries, formulations and technologies
- ✓ Advance applications of entomology
- ✓ Food safety – principles and practices
- ✓ Ecological principles as it related to structural IPM

In order to have an overall coverage, the above mentioned topics should be assigned a weighted average in the continuing education curriculum for educators.

Which primary topics fairly represent safe and effective use of pesticide and pesticide application equipment?

Suggested topics include:

- ✓ Reading Pesticide Labels
- ✓ Hazards associated with pesticide use
- ✓ Protecting people and the environment including
    - o Pesticide applicator safety
    - o Personal safety equipment
    - o Fieldworker safety
    - o Fumigation worker safety

- Public and environmental safety
- Pesticide residues and drift management
- Air and ground water protection
- Endangered species protection

✓ Pesticide storage, transportation and disposal

✓ Pesticide emergencies including

- Poison Prevention
- First aid
- Pesticide leaks and spills, fires, thefts and misapplications

✓ Effective use of pesticides

✓ Pesticide application equipment, use, calibration and maintenance

✓ Record keeping

In order to have an overall coverage, the above mentioned topics should be assigned a weighted average in the continuing education curriculum for educators.
