



P&L Marketing, Inc.

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Subject: Licensing Required to Purchase and Apply SO₂ to Wine Barrels & Corks

Microbial pest control subcategory P

(currently only includes wine making)

Sulfur dioxide gas (SO₂) and liquid bisulfite products are used in the wine-making process as microbial agents to sanitize corks and wine barrel interiors before use. Recently, USEPA designated as federally restricted one SO₂ gas pesticide product, The Fruit Doctor registered by Snowden and distributed by Aeris. As with any federally restricted use pesticide, the user must be certified by DPR through written exam to demonstrate competency.

To help address the need to certify applicators, DPR's Licensing and Certification program (L&C) has developed an exam for a new subcategory P, Microbial Pest Control that will include the wine cork and wine barrel uses. To qualify for subcategory P, the applicant will need to take the Laws and Regulations exam in addition to the subcategory P exam. The subcategory interim exam is based on the use of sulfur dioxide gas in wine making.

The applicant must complete the QAC application and pay appropriate fees in order to schedule the examinations. The current application does not list subcategory P so just check the "Other" box and write subcategory P next to it. Once the person becomes qualified, they will receive a QAC card embossed with subcategory P, Microbial Pest Control.

The subcategory P and Laws and Regulations exams will be administered with other scheduled examinations on a first-come-first-served basis.

Exam dates are scheduled throughout the year in other areas of the state (see exam schedule at http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/exam_sched.pdf)

For help passing the exams <http://www.pesticideguides.com/wineries.html> or call P&L Marketing, Inc. (559) 733-5047 ask for "Fast Track Pesticide Applicator Exam Prep Course"