Licensing requirements for pesticide applications to cannabis

Do I need a license to apply pesticides to cannabis?

Only if you are setting yourself up as a business to apply pesticides for others. If you use pesticides on cannabis plants that you or your employer are growing you DO NOT need a license. For more information about when you do need a license, see below.

Commercial Pesticide Operator license – Business license

A business making pesticide applications for another person or entity is required to have a Commercial Pesticide Operator license. The business must show proof of insurance and employ at least one individual who is appropriately licensed as a commercial pesticide applicator.

Commercial Pesticide Applicator license – Individual license

A person who makes pesticide applications to someone else's property or plants must be licensed as a Commercial Pesticide Applicator. Commercial Pesticide Applicators must take and pass a general laws and safety exam, as well as at least one category specific exam, and also be licensed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA). The Commercial Pesticide Applicator can only make pesticide applications within the categories on their license.

Categories for commercial pesticide applicators applying in/on cannabis (to include medical, recreational, or hemp):

- Agriculture: Insecticide/Fungicide
- Agriculture: Herbicide
- Ornamental and Turf: Insecticide/Fungicide
- Ornamental and Turf: Herbicide

Contact a licensing specialist for help determining which category is most appropriate. In addition, ODA has other pesticide licenses and license categories that might apply in specific situations.

For more information, visit the ODA pesticide licensing webpage:

https://www.oregon.gov/oda/programs/Pesticides/Licensing/Pages/PesticideLicensing.aspx

