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Professional Continuing Education for Commercial Pesticide Applicators: A Case Study in Standard Setting

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Abstract

Indiana's pesticide regulatory agency, the Office of Indiana State Chemist, offers commercial pesticide applicators an option of renewing certification by re-testing or through continuing education. The program has operated under policy during its 30-year history and was only recently drafted into rule. The most significant hurdle to rule development was determining an appropriate number of recertification training hours for each applicator category. A successful outcome was achieved through democratic negotiation with the regulated community based on the results of a category-by-criteria rating activity that rationally determined number of training hours.

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