



HR Newsletter

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HR Newsletter No. 71 | 4 July 2025

The Citrus Academy Pest Control Operator accredited e-learning short course has arrived!

The registration process for the PCO accredited short course via e-learning has commenced. We will open enrolment on **Wednesday, 9 July 2025**. This course will be delivered via our e-learning platform, and you will have up to 10 weeks to complete it.

- The **Citrus Academy Pest Control Operator short course** is credit bearing and meets the requirements set out by the Pest Control Operator regulations.
- The PCO short course is 7 credits and compiled from two unit standards and meets all AgriSETA requirements.

Please see more details on the next page.

For queries, email our **Project coordinator, Sive Silo** or **Engagement manager, Sam Louw**.

The Citrus Academy presents

PEST CONTROL OPERATOR

Accredited Short Course
E-Learning Programme



Did you Know?

A pest control operator (PCO) is a worker who is trained in the use and handling of restricted chemicals for pest control.

Pest control operators are regulated under Act No. 36 of 1947, and a person must apply to the Department of Agriculture, to become registered.

According to the "Pest Control Operator Regulations" of 18 February 2011, employees who handle restricted agricultural remedies must be registered as PCOs or perform such duties under the direct supervision of a registered PCO.

To qualify to become a PCO

- ✓ A person with a diploma or degree in a biological field such as entomology, pathology, crop protection, weed science, or any relevant qualification may be exempted from the requirement of a short course or practical experience depending on prior experience.
- ✓ A person without the above qualifications must complete a credit bearing short course in pest control in the field of agriculture and forestry from an accredited skills development provider.
- ✓ The person must obtain practical experience under a registered PCO for 6 to 12 months, depending on the relevant field of certification.
- ✓ The person should undergo a medical examination and must submit the template report completed by a qualified medical practitioner with their application.
- ✓ Following the approval of the PCO application, the certificate will be valid for a period of three years.

Course content: Restricted Remedies, IPM, Application Preparation, Agrochemical Application, Agrochemical Storage

Accreditation Number: AGRI/c prov/1725/21

Unit Standards: 116301 – 3 credits –NQF L4
116125 – 4 credits – NQF L2

Course duration: 10 weeks

Course fees: R2500 (ex VAT)

Outcome: Citrus Academy certification


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