

## **Pesticide Certification and Licensing Requirements for Persons/Companies Who Perform Mold Remediation**

There are many pesticide products on the market in Wisconsin that are registered to kill/control microbes (disease-causing microscopic pests) on surfaces. Some of these products are labeled only as one or more of the following: germicides, disinfectants, and sanitizers. In Wisconsin, certification and licensing requirements do not apply to applicators using such products. However, other products have labels that refer to the product being a "*fungicide*" - - such as claiming to kill/control mold and mildew and/or having language such as "fungicide" or "fungicidal" -- and applicators must meet certification/licensing requirements in order to use these products to kill/control mold and mildew.

Using the attached label for Sporidicin Disinfectant Solution (EPA Reg. No. 8383-3) as an example of a product that has several different uses/claims (disinfects, cleans, deodorizes, bactericidal, fungicidal, kills mold and mildew), one can see how easy it is for a person to become confused by the label language when trying to determine individual certification/licensing requirements. This document will help clarify these requirements.

The purpose of a disinfectant/sanitizer is to kill or inactivate disease producing microorganisms on inanimate objects. Disinfectants/sanitizers do not kill mold or mildew. Because mold and mildew are pests identified within our definition of "fungus", when this product is used for the purposes of killing mold and mildew (as stated on the front and rear panel of the product label), the person/business using this product will be making, or has made, a fungicide application. When using this product as a fungicide, person/businesses making applications of this type must be certified/licensed (For-Hire only, Restricted-Use or public school applications) within the appropriate commercial certification category. Due to our certification categories, primarily being "site specific", persons making these types of applications would need certification in the Structural (7.1) pest control category. Although the structural pest control training manual does not place a heavy emphasis on mold/mildew; the manual does contain "mold" information within its Pest portion, and additionally, discusses the uses of and hazards associated with fungicide products and applications.

These requirements have been in place all along, the mold remediation industry now realizing that they are using a product as a fungicide and not a disinfectant. Additionally, these applications are considered commercial pesticide applications, and the need to comply with those requirements is an issue.

### What is needed if your firm is using products that control mold and mildew. (fungicides):

1. Applicators must be certified in the Structural Pest Control Category – 7.1.
2. Applicator must be licensed to apply pesticides commercially.
3. Business must be licensed.
4. Business and applicator must maintain application records.
5. Business must make an offer to provide pre-application information to customers.
6. Post application information must be provided to the customer and/or resident at the time of the application.

If you have a question related to certification and licensing, contact DATCP at 608-224-4551.

If you have a question about the product you are using, contact DATCP at 608-224- 4547.