

RESTRICTED AGRICULTURAL REMEDIES AND PCO REQUIREMENTS



20 MARCH 2025



REGULATION ROADMAP

1947:
Act 36
implemented

1977:
Enhanced
oversight

1980:
Introduction
of PCO's



2011
Modernising
Pesticide
Management



2013
Prohibition Notice
for Agri-remedies



2023
Introduction of
"Restricted
Agricultural Remedies"



2024
Illegal Street
Poisons



Jan 2025
Full Implementation
and Compliance
Monitoring



Awaiting Feedback
on the request for
Phase-in periods



Future
What to expect?
What is expected
from the industry?





1947 - 1980

- Act 36 implemented in 1947
 - Establishes the Office of the Registrar
- Amended in 1977 to enhance regulatory oversight
 - Granted additional power to the registrar to control sales, imports and the use of agri-remedies
- 1980 Pest Control Operators (PCO) Introduced

2011

- Pest Control Operator Regulations (February 18, 2011) clarify PCO responsibilities.
- Introduces exemptions for farm employees working on their employer's property unless handling hazardous remedies.

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RESTRICTED AGRICULTURAL REMEDIES



2023

Introduction of "Restricted Agricultural Remedies"

- August 23, 2023: DALRRD publishes new criteria for classifying restricted agricultural remedies.
- Restricted remedies are acutely toxic and require PCO registration for both use and purchase.
 - Farmers are not exempted from PCO certification requirements.

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2024

Introduction of "Restricted Agricultural Remedies"

- Following the incident of poison-related deaths the president ordered investigations
- DALRRD & Dept. of Health (DOH) inspectors begin rigorous inspections into the Agricultural remedies supply chain.
- Croplife SA starts workshops and communication campaigns to guide members on compliance

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EXAMPLES OF RESTRICTED AGRICULTURAL REMEDIES

MAIZE

Most Common Active Ingredient	Uses	Examples of products
Abamectin	Insecticide	Abamectin 18 EC & Avicta 500 FS
Aluminium phosphide	Insecticide	Quickphos Pellets & Aluminium Phos Pellets
Carbofuran	Insecticide	Carbofuran 100 GR & Agfuran 10 GR
Oxamyl	Insecticide	Platoon 310 SL & Stetson 100 GR
Terbufos	Insecticide	Terbufos 150 & Ortofos 10 G
Paraquat	Herbicide	FarmAg Paraquat 200

EXAMPLES OF RESTRICTED AGRICULTURAL REMEDIES

SOYBEANS

Most Common Active Ingredient	Uses	Examples of products
Carbofuran	Insecticide	Carbodan 10 GR & Carbofuran 100 GR
Methomyl	Insecticide	Methomex 900 SP & Methomyl 200 SL
Oxamyl	Insecticide	Arythion 420 EC & Methidathion 420 EC
Terbufos	Insecticide	Bitrad Terbufos 15 GR & Counter FC 15G

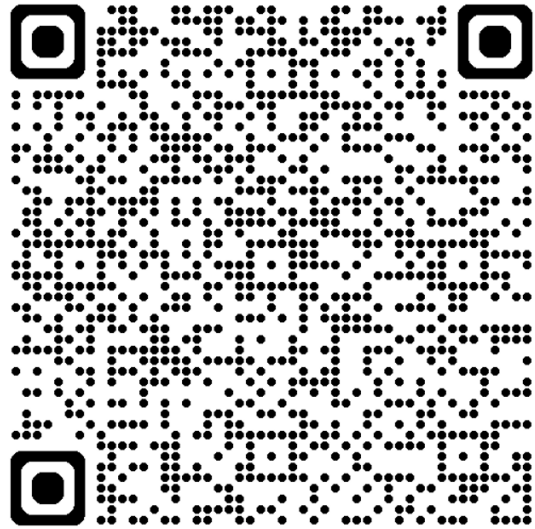
EXAMPLES OF RESTRICTED AGRICULTURAL REMEDIES

SUNFLOWERS

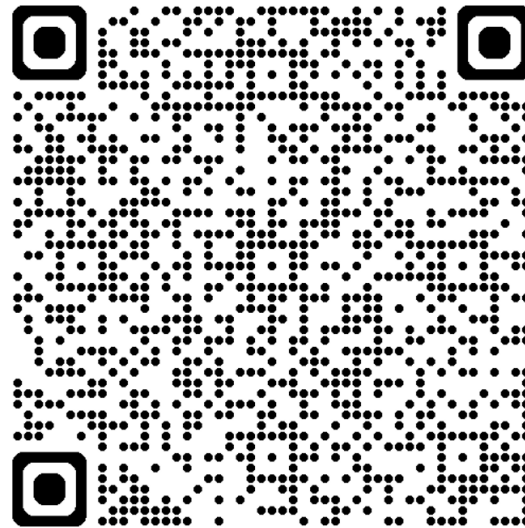
Most Common Active Ingredient	Uses	Examples of products
Alachlor	Herbicides	Alachlor 384 EC & Eland
Carbofuran	Insecticide	Carbodan 10 GR & Agfuran 10 GR
Methomyl	Insecticide	Methomex 900 SP & Methomyl 900 SP
Oxamyl	Insecticide	Strangler SL & Strangler SL
Terbufos	Insecticide	Ortofos 15 G & Bitrad Terbufos 15 GR

Lists of Restricted Agricultural Remedy

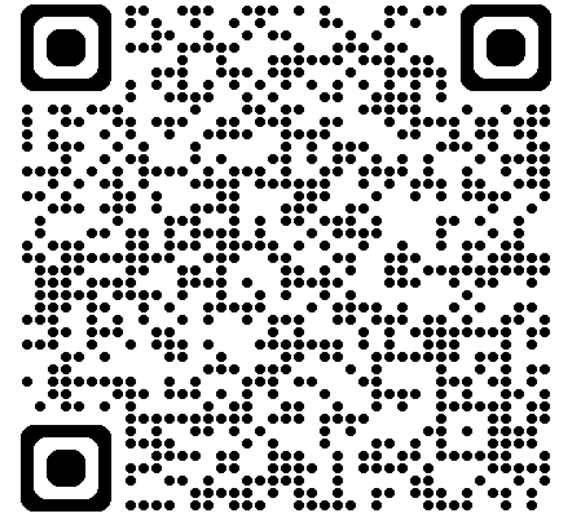
WHO Class 1b



Rotterdam Convention



DALRRD GHS



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SALES OF RESTRICTED AGRICULTURAL REMEDIES

- ONLY registered PCOs are allowed to purchase the restricted remedies
- If PCO is unavailable, a designated farm owner/ worker may purchase the restricted remedy on behalf of the PCO, but the following conditions must be met:
 - On the initial purchase, the PCO must accompany the designated farm owner/ worker to the supplier or distributor.
 - The PCO needs to submit a certified PCO registration certificate and a signed letter indicating that the PCO has given the designated individual permission to purchase any remedy on their behalf.
 - The supplier will keep these documents to make the next purchase easier.
- The sales restriction only applies to the farm workers, owners or anyone else who will be applying these remedies (end-users of the product).
- Distributors, agents, or middlemen who are reselling the remedies are not required to be registered as PCOs.



PEST CONTROL OPERATORS (PCOs)



Jan 2025

Full Implementation and Compliance Monitoring

- Farmers must ensure a qualified PCO is present when using restricted remedies.
 - Sales of restricted remedies are now strictly limited to registered PCOs.
 - PCO registration processes are being prioritised by the Registrar's office.
- All industry players are urged to align with the new regulations to avoid legal consequences.

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How do I become a PCO?

1. Pay the application fee of R 2 986.00

Submit to DALRRD

2. Prepare a resume.

3. Complete the relevant accredited course

**Exemption for persons holding a diploma/ degree in entomology, pathology, crop protection, weed science and other relevant qualifications.*

4. Obtain Practical Experience (6-12 months) under PCO supervision.

Alternatively...

Grain SA & Industry Training Day (Work in progress)

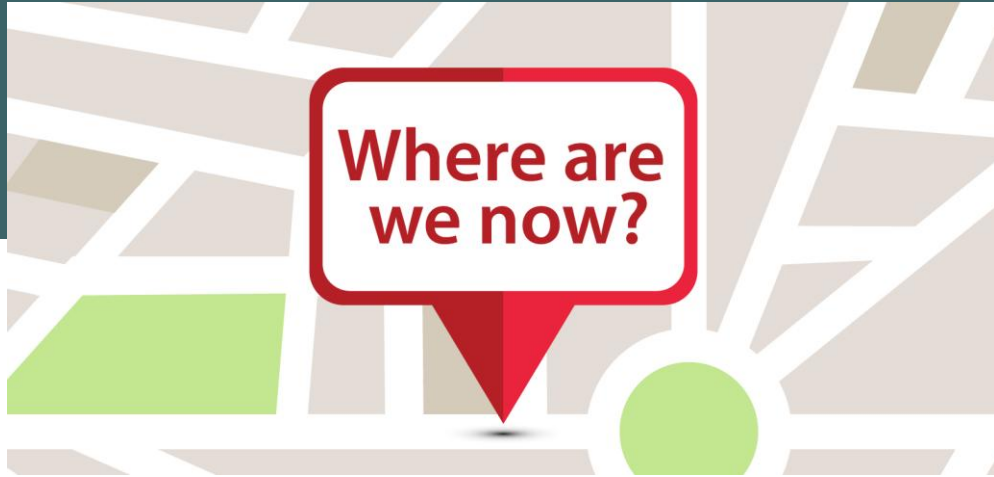
1-day practical training

5. Pass a medical exam by a qualified practitioner.

6. Obtain a PCO license in the Agriculture and Forestry category.

Which course should I enrol in?

1. Pest Management Academy
 - 3 Days classroom, E-learning (Own Pace)
2. Pest Control Industries Training Academy
 - 3 Days classroom or E-Learning (30 days)
3. DeltaTrax Projects
 - 3 Days classroom or E-learning (30 days)
4. Grain Training Institute
 - 2 weeks classroom, E-Learning 6 months



**WHAT ACTIONS ARE THE
INDUSTRY AND GSA CURRENTLY
TAKING?**



Currently

- Grain SA, together with industry members have requested a phase-in period from the registrar.

What to expect?

- Communication from the registrar on approval/disproval of a phase-in period.
- Should the request be granted an 18-month phase-in period will be applicable.
- The phase-in period will be re-evaluated 9 months after approval.

What is expected from industry?

- The industry must address current challenges such as:
 - Communication with affected members on certification procedure.
 - Conveying to affected members the affected remedies.
 - Encouraging growers to consider alternative remedies.
 - Providing information on training.