

Do you need a pest management technician licence?

Purpose

This guide provides clarification on the types of activities that require a pest management technician (PMT) licence under the *Pest Management Act 2001*.

Background

Pests

Pest include:

- Arthropods
 - insects (beetles, ants, silverfish, flies, moths, thrips, cockroaches, lawn grubs and termites)
 - myriapods (millipedes and centipedes)
 - arachnids (spiders, ticks and mites)
 - crustaceans (slaters)
- Birds
- Molluscs
- Rodents.

Pesticides

A pesticide can be a chemical or biological entity that is used to kill, stupefy, repel, inhibit the feeding of, or modifies the development or reproductive capacity of a pest. Pesticides contain many different active constituents which can impact on where and to whom the products can be sold. Some of the more dangerous pesticides can only be sold to PMTs while others are freely available through sale at a grocery store.

Pesticides sold by a grocery store are referred to as household pesticides. These household pesticides can also be used as part of a business activity.

When is a licence required?

If you apply a pesticide to any of the pests listed above as part of a business activity, then a licence may be required.

It can sometimes be confusing to work out whether a licence is required as there are some exceptions to the requirements. The table of activities has been developed to provide guidance as to whether a licence is required. Examples of potential occupations who may be involved in conducting the activity have been provided as a guide only and are not an exhaustive list.

Activity	Where	Who	Licence required?
Using pesticides inside or outside a premise (including gardens, yards etc.) to treat pests as part of a business activity.	Domestic or commercial premises	PMT, carpet cleaners, home handy man, lawn maintenance	Yes
Using household pesticides (pesticides that are sold at a grocery store) to treat pests inside or outside a premise as part of a business activity.	Domestic or commercial premises	PMT, home handy man, carpet cleaner, cleaners, garden maintenance people	Yes
Using household pesticides to treat pests inside or outside the house you occupy.	Domestic premises	Home owner, home occupier	No
Using household pesticides to treat a property you own and rent when it is not occupied.	Domestic premises	Home owner	No
Using household pesticides to treat a property you own and rent when it is occupied.	Domestic premises	Home owner	Yes
Using household pesticides to treat a food store for pests.	Commercial premises	Store owner, store staff	No
Using pesticides to treat a food store for pests (e.g. purchased from hardware stores)	Commercial premises	Store owner, store staff	Yes
Using pesticides to treat a lawn for grub or beetle infestation.	Domestic premises	Lawn care specialist, handy man, gardener	Yes
Using pesticides for the treatment and care of the growing of plants at a sporting ground or place used for recreation, such as a park.	Football oval, council park, bowling green	Groundsman, bowls club green keeper	No*
Using pesticides for the treating of plants for insect infestation, such as aphids.	Domestic or commercial premises	Lawn care specialist, handy man, gardener	Yes
Using pesticides for treating animals for fleas.	Domestic premises	Pet owner, pet grooming business, handy man	No
Using pesticides to treat seeds or grains for animal food.	Farm, grain packaging or storage facility	Farmer, maintenance staff	No
Using an agricultural chemical product (approved under the Section 4 of the Queensland Agvet Code) for aerial application.	Farm, forest	Commercial pilot, farmer	No*
Using pesticides in primary production (means the production, storage, or preparation for the marketing or export, of agriculture or horticulture products).	Primary production farm	PMT, farmer, farm worker, nursery worker	No*
Using pesticides to preserve timber on a commercial basis as an Environmentally Relevant Activity under the <i>Environment Protection Act 1994</i> .	Wood preservation facility	PMT, wood preservation plant staff	No

*There may be other licence requirements by other government agencies such as Biosecurity Queensland.

What happens if I do not comply?

If you are caught conducting a pest control activity without a licence, you may be subject to prosecution.

Where can I get more information?

Please refer to the [Pest Management Regulation 2003](#) or contact your local [Public Health Unit](#) or call 3328 9310 to be transferred to your local Public Health Unit.