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NPCA EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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NPCA EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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The major thrust of the Education Committee results from the rather urgent need to implement interesting programs in which supervisors may train for examination and certification under the qualifications of the pesticide act. While it is not easy at this time to determine what certification is going to be, what supervisors are going to be involved, what kind of examination they are going to have to take, and how the state is going to interpret all of this, we therefore cannot be specific. The wheels are grinding away, and as you know, the timetable is winding down; and we may be faced with a rather short period of time to get these people qualified. Our industry hopes that we will have the training to offer and that all supervisors from around the country have the opportunity to prepare, take the examination, and be certified.

Secondly, you have probably been aware that there are programmed instructions coming out from NPCA for training service technicians. This will continue, and it is going to move on at an accelerated rate. We have now eleven program instruction booklets that you can use for training new personnel. While the early training materials tended to come out in a mish-mash and without a good guide as to how to use them, we hope this has been changed.

A new guide for training new employees will be coming out soon, and each NPCA member will be receiving one. Non-NPCA members may purchase it. This guide will recommend how to use the tools that you already have in your hands, in what order, when, how, and so on, so that when your man comes on the job for the first day, there is a checklist of things that you can go over with him. We highly suggest that you follow the training guide through the thirtieth day of his training. That thirtieth day may come six months after he has been employed. You may want to bring him onto the D.J.T. scene productively before he completes his entire initial training.

We would be very happy to hear from any of you who have been using these tools. Anything that you can tell us will make the job easier and more efficient. Certainly this is an area in which the new FEPCA law is going to demand that our industry come up with trained supervision. Frankly, we hope that once we get the supervisors certified we can put some increasing effort towards getting all the standards and levels for all our service personnel pulled up above the minimums that might be required.