



REGULATORY AGENCY ACTION

viduals, employed by licensees, are required to take a written exam on pesticide equipment, formulation, application and label directions if they apply pesticides. Such certificates are not transferable from one company to another.

SPCB is comprised of four public and three industry representatives.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Regulation Proposals. The Board is preparing to propose regulations which will allow Branch 1 or Branch 2 licensure applicants to substitute education for on-the-job experience. For example, one semester would be equivalent to one month in the field of pesticide application. Education would be allowed to substitute for a maximum equivalent of one-and-one-half years of required work experience.

The Board has also requested its staff to review and change its applicator certification testing procedures. Specifically, the Board has requested that two tests be created and administered—one for Branch 2 General Pest applicants, and one for Branch 3 Termite Control applicants.

LEGISLATION:

AB 1596 (Cortese), which would authorize the Department of Food and Agriculture's Pesticide Enforcement Branch to levy fines against imported produce handlers for violations of laws relating to produce which carries pesticide residue, passed the Assembly in late January and is pending in the Senate Agriculture and Water Resources Committee at this writing.

AB 3059 (Arias) would amend existing law which requires a structural pest control operator to issue a written inspection report to a person requesting an inspection of premises for the absence or presence of wood-destroying pests or organisms. On or after July 1, 1989, each recommendation for corrective measure included in the report must separately state the infestation or infection which is evident and the conditions that are present which are deemed likely to lead to infestation or infection. Under specified circumstances, the bill would also require an estimate or bid for repairs to be given, separately allocating the costs to perform each and every corrective recommendation. This bill is pending in the Assembly Governmental Efficiency and Consumer Protection Committee.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

July 30 in Monterey.

TAX PREPARER PROGRAM

Administrator: Don Procida
(916) 324-4977

Enacted in 1973, abolished in 1982, and reenacted by SB 1453 (Presley) effective January 31, 1983, the Tax Preparer Program registers commercial tax preparers and tax interviewers in California.

Registrants must be at least eighteen years old, have a high school diploma or pass an equivalency exam, have completed sixty hours of instruction in basic personal income tax law, theory and practice within the previous eighteen months or have at least two years' experience equivalent to that instruction. Twenty hours of continuing education are required each year.

Prior to registration, tax preparers must deposit a bond or cash in the amount of \$2,000 with the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Members of the State Bar of California, accountants regulated by the state or federal government, and those authorized to practice before the Internal Revenue Service are exempt from registration.

An Administrator, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate, enforces the provisions of the Tax Preparer Act. He/she is assisted by a nine-member State Preparer Advisory Committee which consists of three registrants, three persons exempt from registration, and three public members. All members are appointed to four-year terms.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Fee Increase. On April 1, the Program published a proposed amendment to section 3230 of its regulations, which appear in chapter 32, Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations. Under the proposal, the registration fee for a tax preparer and tax interviewer would be increased to \$50; the renewal fee would be increased to \$40. A public hearing on this proposed regulation was scheduled for May 17.

LEGISLATION:

SB 91 (Boatwright), as introduced, would have abolished the Tax Preparer Program. (See CRLR Vol. 7, No. 3 (Summer 1987) p. 91 and Vol. 7, No. 2 (Spring 1987) pp. 70-71 for background information.) As amended in January, this bill would instead establish a Tax Practitioner Program in the Franchise Tax Board. (See CRLR Vol. 8, No. 1 (Winter 1988) p. 73 for further information.) If the amended bill is passed, the Tax Practitioner Program would be-

come part of the Franchise Tax Board on January 1, 1989, and would require "tax practitioners" to be licensed and "tax preparers" to be registered with the Program. At this writing, SB 91 is pending in the Assembly Committee on Governmental Efficiency and Consumer Protection.

RECENT MEETINGS:

The Program has held no public meetings since December 17.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

To be announced.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN VETERINARY MEDICINE

Executive Officer: Gary K. Hill
(916) 920-7662

The Board of Examiners in Veterinary Medicine (BEVM) licenses all veterinarians, veterinary hospitals, animal health facilities, and animal health technicians (AHTs). All applicants for veterinary licenses are evaluated through a written and practical examination. The Board determines through its regulatory power the degree of discretion that veterinarians, animal health technicians, and unregistered assistants have in administering animal health care. All veterinary medical, surgical, and dental facilities must be registered with the Board and must conform to minimum standards. These facilities may be inspected at any time, and their registration is subject to revocation or suspension if, following a proper hearing, a facility is deemed to have fallen short of these standards.

The Board is comprised of six members, including two public members. The Animal Health Technician Examining Committee consists of three licensed veterinarians, one of whom must be involved in AHT education, three public members and one AHT.

In January, the Board elected its 1988 officers. Herbert Ott, DVM, was elected Board President, from his previous position as Vice-President; and Alan Edmondson, DVM, will replace Dr. Ott as Vice-President.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Examinations. A total of 243 test candidates took the National Board Examination (NBE) on December 8. The Clinical Competency Test (CCT) administered on December 9 had a total applicant pool of 72: 57 from the foreign veterinarian graduate program (ECFVG),