Aerial application of pesticides, including by drone

Knowledge upgrade

September 2026

IMPORTANT NOTICE **As of March 1, 2027,** you will need to have passed either of the **new prescribed sector-specific exams** to renew your certificate for the aerial application of pesticides (Subclass CD1).

Why an upgrade?

The **learning material** and **sector-specific exams** have been updated so that the qualification of personnel who apply pesticides by aircraft (airplane, helicopter, drone, etc.) reflects recent technological advances and regulatory changes in this sector.

How can you take the exam and prepare for it?

- **Registration for the online exam** and **purchase of the learning guide** in digital format are handled by the Société de formation à distance (SOFAD).
  - The learning guide *Application par aéronef, y compris par drone* helps you prepare for the exam *Pesticide use – Aerial application of pesticides, including by drone* (French).
  - The learning guide *Application par aéronef, y compris par drone, en milieu agricole* helps you prepare for the exam *Pesticide use – Aerial application, including by drone, in agricultural areas* (French).
- The SOFAD will issue you an **attestation of the successful completion**, which you will attach to your certificate renewal notice.
- The policy on the administration of prescribed exams specifies the conditions for taking an exam, the conditions for retaking it in the event of failure and the measures taken in the event of cheating.

How can you renew your certificate?

- **Option 1 – Paper form**
  - Mail your renewal notice with your attestation of the successful completion and payment by cheque or postal money order to your regional office (French).
  - If you misplaced this notice or did not receive it, fill out the form (French) provided for this purpose.
- **Option 2 – Online service**
  - Make sure you hold a Government Authentication Service account.
  - Fill out your application online and pay the fees by credit card.

Do you have any questions?

- For permits and certificates, contact your regional office (French).
- For exams and learning guides, contact the SOFAD.
- For any other question, use the inquiry form (French).

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