



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
**FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDE AUTHORITY**  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Building B, NIA Complex, EDSA, Quezon City  
TEL. NOS.: 922-33-71; 926-58-77; 922-33-68; 929-60-71 loc. 123  
Telefax: 922-33-64; 922-33-55  
e-mail address: fpa\_77@yahoo.com website: www.fadinap.org/philippines  
P.O. Box 2582, Q.C.

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MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR No. 02  
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TO : ALL CONCERNED

SUBJECT : ACCREDITED SAFETY DISPENSER OF FERTILIZER  
AND PESTICIDE (ASD)

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In line with the FPA's thrust on the proper handling and effective use of fertilizer and the safe and judicious use of pesticide and to implement a reasonable and socialized approach to pesticide safety advisory as a form of regulatory measure in the selling and disposition of pesticide, a two (2) day consolidated fertilizer and pesticide training and accreditation program shall be enforced. The program covers the owner, or personnel of dealer stores and persons involved in networking or multi-level marketing who are also known as Individual Business Operators (IBO) selling fertilizer, pesticide and other agricultural chemicals. Dealers and IBOs are entities in the marketing and distribution chain which deal directly to farmers, as such, they are important and effective channels for dissemination of information to farmers.

Successful participants to this program shall be known as *FPA Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) of Fertilizer and Pesticide*. This training and accreditation program is an upgraded version of the Accredited Pesticide Dispenser Training (APD), the Agro-Dealers/Retailers Training, which covers the IBOs, and a substitute to the Accredited Professional Pesticide Adviser (APPA) concept.

#### I. DEFINITIONS

1. *Accreditation* ~ authorization, manifested in accreditation card, accorded to individuals who have attended a training and has passed the corresponding examinations given by FPA.
2. *License* ~ written authority granted by FPA to individuals or firms to import, manufacture, process, formulate, repack, store, distribute and sell fertilizer/ pesticide products and other agricultural chemicals for commerce.
3. *Accredited Safety Dispenser (ASD) of Fertilizer and Pesticide* ~ an individual who attended the two-day ASD training conducted by FPA, has passed the corresponding examinations and was issued an accreditation card by FPA.





4. *Accredited Professional Pesticide Adviser (APPA)* - an individual who attended the FPA APPA training, has passed the corresponding examinations and issued an accreditation card by FPA. Employment or presence of an APPA in dealer stores is required to sell restricted Category I and II pesticides.
5. *Accredited Pesticide Dispenser (APD)* - refers to individuals who has undergone the FPA Agro-Dealer's Training, has passed the corresponding examinations and has been issued with an APD accreditation card by FPA.
6. *Fertilizer and Pesticide Accredited Network Dispenser (FPAND)* - a person in the networking or multi-level marketing scheme, also known as Individual Business Operator (IBO), has undergone a two (2) day FPA Agro-Dealers Training, passed the corresponding examinations and issued with FPAND accreditation card by FPA and is authorized to dispense fertilizer/pesticide products sourced from a mother company or a handler duly licensed by FPA.
7. *Handler* - FPA licensed exporter, importer, indenter, processor, manufacturer, formulator, distributor, dealer or repacker of fertilizer/ pesticide products.
8. *Dealer* - person licensed by FPA who sells fertilizer/pesticide products to farmers/end-users.
9. *Mother Company* - FPA licensed handler under the networking or multi-level marketing and distribution system which supply registered fertilizer/pesticide products to FPAND-IBO.
10. *Distributor* - a person or entity who sells fertilizer/pesticide products to dealers and outlets only. They get their supply directly from importer/manufacturers.
11. *Outlet* - additional store owned by a dealer.

## II. COVERAGE

1. All FPA licensed dealers/retailers/outlets and FPAND-IBOs and new applicants for license or accreditation to sell fertilizer/pesticides belonging to any of the four (4) categories of pesticide under the FPA Toxicity and Hazard Classification Schedule.
2. APDs and FPAND-IBOs who shall continue to serve as dispenser or seller, pursuant to Paragraph 7 and 8, Article III, of this Circular.

## III. GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. All licensees or applicants for fertilizer/pesticide dealership/retail/outlet license and/or FPAND-IBO accreditation must have an ASD under their employ or must be trained as such to advise buyers on handling and storage of fertilizer and safe use and handling of pesticide at the store or during business operation of FPAND-IBOs.
2. The ASD is required to be personally present at the store during business hours.





3. The ASD should keep records of sale and disposition of fertilizer/pesticide and make them available for inspection by FPA upon request.
4. Non compliance with the requirement to employ an ASD by a dealer or be trained as such, for IBOs, shall preclude the handler from selling any fertilizer/pesticide products in the store or in their business operation.
5. Importers/manufacturers/registrants/distributors are prohibited from supplying fertilizer/pesticide products to dealer stores with no ASD. The same handlers, particularly the so called Mother Companies, are prohibited from supplying fertilizer/pesticide products to IBOs who are not accredited by FPA as an ASD.
6. APPA cardholders who are renewing accreditation shall be issued with an ASD accreditation card without the need for attending the ASD training.
7. APD cardholders shall be issued ASD accreditation card upon application, provided, they attended the one (1) day refresher course on general pesticide information, handling and safe use. No examinations required.
8. An FPAND-IBO cardholder who is opting to sell Category I and II pesticide must attend the one (1) day refresher course on general pesticide information, handling and safe use. No examinations required.
9. New applicants for fertilizer and pesticide dealership license and/or FPAND-IBO accreditation are required to attend the two (2) day ASD training and should pass the corresponding examinations as a requirement for licensing/accreditation.
10. Schedules of ASD Training and refresher course shall be announced by the FPA Central Office or the FPA Project Development Officer at the Department of Agriculture office in the respective region/province/municipality.

#### IV. TRAINING AND ISSUANCE OF ASD ACCREDITATION CARD

1. Applicants for ASD training should at least be high school graduate, 18 years of age or older.
2. ASD trainees should take the examinations to be given immediately after the training. The minimum passing mark is 70%. Those who obtained a score between 64% to 69% shall be allowed to take removal examinations on a schedule set by FPA. Removal examinations should be taken within a year from the date of receipt of report of rating, after which, attendance to another ASD training shall be required.
3. Accreditation shall be accorded to individuals who completed the ASD training, passed the examinations, filed the application and paid accreditation fee.
4. ASD accreditation fee shall be six hundred pesos (P600.00) valid for three (3) years and renewable on the date of issuance of the accreditation card.





5. The amount of training fee depends on current rate subject to assessment on a cost recovery basis. Accreditation fee shall only be collected from successful examinees based on examination results.

## V. PENAL PROVISION

Administrative sanction shall be imposed against violators of this Circular. Penalties shall include, but will not be limited to, cancellation of registration, revocation of license and such other sanctions FPA is empowered under its charter. The imposition of administrative sanction shall be without prejudice to the filing of a criminal case against the violators pursuant to the penal clause as provided for under Presidential Decree No. 1144.

## VI. REPEALING CLAUSE

All pertinent issuances and other existing rules inconsistent with this Circular are hereby amended, modified or repealed accordingly.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately.



JOSE MA. R. PEREZ  
Executive Director III