2017 CCA North American Board Meeting

Exams and Procedures

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CCA Exams and Procedures

• What are we going to talk about today?
  ❖ Update on past year.
    ❖ Staff management of exam process
    ❖ Progress with Local Boards
    ❖ Coming soon - South Florida and Caribbean Exam

❖ Specialties
  • 4Rs Nutrient Management - Regions
  • 4Rs Nutrient Management (Ontario)
  • Resistance Management
  • Sustainability

❖ New Specialty
  • Precision Agriculture

❖ Update on computer-based testing.
CCA Exams - Update

• ICCA Exam
  ❖ EPC working on-line; updating POs 2017 for 2018 exam
  ❖ Exam is performing very well.

• Local Board Exams
  ❖ Need to provide exam committee – 5 members
  ❖ Goals
    ❖ Consistency and Standardization Across all Exams.
    ❖ Compliance with Accepted Standards for Credentialing Exams.
    ❖ Operate and Maintain an Exam Program that is Legally Defensible.
  ❖ Standardized exam process
    ❖ Update Performance Objectives
    ❖ Perform a Job Task Analysis (JTA)
    ❖ Determine exam partitioning from JTA
    ❖ Update exam (includes working with and learning item statistics)
    ❖ Perform an Angoff analysis to set a cut score
Staff Management of Exam Process

• Options for Local Boards
  ❖ Fee based option to have staff maintain exams.
    ❖ Fee based on number of exams given/year
    ❖ ≤ 30 exams, $500 flat fee
    ❖ > 30 exams, $17 per exam
    ❖ Fee is charged to Board after the August exam.
  ❖ Local Board and Exam Committee still involved.
  ❖ Staff facilitates tasks being completed.

• AuthorWise
  ❖ Major software update in 2016 added functionality.
  ❖ All exam committee members have access to the software – now web-based and functional on both PC an Mac.
    ❖ Limited to writing new questions/viewing completed questions.
Local Board Exams: 28 total, 21 in process

• AR/LA/MS*
• Atlantic Provinces
• CA/AZ
• Central Plains (KS&OK)
• Iowa
• Kentucky
• Mid-Atlantic*
• Missouri
• Nebraska
• North Carolina
• Northeast Region

• Northwest Region
• Ontario
• Pennsylvania
• Prairie Provinces
• Rocky Mountain Region
• South Dakota
• Southeast
• Tennessee
• Tri-State Region*
• Wisconsin

*fee based option
Coming soon – Exam for South Florida / Caribbean

- Significant agricultural differences in southern Florida from the rest of the U.S.
- Will include Puerto Rico and the Caribbean
  - Will provide an opportunity to focus more on sub-tropical agriculture.
  - Allows testing on a unique knowledge base a CCA would use in this area that isn’t covered in other exams.
- Opens the exam program to additional professionals.
- Exam committee being organized.
4R Nutrient Management Specialty Regions

Regions as presented and approved at the 2016 NA CCA Board meeting
4Rs Nutrient Management Specialty exam - Regions

- Exams treated as separate exams
- Exam committees per region
- Region 2 (Ontario) and Region 4 (NE U.S.) active
- Region 6 (SE U.S.) will be ready February 2018
- Other regions –
  - Region 3 (NW U.S.) getting organized
  - Other exam committees to follow for Regions 1 and 5
- Options for examinees – can choose which exam to take based on where they primarily work.
- Areas with no regional exam can take the original exam.
# Specialty Exams through August 2017

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<th>Total Part.</th>
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Precision Agriculture Specialty

- Exam committee started in June 2017
- Presentation and discussion at InfoAg July 2017
- POs being drafted
- Will be available for August 2018
Computer-based Testing

- Working on details with our psychometrician.
- May be possible to do some pilot testing in 2018, but need costs and technology issues resolved first.
- Several options available.
  - Working on the costs and processes associated with each option.
- There will be a transition period.
- Those exams that are up to date will be considered first for any pilot testing.
Questions?

Contact me at any time with questions:
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