

EXAMS POST PPP PREP SESSIONS

INDIANA PESTICIDE REVIEW BOARD PRESENTATION

2020

LEO REED, CERTIFICATION AND LICENSING MANAGER

PESTICIDE TESTING: UNCHANGED FOR 45 YEARS



FIFRA

- **1976 training and testing occurred over two days and was held at various locations throughout the state.**
- **Purpose was to guide large numbers of jobholders through the new federal and state pesticide certification requirements.**

FIFRA (CON'T)

- **Approach addressed social and political concerns.**
- **Did not address educational concerns.**

AS A RESULT OF OISC & INDUSTRY CONCERNS OVER EXAM VALIDITY (FAIRNESS)

- **Exams are no longer built on a classroom model**
- **Use a credentialing test validation strategy.**
 - **Job analysis**
 - **Knowledge and skills required**

EXAM VALIDITY (CONTINUED)

Rely on the judgement of subject matter experts.

Exam content, test question review, passing score.

Exam is not an educational tool.

OISC spends \$70,000 to \$100,000 to develop each exam.

OISC ADMINISTERS TWO TYPES OF THE SAME EXAM

- **Computer based & paper and pencil based**
- **OISC has concerns about paper & pencil exams**
 - **Effects on test scores**
 - **Exam administration**
 - **Program costs**

TEST SCORES

- **Scores are higher when exam is given immediately post prep.**
 - **Is it actual achievement?**
or
 - **Short-term memory effect?**

SHORT TERM MEMORY EFFECT

- **“practicing the retrieval of information is key to long-term retention”**
- **Same day or “next day recall” DOES work.**
- **However, students quickly forget content.**

EXAM ADMINISTRATION AND SECURITY

- **Paper based group setting vs Computer based**
 - **Paper based is full of distractions**
 - **Background noises**
 - **Coming and going**
 - **Turning in exam**

EXAM ADMINISTRATION AND SECURITY

(CON'T)

- **Computer based**
 - **Quiet room**
 - **Standardized administration**
 - **Exams are secure**
 - **Proctor does NOT need to watch 30-80 individual simultaneously**

PROGRAM COSTS

- **For each paper based exam administration one day for one full time employee.**
 - **Currently provide exams for 30 PPP exam prep sessions**
 - **Average of 1,600 examinees per year**
 - **Compared to an average of 4,200 computer based exams per year**

OPPORTUNITY

- **Disassociating exam with prep sessions:**
 - **Allows for greater numbers to sit in prep sessions**
 - **Could allow for CCH's to be given at PPP prep sessions**
 - **Allows for sessions to be conducted throughout the state**
 - **OISC continues to participate** in sessions in the regulatory portion

OPPORTUNITY (CONT)

- **Disassociating exam with prep sessions:**
 - **Continue with the quality exam prep and initial training that we are familiar with from PPP (with greater numbers and opportunities)**
 - **Real learning and retention from repetition (CCH offerings) and self study.**