

CEUs and YOU!

To be a Certified Crop Adviser demonstrates your credibility and professionalism to those of your peers and customers. After all, that's why you went through the certification process; to add value to your services; to separate yourself from the crowd. The continuing education requirement is part of the process.

We have heard so many dissertations about why a CCA couldn't get the 40 unit minimum in two years. The one explanation that universally sticks out is the inability to find meetings where the host has applied for CEUs for CCAs or the host has applied for CCA CEUs but submitted the application for Pest Management CEUs.

Let's review the process and take a look at how you might overcome some of these obstacles. Remember, you are an emissary of the CCA program and as such, ought to be carrying around an application for CEUs and a sign-in sheet. If you are a PCA licensed in California and have accumulated the required 40 CEUs, you will automatically receive 12.5 CEUs maximum towards your CCA Certification.

The California CCA Board is making every effort to reach meeting hosts to encourage them to make application for CCA CEUs and to make application in the areas of Crop Management, Nutrient Management, and Soil and Water Management. To you, and to prospective meeting hosts, it may appear that a meeting agenda is aimed at Pest Management. In many, if not in all cases, the topics covered will have elements that apply to the above CCA categories.

Let's take a hypothetical example. You attend a meeting intended for PCAs where the agenda indicates the discussion will revolve around Pest Management. In further reviewing the agenda, or the discussion in the meeting delves into Crop Management, Nutrient Management, and/or Soil and Water Management, politely ask the host if they have applied for CCA CEU credit. If not, ask if you can place a CCA sign-in sheet at the reception table. At the conclusion of the meeting, take a copy of the agenda along with the completed sign-in sheet and mail to Joyce Basan at the CAPCA Office. Your host just might be excited to do this for you!

If your host is not aware of the procedure for obtaining CCA CEUs, hand them a copy of the CEU Application Form and a copy of the sign-in form, remind them they can copy the forms and that the whole process is FREE of expense, unlike the application for PCA CEUs!

If your host is not amenable to the CCA sign-in process, take a copy of the agenda, obtain a Self Reporting Form and submit to ICCA in Madison, Wisc. You can submit up to 20 CEUs under the Self Reporting procedure.

All the above mentioned forms and instructions are available to you via the web at www.cacca.org and www.certifiedcropadviser.org.