



*Office of* **AGRICULTURAL &  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

**MIKE STRAIN, DVM**  
*Commissioner*

**LDAF.LA.GOV**



Office of  
**AGRICULTURAL &  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
SCIENCES**

# Onboarding for New Agricultural Professionals

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Lyndon Leonards, Director  
Pesticide and Environmental Programs



# LDAF Mission

- LDAF's mission is to promote, protect, and advance agriculture and forestry, and soil and water resources.





# LDAF Vision

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- Our vision is to be a unified and coordinated team that effectively responds to the challenges facing the agricultural and forestry industries, and which pursues each and every opportunity that might provide a benefit to the state and its citizens.



# LDAF Values

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- **Public first**
- Each of us has the high honor and distinct privilege of serving the citizens of our state. With fairness and honesty at the forefront, we will be responsive, proactive, and flexible in our dealings with others.
- **Pursuit of excellence**
- We are committed to getting the job done right the first time in as effective and efficient manner as possible and in accordance with our overall mission. We will aspire at all times to do our jobs better in every dimension.
- **Positive response to change**
- Recognizing that our workplace, the markets, and technology are evolving, we acknowledge that change is inevitable. We will meet the developing demands and expectations of the public with creative thinking, innovation, and more efficient processes.
- **Respect for individual**
- We will create a respectful and meaningful workplace, characterized by honest, direct, and relevant communication. Working together as a team, we will honor diversity, individuality, and personal and professional differences.
- **Community mindedness**
- We realize that our work impacts the community in which we reside and, many times, beyond such. Both as individuals and team members, we will strive to make our communities better places to live, work, and learn.

The department is under the supervision of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry. The current Commissioner is Dr. Michael G. Strain, D.V.M. first elected in 2007.



Dr. Strain's predecessors as agriculture commissioner include:

- Harry D. Wilson (1916 – 1948)
- Millard Perkins (1948 interim)
- W. E. Anderson (1948–1952)
- Dave L. Pearce (1952–1956)
- Sidney McCrory (1956–1960)
- Dave L. Pearce (1960–1976)
- Gil Dozier (1976–1980)
- Bob Odom (1980–2008)

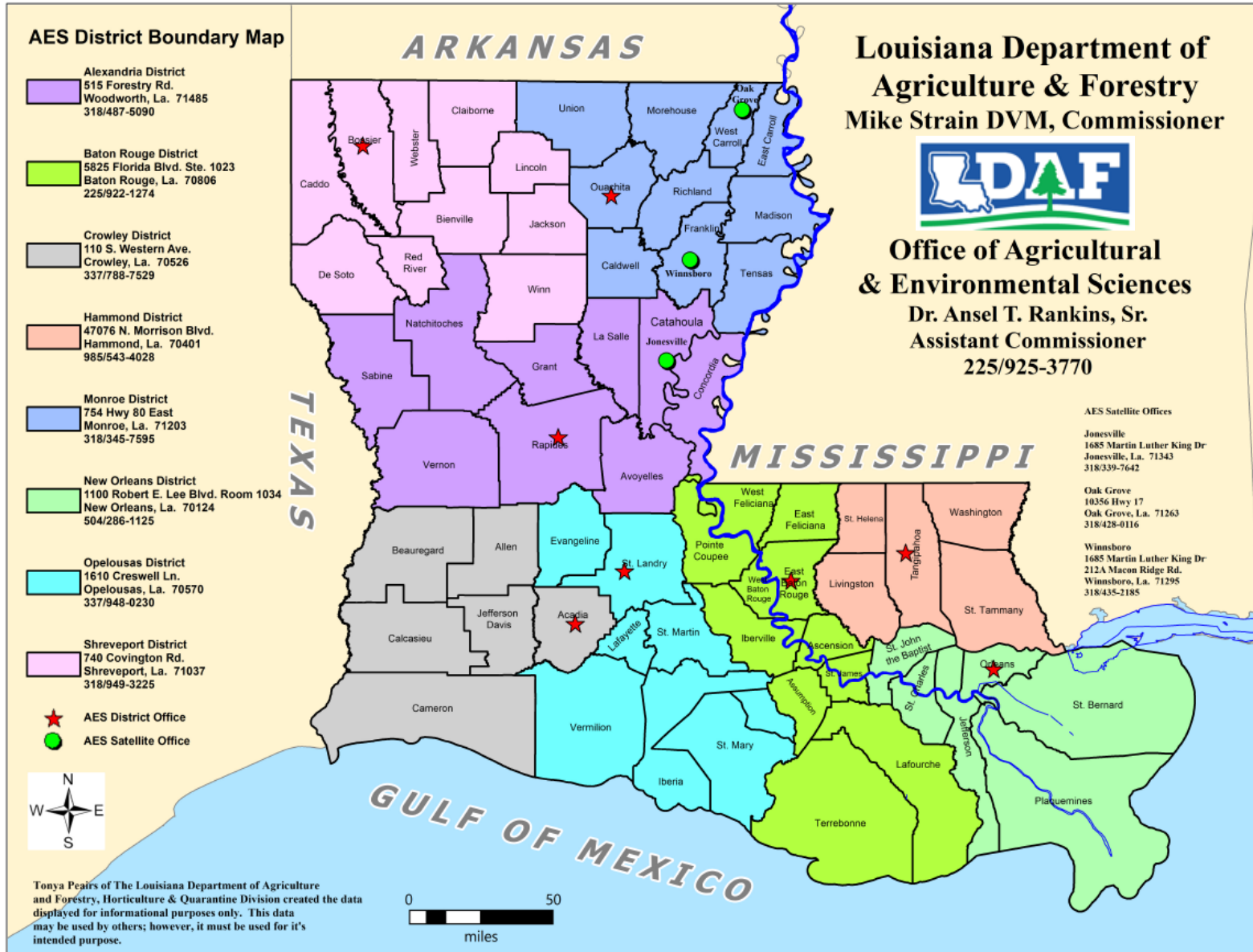


## Our offices



Link to item ↗

- [Louisiana Agricultural Financial Authority](#)
- [Office of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences](#)
- [Office of Agro-Consumer Services](#)
- [Office of Animal Health and Food Safety](#)
- [Office of Forestry](#)
- [Office of Management and Finance](#)
- [Office of Soil and Water Conservation](#)



**Louisiana Department of  
Agriculture & Forestry**  
Mike Strain DVM, Commissioner



**Office of Agricultural  
& Environmental Sciences**  
Dr. Ansel T. Rankins, Sr.  
Assistant Commissioner  
225/925-3770



# Office of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Overseeing agricultural practices and ensuring environmental safety

The Office of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (AES):

- Ensures that animal feeds, pet foods, fertilizers, agricultural liming materials, industrial hemp, and pesticides meet all requirements of law
- Monitors, prevents, controls, and eradicates plant pests and diseases that threaten Louisiana's agriculture, environment and economy
- Facilitates agricultural exports through certification of products
- Oversees the qualifications and practices of persons engaged in the green industry
- Protects human health and the environment by ensuring the proper labeling, distribution, storage, use, application and disposal of pesticides, and by thorough enforcement of all pesticide laws
- Ensures that seed sold for planting meets label guarantees and quality standards
- Ensures a safe, abundant supply of food and fiber



# Office of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

## Services

- Agricultural chemistry programs (see [fertilizer and agricultural lime](#))
- [Apiary program](#)
- [Boll Weevil Eradication program](#)
- Horticulture programs (see [florists](#), [arborists](#), [nursery and landscape](#))
- [Industrial Hemp program](#)
- Pesticide & environmental programs (see [pesticide licensing](#), [pesticide safety and restrictions](#))
- [Plant pest quarantine programs](#)
- [Seed programs](#)
- [Structural pest control program](#)



**Agricultural Consultant Licensing**

[Link to item](#) ↗

**About the license**

Companies that make pesticide recommendations for a fee need an Agricultural Consultant License (Pesticide Law RS 3:3201-3389 Section 3246).

People wishing to become Agricultural consultants must apply to the ACP Commission and be approved to take the certification exams.



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT of  
**AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY**  
MIKE STRAIN, DVM *Commissioner*

**OFFICE OF AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**  
5825 Florida Boulevard, Suite 3003  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
(225) 925-3763 / FAX (225) 925-3760

**AGRICULTURAL CONSULTANT APPLICATION FOR COMMITTEE  
APPROVAL**



**Submission Deadlines: July 1<sup>st</sup>, December 1<sup>st</sup>**



## Education and experience are required to receive approval.

I meet the following requirements for certification testing as an Agricultural Consultant:

- I hold a bachelor's, master's or doctor's degree from an accredited college or university in an appropriate discipline; transcripts are attached.
- I have earned at least thirty semester hours of college credit in agronomy, soil science, weed science, entomology, horticulture, plant physiology, or other biological science, or any combination of such.
- I have earned at least three hours of college credit in each discipline area for which certification is sought. The four discipline areas of Agricultural Consultant certification are entomology, plant pathology, weed science and soil science.
- I have a master's or doctor's degree, at least one crop season of experience, or with a bachelor's degree, at least two crop seasons of experience in the field for which I request certification, employed as a field scout by a certified and licensed Agricultural Consultant.

Summarize work experience (employer, nature of work, and dates of employment)\*

Summarize education (degree(s), date awarded and school)\*



If approved by the Commission, the applicant then submits an exam application.



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5825 Florida Boulevard, Suite 1003  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
(225) 925-3796

## APPLICATION FOR TESTING FOR AGRICULTURAL CONSULTANT

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number (last 4 only): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

*Before consultant category exams can be taken, you must submit an **Agricultural Consultant Application for Committee Approval** for review. Once your application is approved, agricultural consultant category exams can be taken at the main LDAF office in Baton Rouge.*



Consultant exams are given Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Baton Rouge LDAF office.





# LDAF Agricultural Consultant Card



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF  
**AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY**

**CERTIFICATION CARD**

## AGRICULTURAL CONSULTANT

JOHN T DEAUX III  
5825 FLORIDA BLVD STE 3003  
BATON ROUGE LA 70806-4259



003NBA

Expiration Date: 12/31/2026

Mike Strain, DVM COMMISSIONER



Certified licensed or Registered as  
(AGCO) Agricultural Consultant

### Categories

- 1A - Agricultural Entomology
- 2A - Agricultural Plant Pathology
- 3A - Agricultural Weed Control
- 4A - Agricultural Field Soil Management

### Recertify By

- 01/13/2029
- 01/13/2029
- 01/13/2029
- 01/13/2029


Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

LDAF EMERGENCY HOTLINE: 855-452-5323

POISON CONTROL CENTER: 800-222-1222



Consultants are required to work for a licensed company.  
Business licenses expire on December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.  
License renewals are mailed out each fall.

	<b>LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE &amp; FORESTRY</b> MIKE STRAIN, DVM <i>Commissioner</i>	<b>OFFICE OF AGRICULTURE &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES</b> 5825 Florida Boulevard, Suite 1003 Baton Rouge, LA 70806 (225) 925-3796
<b>INITIAL APPLICATION FOR AGRICULTURAL CONSULTANT BUSINESS LICENSE</b>		
Application Year:	<input type="text"/>	
Owner/Principal Officer:	<input type="text"/>	
Company Name:	Phone Number:	<input type="text"/>
Mailing Address:	Fax Number:	<input type="text"/>
City/State/ZIP:	Federal Tax ID Number:	<input type="text"/>
Physical Address:	Email Address:	<input type="text"/>
City/State/ZIP:	Parish:	<input type="text"/>
RESIDENT AG CONSULTANT LICENSE FEE \$200		<input type="text"/>
NON-RESIDENT AG CONSULTANT LICENSE FEE \$500		<input type="text"/>
REGISTERED FIELD SCOUT(S)	<input type="text"/> X \$10 EACH	<input type="text"/>
	<u>AMOUNT DUE</u>	<input type="text"/>



In 2025, there were 136 Agricultural Consultants certified by LDAF.

There were 76 businesses licensed by LDAF to charge a fee for consulting work.

In 2025, there were 127 RUP Salespersons certified by LDAF.

There were 221 RUP Dealers licensed by LDAF to sell Restricted-Use pesticides.

In 2025, there were 3068 Commercial Pesticide Applicators certified by LDAF.

There were 776 businesses licensed by LDAF to charge a fee for applying pesticides.  
*(104 Aerial businesses and 672 ground businesses)*

In 2025, there were 796 structural pest control licensees certified by LDAF who supervised 2068 structural pest control technicians registered with LDAF.

There were 626 structural businesses registered with LDAF.

In 2025, there were 6763 Private Pesticide Applicators certified by LDAF to produce agricultural products.





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**THANK YOU**

**LDAF.LA.GOV**