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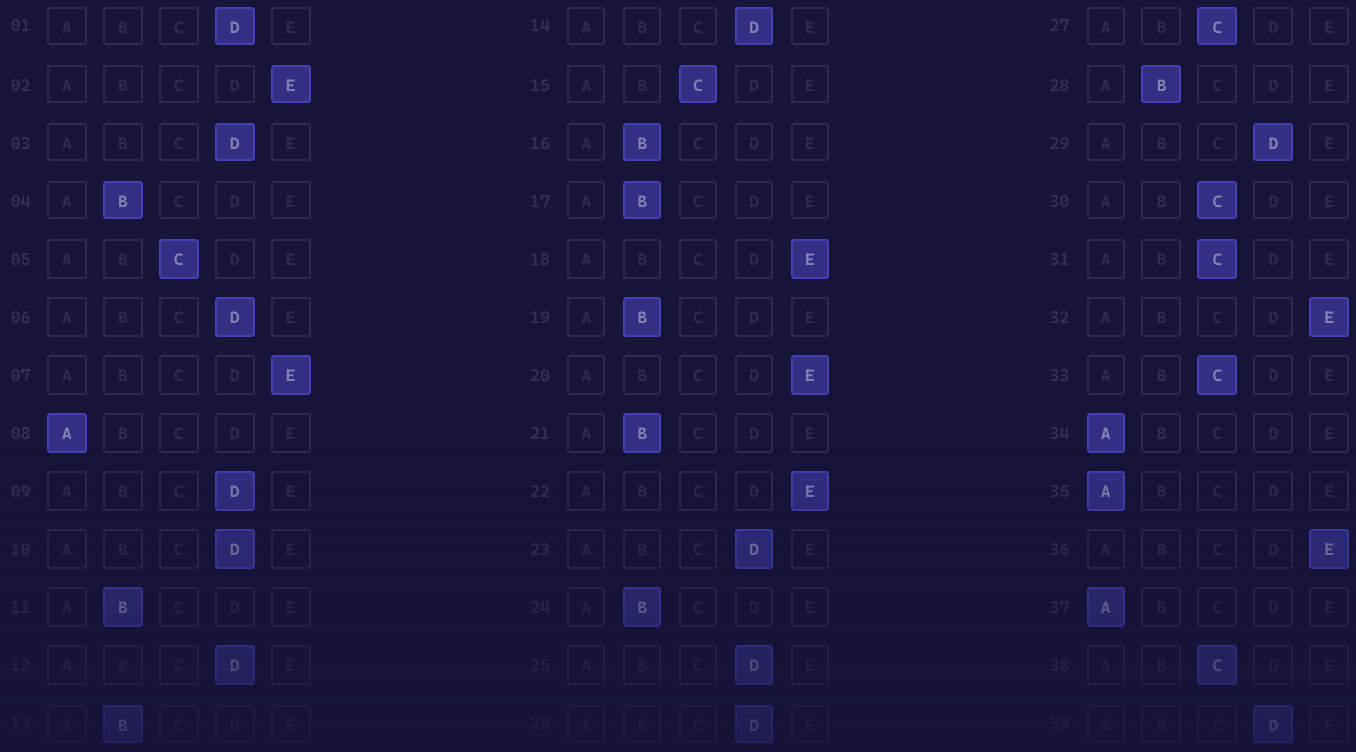

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

CA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL BOARD

NGH9CSJZ

CA Branch 1 Operator Examination

EDITION	QUESTIONS	FORMAT
Demo	9	Limited Edition PDF

WEB www.mometrix.net

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Before you begin

What this is

9 practice questions for CA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL BOARD `NGH9CSJZ`, each with its answer key and an explanation. Answer a question before you read its key — the explanation is worth more once you have committed.

If something looks wrong

Send us three things and we will check it:

- the exam code, `NGH9CSJZ`
- the question number
- the email address on your order

Write to **support@mometrix.net**. We reply within one business day.

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QUESTION 1 MULTIPLE CHOICE

An operator at a Branch 1 company is preparing to apply a termiticide labeled for use on structures. Which of the following requirements must be followed under California pesticide regulations? (Choose two.)

A **The applicator must wear the personal protective equipment (PPE) specified on the pesticide label.**

B The application must be recorded on a pest control operation record within 48 hours of completion.

C The operator may apply the termiticide at a rate higher than the maximum labeled rate if the infestation is severe.

D **The applicator must possess a valid California Qualified Applicator Certificate (QAC) or License (QAL) in the appropriate category.**

ANSWER **A · D**

WHY Under both FIFRA and California Food and Agricultural Code, it is unlawful to use a pesticide in a manner inconsistent with its labeling, which includes wearing the PPE listed on the label (A). In California, applicators performing pest control work must hold the appropriate Qualified Applicator Certificate or License for the category of work being performed (D). Option B misstates the required recording time frame, and option C is prohibited because exceeding the maximum labeled rate is a label violation.

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QUESTION 2 MULTIPLE CHOICE

A licensee is inspecting a crawl space and observes small (1/8 inch) exit holes in the surface of seasoned Douglas fir framing members, along with fine, powdery frass piled beneath the holes. Which two organisms are most consistent with these signs? (Choose two.)

A **Powderpost beetles (Bostrichidae/Anobiidae)**

B **Drywood termites (Kalotermitidae)**

C Subterranean termites (Rhinotermitidae)

D Old house borers (Hylotrupes bajulus)

ANSWER **A** · **B**

WHY Both powderpost beetles (A) and drywood termites (B) produce small exit holes and dry, powdery frass that accumulates beneath the infested wood. Old house borers (D) typically attack softwoods but produce larger oval exit holes and coarser, more fibrous frass. Subterranean termites (C) do not produce exit holes or powderpost-type frass and require contact with soil moisture.

QUESTION 3 SINGLE CHOICE

Under the California Structural Pest Control Act, when must a registered company notify the property owner in writing about the need for repair of wood-destroying pests or organisms found during an inspection?

A Only if the property owner requests a written report.

B Within 48 hours of completing the inspection report.

C **As part of the completed pest control inspection report provided at the time the report is delivered to the person who ordered the inspection.**

D Only when the company is also contracted to perform the repair work.

ANSWER **C**

WHY California Structural Pest Control Act and Board rules require that any recommendations for repair of damage caused by wood-destroying pests or organisms be made in writing and provided to the person ordering the inspection as part of the completed inspection report. Options A, B, and D misstate the statutory requirement.

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QUESTION 4 SINGLE CHOICE

A Branch 1 field representative discovers that the pesticide product intended for tomorrow's subterranean termite treatment has been stored at temperatures exceeding the storage temperature range stated on the product label. What is the correct action?

A Use the product as long as it still appears to be in normal physical condition.

B Mix a small test batch to confirm efficacy before applying it.

C Do not use the product and follow the company's procedures for handling a compromised pesticide, which may include contacting the manufacturer.

D Dilute the product to compensate for any loss of active ingredient.

ANSWER C

WHY Under California regulations and FIFRA, a pesticide that has not been stored according to label conditions cannot be assumed to be effective or compliant; using it (A), testing it (B), or diluting it (D) are all prohibited practices. The correct response is to remove it from service and handle it according to company procedures and manufacturer guidance.

QUESTION 5 SINGLE CHOICE

During an inspection, a licensee finds a kickout hole in a piece of framing and observes soldier termites with rectangular heads and prominent mandibles inside. Which organism is present?

A Drywood termite (Incisitermes minor)

B Formosan subterranean termite (Coptotermes formosanus)

C Western subterranean termite (Reticulitermes hesperus)

D Carpenter ant (Camponotus spp.)

ANSWER C

WHY Subterranean termites, including the Western subterranean termite (Reticulitermes hesperus) commonly found in California, produce kickout holes through which they expel frass and exhibit soldier castes with rectangular heads and well-developed mandibles. Drywood termites (A) do not produce kickout holes, Formosan subterranean termites (B) are not commonly established throughout California, and carpenter ants (D) have a constricted waist and elbowed antennae and are not termites.

QUESTION 6 SINGLE CHOICE

When performing a liquid termiticide treatment to the soil adjacent to a slab-on-grade foundation, which factor has the greatest effect on achieving a continuous vertical and horizontal chemical barrier?

A The viscosity of the termiticide concentrate before dilution.

B **Proper rodding and proper treatment of voids such as around plumbing and conduit penetrations, with even distribution at the labeled rate.**

C Spraying the interior baseboards of the structure with finished dilution.

D Using a high-pressure washer to drive the termiticide into the substrate.

ANSWER **B**

WHY A continuous, labeled-rate chemical barrier against subterranean termites depends on correct application technique—proper rodding depth and spacing, treating known termite entry points (voids, penetrations), and uniform delivery at the rate on the label. The other options describe practices not consistent with label requirements or that would not produce an effective barrier.

QUESTION 7 SINGLE CHOICE

Which of the following advertising practices is prohibited by the Structural Pest Control Board for a Branch 1 registered company?

A Listing the company's Structural Pest Control Board registration number in a Yellow Pages advertisement.

B **Guaranteeing or implying a guarantee that a structure will be free of wood-destroying pests or organisms following treatment without disclosing the limitations of the guarantee.**

C Identifying the categories in which the company is registered.

D Providing the company's business address and telephone number in an advertisement.

ANSWER **B**

WHY The Structural Pest Control Act and Board rules prohibit misleading advertising, including guaranteeing results without clearly disclosing the nature, extent, and limitations of the guarantee. The other options are required or permitted disclosures (registration number, categories, and contact information).

QUESTION 8 SINGLE CHOICE

A homeowner shows a licensee small piles of what appears to be sawdust-like material beneath furniture in an upstairs room with no obvious water damage. There are no kickout holes, but faint rustling sounds are heard inside the wall at night. Which pest is most likely responsible?

A Drywood termites

B Subterranean termites building an aerial tube from a wall outlet

C Carpenter ants nesting in the wall void

D Powderpost beetles emerging from hardwood flooring

ANSWER C

WHY Carpenter ants commonly nest in wall voids, especially in areas with prior moisture damage, and produce small piles of frass that resemble sawdust along with audible rustling inside the wall. Drywood termites (A) produce pellet-shaped frass and kickout holes, subterranean termites (B) require a moisture source and typically build mud tubes, and powderpost beetles (D) produce small round exit holes in wood, not just frass piles.

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QUESTION 9 SINGLE CHOICE

During a fumigation of a residential structure, the licensee-in-charge must ensure that which of the following safety requirements is observed before the structure is cleared for re-entry?

A **The structure has been aired out and the fumigant concentration has been measured below the acceptable re-entry level specified by the product label and applicable regulations.**

B The warning placards have been removed from the structure.

C A licensed structural pest control operator has personally inspected the structure for any live pests.

D The homeowner has signed a release form stating the structure is safe.

ANSWER **A**

WHY Re-entry into a fumigated structure is permitted only after the structure has been thoroughly aerated and the fumigant concentration has been measured by a competent person using appropriate detection equipment and found to be below the re-entry level specified on the product label and in California regulations. Removing placards, eliminating pests, or obtaining a homeowner signature does not, by itself, demonstrate that it is safe to re-enter.

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