Disclaimer: the information on the manual of Sewer Root Control category may not give you the complete information as it is based on the data collected by AAPCO survey. Not every state/tribe who has this category participated in this survey.

Sewer Root Control or Metam Sodium	
Not a Federal category	
Are any existing manuals/exams available?	There is no national standard manual on this category; however, some states have adopted the manual created by Cornell University, NY.
Research notes: - Anything identified in the AAPCO survey? - What did you find online? - What did you learn contacting others?	Summary findings: - AAPCO survey: 8 states want to update their manual (aka study materials); Updating the study materials is not a priority for most of the states - It is a standalone category in most states - Most of the study materials were created in the 90s. - Some states have electronic versions available to share with others. - Wisconsin revised their manual in 2022 and a copy of the revised version will be shared on request. There is not much new w.r.t pesticide technology or regulations. The main pesticide used in sewer root control is Metam sodium. Changes will involve- layout changes, revising language to make things easier to understand and adding some new graphics. - The University of Wyoming is revising this manual and is expected to release it by the end of this year. Some states are waiting on the release of revised version so that they can adopt it. The changes involve- increased content and images. This manual should be available for each state to use. Current status is that content is being vetted, images are being collected, and exam questions are being finalized.
How many states/tribes use this category?	It is a nonfederal category. Currently, 32 states use this category. There is not much variation in this category.
How national, regional, or local is the training material likely to be, for this category? For example, would you expect the training material to be	This category manual is not likely to vary widely from region to region because the main pesticide used in Sewer Root Control is Metam Sodium which is used for the control of roots in sewers.

similar in each state, or tailored to local pests/conditions?	
How is the category lumped with other categories and/or split into several categories?	Sewer Root Control or Metam Sodium" is a standalone category in most states. In a few instances, this category is lumped with Aquatic by Ohio, Nebraska, and Utah and some states are thinking of using the new Fumigation manual because it has a full chapter on Sewer Root Control Line; therefore, it may be lumped under the federal Fumigation category.
What are some sample competencies in this category? For example, what does the table of contents include?	**This is not a Federal category and there are not any Federal competencies for Sewer Root Control; hence, the competencies may vary from region to region.** Here is a list of competencies and this is NOT a comprehensive list and may not include each and every state/tribe's competencies: Knowledge of health & environmental hazards of Metam-sodium in sewer lines, septic tanks, & wastewater treatment facilities. ID, use & maintenance of PPE, Knowledge of proper storage, handling, & transport, Proper cleaning, spills clean-up, & waste disposal, Knowledge of label interpretation, Knowledge of laws & regulations, Proper measurement & calibration calculations as applied to sewer root control, Knowledge of effects Metam-sodium in downstream water bodies (streams, rivers, ponds, groundwater) & lateral/upstream residential, Effects on non-residential sewer connections, Factors that determine need for a sewer fumigation, Appropriate procedures for mixing, loading, & applying sewer fumigants, Fumigation equipment, Knowledge of worker safety, notice, posting, and REI, Factors around sewer lines that influence root growth, Pesticides available for sewer root control, Application methods, Information necessary for safe & adequate application of pesticides, Effects of root control on groundwater, sewage treatment plants, septic tanks, & holding tanks, IPM, Persistence beyond intended period of pest control, Potential for phytotoxicity, Techniques to minimize non target exposures, runoff, drift, & excessive foliage impact
Are there emerging regulations or science in this area?	In the last couple of decades, there is not much change in this category w.r.t emerging pesticide science or regulations.

Are there opportunities to reduce duplication of effort?	A couple of comments to reduce duplication- within regions, form a joint working group or collaboration among interested PSEPs and SLAs who want to update the study materials. States should work together and willing to share their manuals
Are there critical items or methods needed to ensure accuracy/quality? Are there tripping hazards on the path to adopting the new/revised manual?	This category's content is unique because Metam Sodium is the main pesticide used in this category. The majority of pesticide applicators certified in this category will be exposed to some or all of this content. To ensure the accuracy/quality, states/tribes get the study materials from a reliable source (PSEP, SLA, or organizations where PSEP/SLA/EPA work in collaboration). We do not envision any tripping hazard in adopting the revised manual. For example, several states are planning to adopt the revised version that the University of Wyoming is releasing soon.
Need or interest for workgroup?	
Interested parties	
Researched/summarized by CTAG member Gurinderbir Chahal	

Summary (1-3 paragraphs): Sewer Root Control or Metam Sodium

There is no national manual on this category, but some states have adopted study material created by Cornell University. This category manual is not likely to vary widely from region to region because Metam Sodium is the only Restricted Use Pesticide used in this category. Most of the training materials were created in the mid 90s. In a recent AAPCO survey, revising this manual is not a priority for most of the states/tribes because there is not much change in pesticide technology and regulations related to this category.

Not every state/tribe/territory uses this category because it is not federally required. There is not a great deal of variation in the approach to lumping/splitting this category. In most states, it is a standalone category. "Sewer Root Control or Metam Sodium" is the most common category name for this category. In a few states, this category is lumped with the Aquatic category or Fumigation category.

In an effort to reduce duplication, SLA/PSEP leads should work collaboratively to revise the study materials. In states/tribes that have this category, pesticide applicators certified in this category will be exposed to some or all of this content. This category applies to commercial applicators who use or supervise the use of restricted use pesticides to control roots in sewers.