Why should you become an INLA Certified Nursery Professional?

The INLA’s CNP program acknowledges individuals as trained professionals with expertise in the horticulture industry. Earning a certification enhances your credibility in the industry. INLA certification also identifies individuals as qualified professionals to the general public.

The CNP exam contains two parts: plant identification and a written examination. Plant identification consists of identifying at least 50 plants, supplying the correct genus, species, cultivar (when appropriate) and common name. The written exam is based on information provided in the INLA certification manual and practical knowledge gained from employment in the industry. Applicants for certification must have worked in the nursery industry for at least one year.

CNP applicants may obtain a certification training manual (through the INLA office) and gain knowledge on a wide variety of horticulture subjects including: plant identification; soils; fertilization; turf grass management; proper planting techniques; landscape design and more.

An advanced certification called the Certified Plant Diagnostician, is available for those CNPs wanting to further their education. This certification identifies superior skills in diagnosing plant problems. Study guides for this exam are “Pests of Landscape Trees & Shrubs,” available from the INLA office.

To receive an application or for more information call the INLA office at (208-681-4769). To see who is certified or to learn more, please visit the certification section of the INLA website at www.inlagrow.org.