



Structural Pest Control Bulletin

Britt Cobb, Commissioner

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2005 PCT SCHOOL-HELPFUL HINTS

The 55th Annual Pest Control Technician's School will be held January 17-20, 2005 at the Hilton North Raleigh. A variety of recertification training opportunities will be available at this year's school. As always, the Division's staff will be on hand to help you determine your recertification status. You may determine your status beforehand by utilizing our web site. Visit our web site at www.ncagr.com/str-pest/ and click on License & Certification. You may first want to click on Recertification Requirements to find out how many credits and years attendance are required during your five-year recertification period. To check your transcript you should then click on Recertification Transcripts, enter your name and click on Find Record. You then click on your name, click on search, and finally click on your file number. The transcript page will show your name/company information, recertification dates, and the credits you have obtained.

When you register for the PCT School it is imperative that your social security number is accurate. In years past we have discovered that some people did not receive proper credit because their social security number was incorrect. If your social security number used at the PCT School does not match the one we have on file then you will not receive proper credit.

The Certification Exams given by the Division at the PCT School begin at 7:30 AM on Thursday, January 20th. All exam participants must send a completed exam preregistration form to the Division by January 3, 2005. As always, applicants who have not attended/completed the Registered Technician School Training will not be permitted to sit for the certification exams. The registration and fees for the exams are in addition to any registration/fees for the PCT School. There is a \$10.00 fee for each phase exam (P,W, or F) and no charge for the core exam. Please be prepared to pay with a check or money order only. The exam fees will be collected the morning of the exams and the exam location is Salon F-G at the Hilton. You may contact the Division at (919) 733-6100 if you have any questions about these exams. If you have any questions about the PCT School, you can visit the North Carolina Pest Control Association's web site at www.ncpca.org or call them at 800-547-6071.



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The Structural Pest Control Division Wishes You A Happy Holiday Season & A Successful Year of Controlling Pests in 2005!



COMING EVENTS



JANUARY 2005

January 4, 2005 9:30 AM
 Licensee/Certified Applicator Exam
 McKimmon Center
 Corner of Gorman & Western Blvd.
 Raleigh, N.C.
 919-733-6100

January 12, 2005 8:30 AM
 Registered Technician School
 Cabarrus County Extension Center
 715 Cabarrus Ave. West
 Concord, N.C.
 919-733-6100

January 20, 2005 7:30 AM
 Certified Applicator Exam
 Hilton North Raleigh-PCT School
 3415 Wake Forest Road
 Raleigh, N.C.
 919-733-6100

January 26, 2005 8:30 AM
 Registered Technician School
 NCDA&CS Building Room 359
 2 West Edenton St.
 Raleigh, N.C.
 919-733-6100

FEBRUARY 2005

February 1, 2005 9:30 AM
 Licensee/Certified Applicator Exam
 McKimmon Center
 Corner of Gorman & Western Blvd.
 Raleigh, N.C.
 919-733-6100

February 9, 2005 8:30 AM
 Registered Technician School
 Guilford County Extension Center
 3309 Burlington Road-Barn Kitchen Bldg.
 Greensboro, N.C.
 919-733-6100

February 16, 2005 1:00 PM
 Certified Applicator Exam
 New Hanover County Extension Center
 6206 Oleander Drive
 Wilmington, N.C.
 919-733-6100

February 23, 2005 8:30 AM
 Registered Technician School
 NCDA&CS Building Room 359
 2 West Edenton St.
 Raleigh, N.C.
 919-733-6100

MARCH 2005

March 9, 2005 8:30 AM
 Registered Technician School
 Senator Bob Martin Eastern N.C. Ag.Ctr.
 2900 Hwy. 125 South
 Williamston, N.C.
 919-733-6100

March 10, 2005 9:30 AM
 Licensee/Certified Applicator Exam
 McKimmon Center
 Corner of Gorman & Western Blvd.
 Raleigh, N.C.
 919-733-6100

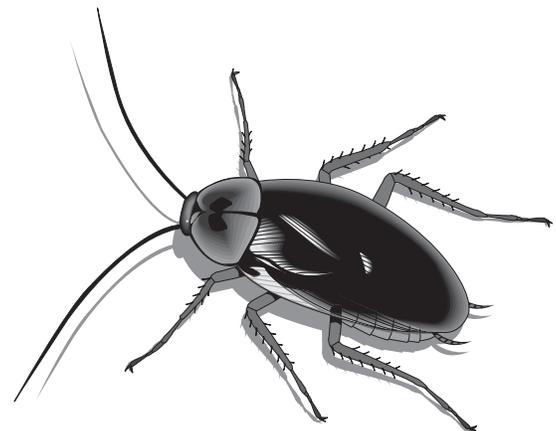
March 17, 2005 1:00 PM
 Certified Applicator Exam
 Cabarrus County Extension Center
 715 Cabarrus Ave. West
 Concord, N.C.
 919-733-6100

March 30, 2005 8:30 AM
 Registered Technician School
 NCDA&CS Building Room 359
 2 West Edenton St.
 Raleigh, N.C.
 919-733-6100

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TOWARDS SAFER PEST MANAGEMENT IN NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Cockroaches have overrun room 127!! Yellow Jackets in the playground!! Send the exterminator to spray ASAP!! Pest Management Professionals across the state of North Carolina receive these urgent and other less urgent calls for action from schools daily. Pests can disrupt learning, injure students, damage school property, contaminate food; trigger allergic reactions in sensitive children and transmit diseases. How do pest control companies deal with pests in school accounts? A 2001 survey revealed that 75% of PMPs with school accounts rely on monthly pesticide applications whether pests have been seen or not. And 40% spray the baseboard on a routine basis. However, is spraying the best solution for pest problems in schools?

Most pesticides are designed to harm or kill pests by interfering with their life systems. Because some of the life systems and processes in pests and people are similar, pesticides can harm or kill people more so in school settings. Children are smaller and are still developing so they are more vulnerable to pesticides. For this reason we should not use pesticides routinely around them. A safer and more effective alternative to routine pesticide use that we are promoting is Integrated Pest Management or commonly referred to as IPM. You may be asking, just what is IPM? From where did it originate? Does it really work? IPM is a proactive and common sense approach of pest control that does not rely solely on pesticides but combines pest control methods and tactics to control current pest problems and prevent future recurrence. IPM is based on a simple idea. Pests need food, water, shelter or hiding places, warm temperatures, entry points into buildings to survive and become established. If you remove or cut-off pest access to these resources you will achieve long-lasting and safer pest control.

IPM emphasizes inspection and monitoring to detect and identify pests, locate problem areas and appropriately target pest control measures. In IPM, actions may be any combination of the following methods: education, exclusion, sanitation, improved food storage, waste management/recycling, building maintenance/repair and pesticide usage. As stated earlier, pesticides are used only when needed, in the least toxic forms possible and applied using methods that minimize exposure to people and other non-target organisms and areas.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is not a new idea. It was developed in the 1950s to control pests and reduce pesticide use in agricultural production. It is widely used in cotton, peanut, fruits and vegetable production. It's use has extended to urban settings including Department of Defense (DOD) installations, food processing plants, federal government buildings, health care facilities, child-care facilities and schools. IPM is required or recommended in school districts of more than 20 states and many more school districts are voluntarily adopting IPM programs. In North Carolina, the following school districts currently have IPM programs at various levels of development: Buncombe, Catawba, Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Elizabeth City-Pasquotank, Elkin, Granville, Nash-Rocky Mount, Pitt, Wake, and Winston-Salem/Forsyth.

IPM can safely and effectively control pests while safeguarding the health of students, staff, and the environment by going to the root-cause of pest problems. Through education, we can make schools aware of the promise of IPM programs and increase their cooperation in getting IPM programs implemented.

Dr. Godfrey Nalyanya
School IPM Program (NCSU)

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT APPROVED AT THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2004 STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMITTEE MEETING

William D. Cobb of Dynamic Termite & Pest Control, Clayton, entered into a settlement agreement as a result of a substandard termite pretreatment of a residential structure in Garner, N.C. The Division performed a request inspection on March 3, 2004 and three soil samples were taken. The three soil samples were analyzed and no presence of the active ingredient in Dursban TC was found in any of the samples. Mr. Cobb could not produce records of having treated this house. Mr. Cobb also admitted that his company did not treat the house but had issued a soil treatment guaranty when the builder requested one. He also stated that the builder had called him to treat the house site and issue the guaranty but he had missed doing the treatments. Mr. Cobb agreed to pay a penalty of \$800.00

ADJUSTING THE CONCENTRATION OF TERMITICIDES

A number of PCOs have contacted the Division concerning the issue of adjusting the concentration of termiticides to account for the rate at which soil will accept the application. Most if not all termiticide labels include the statement:

“If soil will not accept the labeled application volume, the volume may be reduced provided there is a corresponding increase in concentration so that the amount of active ingredient applied to the soil remains the same.”

This statement may appear in the Use Directions under Pre-Construction Treatment or under Post-Construction or both.

To make use of this technique the provision must appear in the applicable section of the use directions. If it does not appear in the pre-treat use directions, the concentration cannot be adjusted when doing pretreats. The same is true for post-construction treatments.

PCOs should also note that such adjustments are permitted, in the case of the statement above, only “If the soil will not accept the labeled application volume...” Increasing the concentration and reducing the volume is not an option just to save time in the application. Furthermore, volume reductions can significantly affect the quality of the treatment. The efficacy of soil applied termiticides is determined, in large part, by the how well the termiticide is dispersed in the soil. Less water generally means less movement of the active ingredient, which can lead to gaps in the treatment. Particularly risky in this regard is the use of higher concentration and reduced volume when treating slab areas with washed stone fill. These fill materials trap the termiticide before it can reach the soil below. The “adsorption” of termiticide by the stone can lead to large gaps in the treatment zone and may also reduce the length of the residual. It is for these reasons that most labels also include the precautionary statement:

“If the fill is washed gravel or other coarse material, it is important that a sufficient amount of dilution be used to reach the soil substrate beneath the coarse fill.”

PCOs with questions concerning this technique should contact their area inspector, supervisor or the Division.

The Division has recently received several phone calls regarding the NPMA-33 (National Pest Management Association) Wood Destroying Insect Inspection Report. Please note that in North Carolina the NPMA-33 has not replaced our WDIR-100 which is still the Official North Carolina Wood-Destroying Insect Information Report. This is indicated in **.0602(a)** of our **Rules & Regulations** which states in part: “Any written statement as to the presence or absence of wood-destroying insects or organisms or their damage in building or structures for sale shall be on the **WDIR 100.**”



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