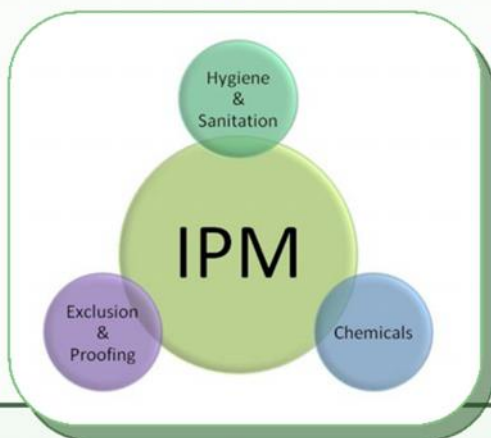




Are your IPM programmes really IPM?



Integrated Pest Management isn't new anymore

After all these years of practicing integrated pest management, some of us still don't know the specifics of an IPM program. And sometimes we forget to complete certain important steps such as follow-up monitoring.

There are, of course, many definitions of IPM. There is no actual template that you must follow if you are offering IPM, but there are some features that all IPM programs should have in common. Some mistakenly think that an IPM programme means no pesticides-not true. Pesticides are allowed in IPM, but rarely are pesticides the only control method used, and they are often not the first control method used. In IPM, there is a strong emphasis on monitoring to determine if there is a pest problem, to determine the extent of the pest problem, and, finally, to determine whether the pest problem has been resolved.

The following is a good outline of the steps in an IPM-based programme for structural pests:

1. First, inspect and monitor for pests.

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2. Identify what you found.
3. Based on 1. And 2., decide whether there is a pest problem requiring treatment.
4. If a response is required, determine the extent of the problem (or the level of infestation) to decide what your response should be.
5. Take action, using a combination of control methods best suited for the site and the problem.
6. Check back and repeat step 1. (inspect and monitor) to see if you've solved the problem. If not, try different control methods or tweak the methods you're using.

When you are performing a proper IPM program you will need to focus on three important factors which pests need to survive being; Food, Water and Shelter. The true IPM program addresses these elements by focussing on;
Hygiene,
Sanitation and
Exclusion.

"Hold it," you say. "This is what I always do." Then congratulations, you are practicing integrated pest management-and you're doing it right!

You can find out more about IPM by completing our NQF Level 5 course "Field Pest Biologist" to learn about integrated pest management in detail.

FIELD PEST BIOLOGIST TRAINING DATES:
3 JUNE 2013
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OUR COURSES ARE AGRISETA ACCREDITED AND ACCEPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES FOR REGISTRATION AS A PEST CONTROL OPERATOR

**AGRISETA & SAQA REGISTRATION
NO: AFRI/c prov/0207/08
FET REGISTRATION NO: 2012/FE07/001**

Battling to complete your pest control qualification?

If so, contact us!

To download a printable version of this newsletter, please click [here](#)

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