

INSECT LIGHT TRAPS (ILT'S) IN FOOD FACILITIES

How to choose them, use them, and place them

Insect light traps (ILT's) come in many types, shapes, and sizes. In a food facility like a restaurant, grocery store, or food warehouse, your problem is to decide which models to install and where to put them for best effect.

Choosing Trap Type- Whether you call them ILT's or EFK's (electric fly killers); they all use ultraviolet (black light) to attract flies and other nuisance flying insects. They differ, however, in how the insects are trapped or killed. There are two main types.

Sticky board traps trap insects on a sticky surface. Some use an electronic pulse to stun the insect, causing it to fall onto the sticky board. Others are passive traps where the insect happens to land on the glue boards. The main advantage to these traps is that insects are held whole on the sticky board with no scattered fragments that may contaminate surfaces. They are usually the preferred trap in food areas although they should not be installed above food surfaces. A disadvantage is the limited capacity of the sticky board, requiring more frequent servicing. They are most suitable for accounts with lower pest levels.

Electrocuting traps produce a high-voltage, low amperage arc to electrocute insects that fly through the grids to the light, and then hold them in a catch tray. These traps are most suitable for accounts with higher pest levels since they need less frequent servicing. Some models can scatter insect parts and are not for use near food surfaces. They should be placed in outside areas.

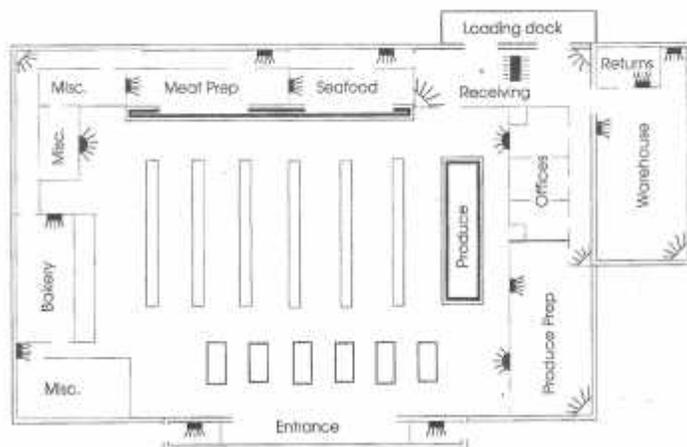
Where to place ILT's- The first principle of light trap placement is to intercept flying insects before they enter critical areas of the facility. If they have already invaded the facility, you want to place traps to draw them away from food and customer areas and towards the traps. A careful inspection is needed to determine where flies and other flying insects are entering the account and where they are resting once inside. Study the flow of people and products through the facility; flying insects follow these same pathways. Narrow hallways are a good installation site. In general, ILT's to capture flies are placed low, only 1,5m -2 m from the ground. This is where flies are most active during the day. Traps placed low are also less likely to scatter fly parts, and (as a bonus) traps placed low are easier to service. The exception is ILT's used to intercept moths and night-flying insects. These should be placed high where moths fly. Place traps where there is little competition from sunlight or ambient light, but where there is low air movement. Don't place ILT's in direct sight from doors or windows.

Ceiling-hung, two-sided ILT's should be installed in the receiving area 2m-3m above the floor, and about 5m inside the loading dock doors. Place it perpendicular to the doors so that the light does not draw insects in from outside. This installation is primarily designed to capture high-flying moths and other night fliers that enter through the loading dock doors.

Wall mount ILT's and Corner-mount ILT's should usually be installed 1,5m-2m from the floor (waist high). House flies primarily fly close to the ground. Install ILT's to capture insects before they enter processing rooms and sales areas. ILT's are most effective when installed where insects are funneled into narrow spaces such as hallways and small rooms. Install corner-mount ILT's in the outside corner of intersecting corridors to attract insects from both sides. Do not install ILT's directly over exposed food or food prep surfaces. Electrocuting ILT's (in contrast to ILT's using glueboards) cannot be within 5m of these surfaces.

Decorative glue trap ILT's are the best choice for public areas.

Suggested Light Trap Placement in a Grocery Store



**REGISTRATION
STILL AVAILABLE
FOR GENERAL PEST
CONTROL COURSE
CAPE TOWN
6-8 JUNE 2011**

**PEST MANAGEMENT
ACADEMY
INTERNATIONAL
RECOGNISED SKILLS
PROGRAMS FOR
MAY-AUGUST 2011**

GENERAL PEST CONTROL PROGRAM

23-25 MAY 2011 PRETORIA

6-8 JUNE 2011 CAPE TOWN

20-22 JUNE 2011 PRETORIA

18-20 JULY 2011 PRETORIA

1-3 AUGUST 2011 DURBAN

WEED CONTROL

27-29 JUNE 2011 PRETORIA

25-27 JULY 2011 PRETORIA

TERMITE & WOOD

DESTROYING ORGANISMS

13-15 JUNE 2011 PRETORIA

10-12 AUGUST 2011 PRETORIA

FUMIGATION

4-6 JULY 2011 PRETORIA

15-17 AUGUST 2011 PRETORIA

PLANT PEST & DISEASES

27-29 JUNE 2011 PRETORIA

25-27 JULY 2011 PRETORIA

**PMA COURSES ARE
ACCREDITED BY
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE, AGRISETA &
SAQA
ALL TRAINING COURSES AT A
COST OF R4150**