PestControl news 100

The Magazine for the Pest Control Industry

PCN 100

In this special one hundredth issue, we take a look back at the industry's longest running magazine

PAGE 21

- Houseflies, Bacteria and Hospitals
- 8th International Conference on Urban Pests (ICUP)
- Kit Maintenance - XL8 Extension
- Why Size is Important

Pest Control news 100

....FROM YOUR PCN TEAM

Dear readers,

We felt that producing the 100th edition of Pest Control News was a milestone we had to celebrate in style, taking you back to the very first edition by including this as a collector's pull-out centrepiece. You will see that training was as important then as it is today, headlines such as "super rats" still hit the headlines today and technical research is the foundation to efficient pest control. The only difference now is we can fill a lot more pages in the magazine about pest control than just four.

Creating PCN every quarter is a team effort and involves the contribution of articles from professionals as well as the editors reporting on current hot topics and events. The design team do a fantastic job of keeping the magazine looking fresh and modern as well as trying to fit in every piece of information that is thrown at them. Looking at how the design of PCN has developed through time is quite nostalgic and the PCN team gave off an aura of pride whilst doing the research. It's exciting to see how we can develop the magazine going forward for the next 100 issues.

Sadie Baldwin

Editor.

It is with great pride that I am able to preside over the historic 100th issue of Pest Control News, with our editor Sadie Baldwin. Issue 100 seemed such a long way off when I started in 2005, writing my first piece. I remember it now – it was on delusory parasitosis, still relevant today nearly a decade later. Since I started making my technical contributions to PCN there have been three editors and I'm pleased to say that I'm still here, flying the technical flag. It's something that PCN can rightly be proud about, that we have had and will continue to have a strong technical focus, with research-led and evidence-based content featuring prominently over the years and hopefully into the future. On a personal note, I've always aimed to bring the science to our readers in an accessible form, which has relevance to pest control. We've also always tried to give our readers something different rather than be too predictable, with the aim of avoiding the 'not another cluster fly article in autumn' syndrome. I hope we've been successful in our aims. We're still here, which must say something!

Matthew Davies

Technical Editor.

PestControl news

September 2014 100

The Leading Voice within the Pest Control Industry
Published quarterly reaching over 26,000 readers.

UK editor
Sadie Baldwin

Technical editor
Matthew Davies

In order faithfully to reflect opinion within the pest control industry PCN relies on information and correspondence.

News, articles, letters and editorial are always welcome!

Please address any of the above to:
Pest Control News Limited,
PO Box 2, Ossett,
West Yorkshire WF5 9NA.
tel: 01924 268400
fax: 01924 264646
e-mail: editor@pestcontrolnews.com
technical@pestcontrolnews.com

Advertising
Contact the Editor on the above address for rates and specifications. In order to meet print deadlines, all space bookings must be made eight weeks in advance and artwork received no later than four weeks prior to publication date.

Design & production by
Albatross Marketing

Printed by
Duffield Printers, 421 Kirkstall Road
Leeds, West Yorkshire LS4 2HA.

Pest Control News is printed by Duffield Printers of Leeds. Back in 1998 Duffield was the first SME in the country to achieve Environmental Accreditation and Pest Control News is proud to further this environmentally conscious approach to printing

Pest Control News is printed on totally chlorine-free paper, produced from well-managed forests.

THE INDUSTRY'S LONGEST RUNNING MAGAZINE

IN THIS ISSUE...

• EST. 1981 •

Use pesticides safely. Always read the label and product information before use

THE BRITISH PEST CONTROL ASSOCIATION (BPCA) HAS PRODUCED A NEW CODE OF BEST PRACTICE ON PESTICIDE WASTE WITH INPUT FROM THE INDUSTRY AND REGULATORY BODIES.

Waste has been the subject of many presentations and a hot topic since changes were brought in regarding disposal of rodenticide waste and their packaging; this is fast becoming one of the most confusing issues in the industry.

It is a detailed booklet that is broken down into digestible bite-sized chunks to make the process easier to understand.

The 12-page A4 booklet can be downloaded directly from the Pest Control News website under the DOWNLOADS heading, without having to input any personal details.

Farewell to the Irish Rover

After 25 years of loyal service, Killgerm say goodbye to Tony O'Dowd who will retire at the end of the year.

Tony joined Killgerm in 1989 from Sorex, and became the Area Manager for the West Midlands, Wales and the Republic of Ireland. He took over Northern Ireland 5 years later. Looking back over his career, his first roadshow of Ireland is one of the highlights for him and he looks back on it with great fondness.

Tony says, "It was lovely to work for a company that trusted me and motivated me to do the best that I could."

Tony is looking forward to spending time with his wife Celia and going to Portugal for the first time. He is also going to go back to Germany and France.

Tony will be missed throughout Killgerm and the industry. He never failed to put a smile on everyone's face with his delightful sense of humour, and his genuine interest in his customers, friends and colleagues. It's hard to imagine a Killgerm Christmas Party without Tony tearing up the dance floor, or his dulcet tones ringing out an Irish folk song on an evening out!

Enjoy your retirement Tony! There's a few pints of Guinness with your name on them!

A review of the RSPH course handbook: 'Using Aluminium Phosphide Safely'

The Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) has just released its new course handbook, 'Using Aluminium Phosphide Safely for the Management of Vertebrate Pests'.

This essential new handbook, authored by David Cross (Rentokil), Paul Hoyes (Killgerm) and Robin Moss (Killgerm) is designed to prepare users and potential users of aluminium phosphide for the RSPH Level 2 Award in Using Aluminium Phosphide Safely for the Management of Vertebrate Pests; this leads to an accredited certificate. From the 26th November 2015 it will be a legal requirement for all users of aluminium phosphide for vertebrate control to hold an accredited certificate of training, for the purposes of the Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012. Holders of this RSPH Award can then apply to join RAMPS, the Register of Accredited Metallic Phosphide Standards, in the United Kingdom online at www.ramps-uk.org

The new handbook covers all the essential information regarding the safe use of aluminium phosphide, including the target species, relevant legislation, personal protective equipment, non-target species and more. Readers can have full confidence in the content of the handbook, with it being put together by industry experts with many years of practical experience of using the products concerned.

Copies of this publication can be ordered from the RSPH bookshop at www.rsph.org.uk

Royal Society for Public Health
John Snow House, 59 Mansell Street, London E1 8AN
Telephone +44 (0)20 7265 7300,
Email: bookshop@rsph.org.uk

Vickie Watson

After gaining 10 years' experience of the pest control industry through her role in the busy Killgerm sales office, Vickie Watson will now be concentrating on the purchasing side of the business in her new role of Purchasing Assistant. Commenting:

"I am now looking forward to new challenges and responsibilities in my role as Purchasing Assistant. I am excited to embark on this next chapter of my career at Killgerm and to continue to build on my existing knowledge."

THE INDUSTRY'S LONGEST RUNNING MAGAZINE

PEST CONTROL NEWS DINNER 2014

Date: Wednesday 5 November 2014 | **Location:** Windmill Village Hotel
editor@pestcontrolnews.com | Tel: 01924 268433

£50.00 +VAT

BAR SPONSORED BY BAYER. WINE SPONSORED BY BASF.

3 Course Bonfire Night Meal.
Willy Wonka inspired charity raffle
Entertainment from throughout the years!

Pest Control News would like to thank the sponsors of the evening for their support and generosity

BASF The Chemical Company · Bayer · Bell · 小鳥 BIRD FREE · Killgerm · npta · PestWest · syngenta

WIN 2 X VIP TICKETS TO PEST CONTROL NEWS DINNER 2014

INCLUDES ACCOMODATION AT WINDMILL VILLAGE HOTEL

For a chance to WIN answer this question.....

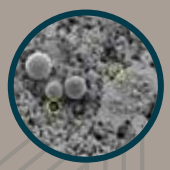
"What year was PCN established?"

To enter go to http://www.pestcontrolnews.com/competition

TOP 100

PCN Top 100 for the 100th issue

PESTS & EMERGING DISEASES



LYME DISEASE

ASIAN HORNET *Vespa velutina*

CHIKUNGUNYA

ASIAN TIGER MOSQUITO

HANTI VIRUS

BLUE TONGUE VIRUS

BEDBUGS

HARLEQUIN LADYBIRD *Harmonia axyridis*

WEST NILE VIRUS

Lasius neglectus – ASIAN SUPER ANT

MYTHS IN PEST CONTROL

YOU ARE NEVER MORE THAN 6FT AWAY FROM A RAT

CONKERS KEEP SPIDERS AWAY

POURING HOT WATER ON ANTS ERADICATES THEM

YOU CAN'T SEE BEDBUGS

RATZILLA

COCKROACHES CAN LIVE WITHOUT THEIR HEADS (THEY CAN FOR A WHILE)

IF YOU STAND ON A COCKROACH THEIR EGGS SQUIRT OUT

WASPS USE THE SAME NEST TWICE

MICE LOVE CHEESE

COCKROACHES SURVIVING A NUCLEAR WAR


REMOVAL OF PRODUCTS
GREY SQUIRREL BAIT FOR TREE PROTECTION
METHYL BROMIDE
CHOLECALCIFEROL
LIQUID CONCENTRATES
DDT
EMPIRE 20 RESIDUAL SPRAY
CONTACT DUSTS
STRYCHNINE
RENARDINE
CYMAG
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENTS
NPAP CIEH
RSPH LEVEL 2 AWARD AND CERTIFICATE
BASIS PROMPT
RCD
PWIPM
CRRU
LOSS OF CROWN IMMUNITY
RAMPS
ESTABLISHMENT OF TRADE ASSOCIATIONS BPCA AND NPTA
TRADE PERIODICALS
HOTTEST BIRDS IN PEST CONTROL
RING NECKED PARAKEET
FERAL PIGEON
KESTREL
BARN OWL
HERRING GULL
BUZZARD
ROBIN
HARRIS HAWKS / FALCONS
RED KITE
MONK PARAKEET

NEW PRODUCTS & ACTIVE INGREDIENTS

- GEL BAITS COCKROACHES
- RACUMIN CONTACT FOAM
- SGARs
- CANINE BEDBUG DETECTION
- MICRO-ENCAPSULATED SPRAYS
- GEL BAITS ANTS
- ULV (ULTRA LOW VOLUME)
- OPTICAL BIRD GELS
- INDOXACARB
- PHEROMONES FOR CLOTHES MOTHS AND STORED PRODUCT MOTH

PROTECTED & NON-TARGET SPECIES

- DOMESTIC CATS AND DOGS
- BADGERS
- BANK VOLES
- HONEY BEES
- BATS
- WOOD MICE
- RED SQUIRREL
- WATER VOLES
- GRASS SNAKE
- DORMICE

LITERATURE

- TECHNICAL MANUALS – ADAS, KILLGERM, BPCA
- WHO URBAN PESTS BOOK
- NPAP SERIES
- NATURAL ENGLAND TECH INFO NOTES
- CRRU CODE
- SGAR STEWARDSHIP SCHEME
- ICUP PROCEEDINGS
- THE PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN
- BEDBUG CODE OF PRACTICE
- ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENTS

EVENTS

- PEST SUMMIT
- PESTWORLD
- PESTTECH
- ICUP
- EUROCIDO
- PARISITEC
- PESTEX
- PESTEX NORTH
- CONNEXPEST
- EXPOCIDA

HOBBIES OF A PEST CONTROLLER

- CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING
- FLY FISHING
- ARCHERY
- GAME SHOOTING
- FERRET RACING
- RATTING
- ATTENDING GAME FAIRS
- LURCHER RACING/ SHOWING
- DEER STALKING
- COARSE FISHING

EASY TO INSTALL
LOW PROFILE DISHES

小島 BIRD FREE®

NOT A SPIKE OR WIRE IN SIGHT!

Also referred to as Optical Gel® or Fire Gel®, clients like 小島 Bird Free because it is discreet, yet effective; installers like it because the pre-dosed dishes are quick and easy to apply, and make for a neat and uniform finish.

WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS SAY

"We have been using Bird Free since 2011, and have found each new version to be an improvement on the previous one. We now use 小島 Bird Free in the majority of our bird control work, and have some customers who specify it by name."

Glenn Elliott, Contracts Manager, Cannon Pest Control Northern Ireland.

"We have used all three versions of 小島 Bird Free over the last few years, and have found the pre-dosed version much easier to use, especially where it needs to be installed at height, or applied vertically. It also makes for a neater and cleaner finish than the previous versions."

Mark Hobbs, Surveyor, Cleankill (Environmental Services) Ltd, Croydon.

"We have always found 小島 Bird Free to be effective, and the new pre-dosed version makes our work a lot easier. We regularly make follow-up visits to our clients' sites, and have found that the pre-dosed 小島 Bird Free maintains its shape and appearance very well over time."

Craig Nickless, Managing Director, ERS Environmental Services, Aylesbury.

NEW
MAGNETIC DISHES AVAILABLE SOON
MAGNETIC DISHES AVAILABLE SOON

小島 BIRD FREE
Protecting the urban environment

Bird Free Ltd
t +44 207 359 9988
e ian.smith@bird-free.com
www.bird-free.com

15 x 8mm low profile dishes per pack

PestControl news 100

PCN Survey Results

Firstly we would like to congratulate Paul Collinge from Cheshire East Council Pest Control Department on winning the digital microscope. Secondly we would like to thank all of the readers for completing the survey and returning this to us; this year was our greatest return rate to date.

We are delighted that for another year the results showed we are still your preferred trade magazine. The survey is important for us to keep up to date with what our readers want and evolve with an industry that is forever changing. Our aim is for the magazine to be a useful resource for the pest control industry, keeping you in the know about technical advances, products and developments within the industry.

It came as no surprise that the main industry sector to read our magazine was pest control, followed by local government and agriculture. It also came as no surprise that the main increase in pest control treatments was for rats and mice, although we are keen to see if there is an increase in the harlequin ladybird and exotic ants next year.

The PCN Newsdesk and re-vamped website were our newest projects and the results of the survey showed that the electronic side of PCN has continued to grow, with more people choosing to access the magazine online and the majority of our surveys completed via the PCN website.

With only four copies of the magazine being produced every year we felt that a regular Newsdesk would help our readers obtain the information in the industry that "just can't wait" and for you guys on the go to read quick and easy bite-sized chunks. It has been pleasing to see that Newsdesk has been well received and people keep signing up to receive it.

Our Facebook and Twitter pages have come on tremendously and we find that our social media is a great way of hearing your comments on articles that are presently circulating in the press.

There have been many changes in the pest control industry within the last year, some quite substantial and others for the professional development of the pest control profession. We were keen to see what you thought were the biggest changes in the pest control industry within the past 12 months; take a look at the results in the table below.

The topic of second generation anticoagulant rodenticides was the biggest change you had seen in the industry within the last 12 months with do-it-yourself jobs and competitors coming second. Changes in legislations, improvements within the industry relating to training and development and waste management regulations also made an impression.

One of the most important questions to us is how we can further improve the magazine, we have had some great suggestions and you may see some changes in the future; every opinion matters to us so don't be afraid to share them with us.

We thought this result was one to write home about: in 2003 our survey results showed that our approximate readership was 11,302; today the results revealed that our current readership is approximately 23,788!

Thank you for your continued support and for those who completed the survey.

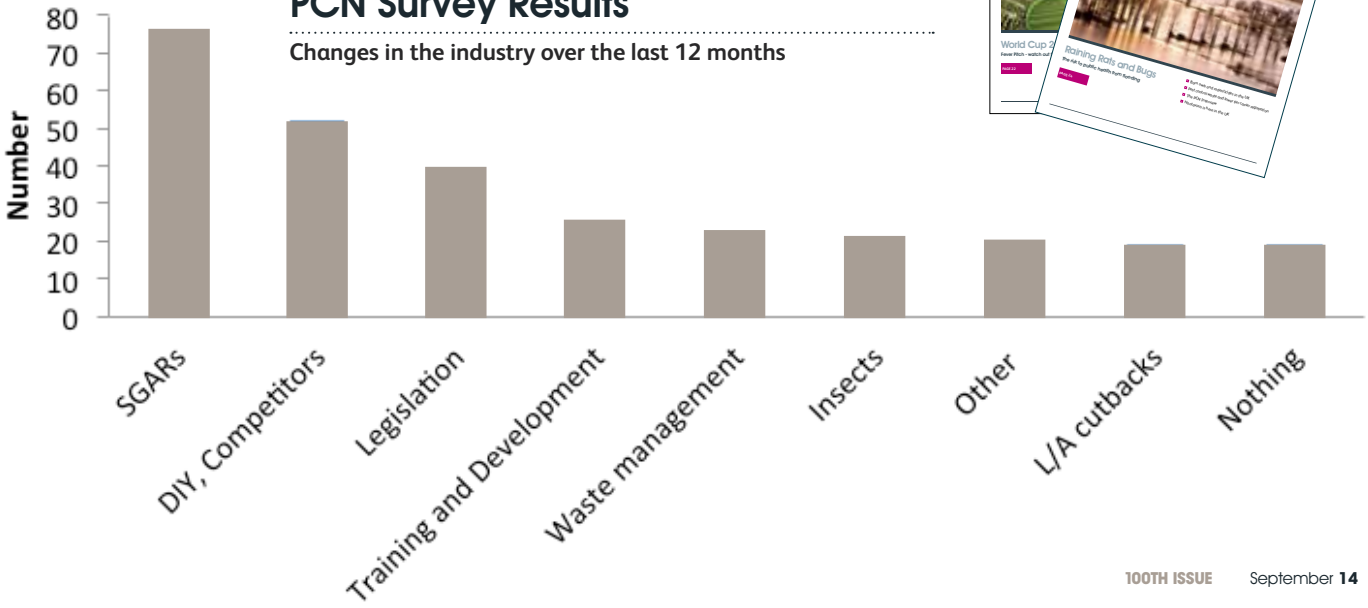
"Excellent magazine as it is, best pest control magazine by far"

"I very much like the articles that give in-depth information about pests, products and new regulations"

"Pest Control News is a great magazine and I cannot see at this time how it can improve, thank you"

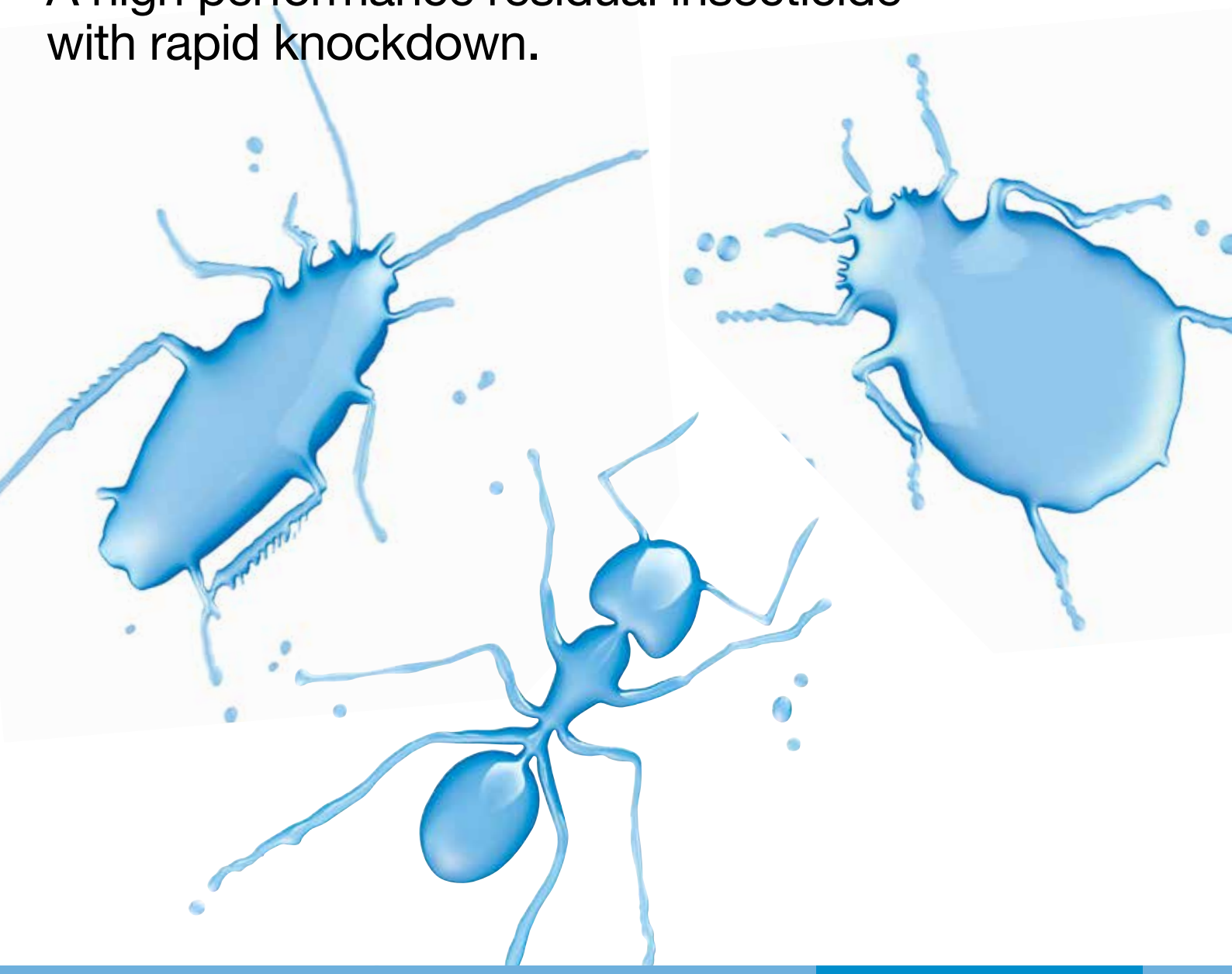
PCN Survey Results

Changes in the industry over the last 12 months



FENDONA®

The first choice spray treatment.
A high performance residual insecticide with rapid knockdown.



BASF
Pest Control Solutions

- Proven high performance, low dose formulation
- Excellent broad spectrum insect control
- Rapid knockdown and reliable residual action
- Easy, acceptable and safe in use

Enabling the most effective solutions to your pest problems.

BASF
The Chemical Company

www.pestcontrol.basf.co.uk

BASF plc, Pest Control Solutions, PO Box 4, Earl Road, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, Cheshire, SK8 6QG. Tel: 0161 485 6222 Fax: 0161 485 1137 email: pestinfo@basf.com
Fendona® contains alpha-cypermethrin. Use insecticides safely. Always read the label and product information before use. **Fendona®** is a registered trademark of BASF

NPAP UPDATE

NPAP will have direct links with The National Environmental Health Board (NEHB)

The NEHB has recently been set up by the CIEH (2014) to bring together the senior managers of the environmental health service in local government. The NEHB board is made up of senior environmental health managers and practitioners representing local government environmental health services in England. It is supported administratively by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH).

NEHB aims to work with all relevant government departments to provide leadership for environmental health services to protect and improve the health and quality of life of individuals and communities and to reduce health inequalities. The Board will provide a direct line conduit for programme funding into EH services. The Board will have close links with the LGA and its policy forum on environmental health and lead the coordination of and collaboration around environmental health programmes and initiatives of national, regional and local importance and as such will provide an important new mechanism for efficiency and effectiveness for national programmes delivered locally. The inaugural meeting chaired by Lord Rooker will be held at the end of September 2014.

The NPAP through the CIEH will have a direct connection with the NEHB and offer it advice and guidance or act as a direct mechanism to deliver research or project work to inform strategic, regional or local delivery of services and programmes.

David Oldbury said, *"This gives NPAP a fantastic opportunity to get our voice heard and to raise the profile even higher for the industry."*

NPAP visits York's Housing Seminar

NPAP took its documents to a Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) Housing Seminar, held at the National Railway Museum, York, on the 25th July.

The seminar covered many topics relating to housing and health with Professor Moray Anderson, Technical Director and Group Biologist from Killgerm, presenting on the direct and indirect impacts pests have on health relating to poor housing and surrounding environmental circumstances.

Both this presentation and the NPAP documents were well received by delegates, along with many other housing related presentations that took place on the day. NPAP were proud to have been invited to the event by its organiser John Bryson, Housing, Health & Regeneration Consultant. The NPAP documents provided delegates with topical information that aimed to raise the profile of pests and the impact they have on public health relating to housing.

NEW Social Insects Document:

The publication of the NEW Pest Control Procedures manual on Social Insects – Ants, Wasps and Bees is now available upon request from npap@cieh.org .

Whist not inherently of public health concern, social insects such as ants may walk across unclean or contaminated areas. Like with wasps and bees both vigorously defend their nests and utilise stinging as a primary defence mechanism.

The NPAP panel noticed a gap in the provision of information literature relating to social insects and agreed it would be a welcomed document to add to their growing library of literature; especially on a topic that so many pest controllers come into contact with year on year.

The document covers the identification and biology of the insects, treatment methods and processes in domestic properties, block and larger commercial properties, as well as the storage and disposal of insecticides.

The document is intended to provide advice and guidance regarding pest control activities in relation to social insects.

Like all NPAP documents, this document is no exception, its aim is to provide information to those on the front line of pest control activities in order to achieve continuity and consistent standards throughout the pest control industry.

WILDLIFE FRIENDLY PEST CONTROL

EFFECTIVE RODENT PEST MANAGEMENT IS AN ABSOLUTE PRIORITY AND FREQUENTLY REQUIRES USE OF SECOND GENERATION ANTI-COAGULANT RODENTICIDES TO KEEP AREAS FREE FROM RODENTS.

Effective rodent pest management is an absolute priority and frequently requires use of second generation anti-coagulant rodenticides to keep areas free from rodents. These chemicals are extremely toxic and persistent and do not break down in the bodies of rodents. As a consequence they persist in the natural food chain – moving into species of wild birds and mammals that feed on rodents. Our birds of prey and our owl species are among the most important bird species in Ireland. They play a major role in keeping a balance in nature and are critical to biodiversity. Recent studies have shown that many of them have traces of rodenticide in their bodies which they have acquired through their food. The extent to which they have become contaminated with residual traces of rodenticides (found in carcasses collected as part of ongoing official monitoring) is now a matter of serious concern. Barn owls have been particularly affected with over 80% of them having rodenticides in their bodies. Kites and Kestrels are also known to be affected.

To champion the protection of wildlife while promoting responsible and effective rodent pest management, the Campaign for Responsible Use Ireland Limited - **CRRU Ireland** - was formed at the behest of the regulatory authorities. It is a registered company limited by guarantee[1] formed by companies that manufacture and distribute rodenticides in Ireland. Its aim is to minimise impact on raptor and other wildlife species while promoting responsible use of rodenticides.

CRRU Ireland Supporters' Club - A 7-point CRRU code, designed to ensure responsible use of rodenticides has been drawn up. It is promoted through the CRRU Supporters' Club for rodent pest management companies and organizations. CRRU Supporters' Club members undertake to abide by the CRRU code.
Application for membership can be made via the CRRU website (www.thinkwildlife.org). Membership is free but applicants are required to sign a licence agreement to facilitate their use of the 'Think Wildlife' logo. Companies and organisations that are CRRU Supporters' Club members are listed on the CRRU website. While membership of the CRRU Supporters' Club does not guarantee that responsible procedures are followed, it confirms that a company has considered the importance of the elements set out in the CRRU Code and has agreed to conduct rodent management operations in compliance with the Code.

Under the terms of current legislation, it is an offence to use rodenticides other than in accordance with label instructions. Regular inspections are conducted by the Regulatory Authority to ensure compliance. On conviction offences are punishable by a fine, or imprisonment or both at the discretion of the court. Rodent control programmes that comply with the CRRU Code avoid risk of infringing current legislation on use of rodenticides. The CRRU Code promotes best practice in rodent control and facilitates achievement of desired results from rodent control programmes while reducing, to a minimum, potential harmful effects for wildlife.

CRRU Ireland Supporters' Club membership is a clear indication that member companies and organisations are committed to ensuring effective rodent control with minimum impact on non-target wildlife species, thereby providing them a competitive advantage.

'Wildlife Aware' Training and Accreditation - The one-day CRRU-IASIS "Wildlife Aware" training course, and associated accreditation scheme, is intended for -

- professional pest control technicians
- other competent users of rodenticides
- persons that provide advice on rodent pest management
- quality assurance managers and auditors in the food, pharma and IT sectors

The course comprises of modules designed to highlight elements to be observed or taken into account to avoid secondary poisoning of non-target species, while achieving effective rodent control. Species at risk of secondary poisoning include barn owls, buzzards, golden eagles, kestrels, peregrine falcons, red kites, sparrowhawks etc. An Integrated Pest Management approach to rodent control is highlighted during the course.

The course developed by CRRU in association with IASIS is offered twice yearly at each of three locations by trained IASIS accredited 'Wildlife Aware' course providers. The next 'Wildlife Aware' courses to be offered will take place on the the following dates at the locations indicated: –

- 30th October 2014, DAFM Laboratories, Backweston Campus
- 18th November 2014, Teagasc, Moorepark, Fermoy
- 20th November 2014, Ballyhaise College, Co Cavan

Anyone wishing to register to participate in one of these courses should download the registration form from the IASIS website - http://www.iasis.ie/coursesavailable.php. Completed registration forms can be returned to IASIS, at 31A Ravens Rock Road, Sandyford Industrial Estate, Dublin 18 or in pdf form to info@iasis.ie. The course fee of €210 includes the cost of accreditation in the year of successfully passing the course examination.

European Union legislation on sustainable use of rodenticides and other biocides is soon to be introduced. It is to be expected that on its implementation 'Wildlife Aware' training and accreditation will become compulsory for operatives providing rodent pest management services. Increasingly, invitations issued by industry, public bodies and agencies to tender for provision of rodent pest control services seek responses from pest management companies and organisations that are CRRU Ireland Supporters' Club members that employ 'Wildlife Aware' accredited technicians.

Persons successfully completing the 'Wildlife Aware' course will on application be made accredited as CRRU/IASIS 'Wildlife Aware' technicians and subject to their agreement and will be included in the list of 'Wildlife Aware' accredited technicians posted on both the IASIS and CRRU websites. 'Wildlife Aware' accredited technicians are licensed to use the 'Wildlife Aware' logo in their businesses as a symbol of their special competence. The logo serves to inform customers and potential customers that the individual rodent pest control technician has been trained to avoid impact on wildlife while using rodenticides responsibly and effectively to:-

- Maintain required standards of hygiene;
- Comply with relevant quality assurance schemes; and
- Prevent contamination, spoilage and damage caused by rodent pest species.

Further information can be obtained from the website www.thinkwildlife.org

[1] Companies Registration Office Number 533136

[2] Irish Agricultural Supply Industry Standards Ltd, Companies Registration Office Number 202978

THINK WILDLIFE
Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use

Resistance is futile

Rodilon®

- ☑ No known resistance in rats or mice.
- ☑ Pioneering new active ingredient; the first for over 20 years.
- ☑ Highly palatable and effective single feed solution to rodent problems.
- ☑ For indoor use only with four convenient baiting options; Wheat Tech, Trio, Soft Blocks and Blocks.

For further information call 00800 1214 9451

Time to reintroduce first generation rodenticides?

Alan Morris.

With second-generation rodenticides so fiercely under the spotlight, and calls for a broader use of control measures, surely the question begs, 'what about first generations…?'

"First generation rodenticides are very misunderstood,"

states Bayer's Alan Morris.

"Over the years they have fallen into the same general category as warfarin - in other words, old, ineffective and suffering from widespread resistance. While this is perhaps largely true for warfarin, many people overlook the huge diversity amongst first generation products and formulations containing the likes of coumatetralyl, which have far fewer resistance strains and therefore should be a legitimate consideration."

Chris Parmiter from pest control consultancy PestTrain believes that in some circles attitudes are already beginning to change. "I think preconceptions have changed in the minds of a number of people over the last 4-5 years; I think they're starting to see that first generations have a place again. That said, I also believe that the mainstream of public health pest controllers are missing a trick due to negative preconceptions."

He agrees that the problem occurs when people think of first generations, and associate them with warfarin. "However even this is, in some instances, an erroneous preconception," says Chris. "I would never beat the drum of warfarin because large swathes of the UK do suffer from resistance to that product. However there are some pockets of the UK that don't, and where, as a rodenticide, it is still perfectly effective."

Alan Morris reiterates the point that not all first generations are equal and some will still be highly effective. "We've known cases in these highly resistant regions where products containing coumatetralyl have managed to control infestations without any trouble. In these instances the problem was clearly never resistance, but palatability."

He adds that in order for control to be achieved, a broad perspective needs to be taken. He explains how, initially, pest controllers should consider what measures can be undertaken to limit rodent activity without laying any bait at all.

"Standards of hygiene and habitat management need to be looked at," says Alan. "If there are many harbourage, food and water sources available, every attempt to remove those should be made, as not only will they play a large role in attracting the rodents, they will also impede the uptake of any bait that is laid."

Chris Parmiter agrees and states that when considering the application of any products, best practice dictates that a pest controller should only consider a rodenticide after the use of non-chemical methods, i.e. proofing, trapping and habitat management, have been explored. "Part of an initial assessment should always examine how the integrated campaign is likely to affect non-target species. This is where the use of a first generation has its merits."

With education programmes led by organisations such as the Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU) and trade associations to improve best practice and consider alternatives to the potent second generations, now may well be the time for the industry to call upon the first generation arsenal again and challenge the status quo that they represent. "The current mind-set of 'use a rodenticide first to guarantee a fast control' needs to change," says Alan.

"It is important that end users are better informed and, on one hand, are aware of all of the control options at their disposal, but on the other, understand the potential hazards to wildlife and more importantly public health," he adds.

Alan Morris concludes that we have to be realistic, and believes that there will always be cases when a second generation rodenticide is the best course of action. "Providing the pest controller has reached that conclusion by justifiably ruling out other methods, including the use of less potent baits, then that's fine," he says.

"If the pest control industry wants to protect the sustainable future of all of the currently available products, everyone needs to take a more considered and planned approach to rodent control; the whole industry needs to be much more open to all available options. We also need to be more flexible in how we implement a wider range of control measures whilst continuously raising professional standards."

Norway Rat.

Matthew Davies, the Pest Control News Technical Editor

Houseflies, Bacteria and Hospitals: Viewing Pest Control as Infection Control

Matthew Davies, the Pest Control News Technical Editor and PhD student at Aston University, talks us through an extract of his research on bacteria isolated from flies in UK hospitals. This discussion is based on Matthew's presentation at the International Conference on Urban Pests 2014 in Zurich and reports on species of bacteria that were isolated from houseflies for the first time.

The history

I've always been surprised that people don't seem to take flies seriously when it comes to the transfer of disease-causing microorganisms. It is well established that the housefly *Musca domestica* carries and disseminates a great variety of pathogenic bacteria, many of which can make us severely ill should our foodstuffs or surfaces that we touch become contaminated. The research is out there but there are still sceptics. To be fair, I can understand it when people ask, "Do flies actually infect people with bacteria?" because the majority of research (mine included) shows the deposition of bacteria onto surfaces by flies and lists the bacterial species that were isolated from the flies themselves e.g. from their external surfaces, gut and flyspots. Not unsurprisingly, I didn't gain ethical approval to go and release contaminated flies into hospitals to infect patients with *Clostridium difficile* (the so-called 'hospital superbug'). It just isn't possible to conduct the final experiment these days, which is probably a good thing.

Despite the modern inability to conduct the final experiment, the principles of flies causing infection in humans have already been established, notably by Bernard Greenberg, one of the great researchers in the field of flies and disease. One of his studies showed that houseflies obtained *Salmonella* from infected dog faeces then transferred the same organisms to a drink. Some willing volunteers consumed the drink, becoming contaminated with the same *Salmonella* themselves. Although the volunteers didn't fall ill, they would have done with species of bacteria that have a lower infective dose. Anyway, Greenberg's work is direct evidence of bacterial transfer to humans by flies, pretty convincing as far as I am concerned. Another convincing body of evidence comes from intervention studies. In short, incidence of *Shigella* infection (the causative agent of dysentery) drops significantly in areas where fly control measures are undertaken compared to areas with no fly control. A strong argument for fly control, I would say.

A crash course in microbiology

With the foregoing literature in mind, I began some research of my own with Aston University. I can only report on a very small extract of my study, as the thesis is shaping up to be over 78,000 words, so I shall spare PCN readers some of the detail.

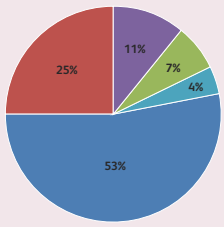
The initial work was with laboratory models, which showed that houseflies *Musca domestica* are able to transfer *Clostridium difficile*, one of the so-called 'hospital superbugs' (Davies et al., 2011). Following on from this, the next aim of the study was to isolate and characterise bacteria associated with flying insects in hospitals, in order to help understand the relevance of pest control as a component of infection control in hospitals. For this article, we'll focus just on the housefly *M. domestica*, rather than attempting to include the other 113 species of arthropod that were sampled from hospitals.

I started off by collecting houseflies from pre-existing ultraviolet light flytraps located throughout a number of hospitals. It's funny how much attention you get when you do this in hospitals – everyone seemingly loves a gruesome story about both types of 'bugs'.

The flies were then subjected to washing and maceration back in the lab, in order to isolate bacteria which were subsequently grown on a variety of agar plates in an incubator. Experience tells me that microbiologists don't appreciate a practical entomologist calling an incubator an 'oven', so I'd advise sticking to the technical terms. The bacterial colonies that grew on the agar plates were then identified by their appearance on the plates, their morphology and colour following staining techniques and finally by a number of biochemical tests.

Results

What we found was certainly interesting because the majority of the species of bacteria isolated from flies were of the family Enterobacteriaceae i.e. faecal / gut bacteria (*E. coli* is in this family). In fact, Figure 1 (below) shows that over half of bacterial isolations from houseflies were Enterobacteriaceae.



Bacterial groups isolated from *M. domestica* sampled from UK hospitals

Enterobacteriaceae, the faecal / gut bacteria isolated from houseflies in hospitals, are shown in the image below (Figure 2), as they appear on a specific type of agar plate.

Figure 2. Typical pink colonies on Violet Red Bile Glucose Agar indicative of Enterobacteriaceae, which were isolated from houseflies

Staphylococcus aureus was also isolated from houseflies taken from hospitals, the antibiotic resistant form of which is known as 'MRSA'. *S. aureus* isolated from houseflies is shown in Figure 3. Note the colour change of the agar caused by the bacterial growth.

Figure 3. *Staphylococcus aureus* isolated from houseflies sampled from hospitals

Houseflies carrying the described variety of microorganisms were sampled from a number of locations, including hospital catering areas, ward kitchens, wards, hospital food stores and a mortuary. These are clearly sensitive areas where you wouldn't really want to find flies that are carrying bacteria. The UV-light flytraps were clearly doing their job.

The species of bacteria isolated from houseflies on multiple occasions included *Klebsiella pneumoniae* ssp *pneumoniae*, well-known as the causative agent of pneumonia and *Bacillus subtilis* which has been involved in fatal brain and lung infections.

The types of bacteria already mentioned have been isolated from houseflies before, so while this is an important update as far as the situation in UK hospitals in concerned (the last similar UK study was in 1942!), the most interesting findings were arguably the isolation of certain species of bacteria from houseflies for the *first time* (Table 1).

Bacteria isolated from houseflies for the first time	Hospital area	Significance of isolated bacteria
***Bacillus* spp** *Bacillus licheniformis*	M	Septicaemia
Clostridia *Clostridium beijerinckii/butyrricum* *Clostridium clostridioforme*	HC HC	Neonatal necrotizing enterocolitis. Bacteraemia
Enterobacteriaceae *Raoultella terrigena*	W	Resistant neonatal sepsis

Table 1. A list of the bacteria isolated from *M. domestica* for the first time, to the knowledge of the author. Key: The hospital areas that the flies carrying that particular isolate were sampled from are denoted as: mortuary (M), hospital catering areas (HC) and wards (W).

To my knowledge, this study provides the first example of *B. licheniformis, C. beijerinckii / C. butyricum, C. clostridioforme* and *R. terrigena* isolation from houseflies (Table 1). These names don't exactly trip off the tongue and are unlikely to be as familiar as *E. coli, Salmonella* and other more well-known microorganisms but we really need to know something about them. This is of course the really interesting part – we've not heard of these species before, they've been found to be associated with houseflies for the first time ever and what threat do they pose to public health? So, we now need to understand the clinical significance of these species of bacteria.

The clinical significance of bacteria isolated from houseflies for the first time

Over half of bloodstream infections with *Bacillus* spp have been attributed to *B. licheniformis* where the cause was the use of non-sterilised cotton wool for skin disinfection; in one case the patient died following infection (Ozkocaman *et al.*, 2006). In the same outbreak, *B. licheniformis* showed some antibiotic resistance, caused pneumonia and fever and was classed as a 'new' pathogen causing serious infection in patients with neutropenia (Ozkocaman *et al.*, 2006).

Clinically significant *C. butyricum* strains have been isolated from the faeces of new-born babies suffering from Neonatal Necrotizing Enterocolitis (tissue death in the bowel – a common cause of death in premature babies) and those experiencing haemorrhagic colitis (bloody diarrhoea) and an adult with peritonitis (potentially fatal inflammation of the abdomen lining), while *C. beijerinckii* has been detected in dairy products (Popoff and Dodin, 1985).

There appear to be no records in the literature of *C. clostridioforme* isolation from insects. To my knowledge, this study reports for the first time isolation of *C. clostridioforme* from insects, specifically *M. domestica*. *C. clostridioforme* infection has been identified in cases of bacteraemia (bacteria in the blood), intra-abdominal abscess, peritonitis, wound infection and other infections (Finegold *et al.*, 2005).

Multi-drug resistant strains of *R. terrigena* have been described in over 25 % of blood cultures taken from neonates (new-born babies), who were suffering with sepsis (blood poisoning) due to this microorganism (Elamreen, 2007). Neonatal enteral feeding tubes can be a source of bacteria and one study showed that 10 % of isolates from such tubes were *R. terrigena*, representing an important risk factor for infection in neonates (Hurrell *et al.*, 2009).

So, based on 'read-across' from studies on the transmission of bacteria by *M. domestica* (Kobayashi et al., 1999), it follows that houseflies in hospitals may act as a mobile reservoir and vector of clinically significant *B. licheniformis, C. beijerinckii / C. butyricum, C. clostridioforme* and *R. terrigena*, which were isolated from them for the first time in this study, emphasising the importance of pest control as a component of infection control in hospitals. Might it be wise then, to include flies in the NHS conditions of contract for pest control?

As a closing comment, we are seeing more and more waste, composting and recycling sites springing up, providing breeding sites for houseflies. In addition to this, housefly populations could increase substantially under likely scenarios of climate change, with increases of up to 244 % by 2080 when compared with current levels (Goulson *et al.*, 2005). If this prediction holds true, it is possible that increases in the incidence of fly-borne diseases may occur, which may be of significance in terms of an increased reservoir of flies available to enter hospitals.

Will these factors combine in future to impact on housefly populations available to enter hospitals? What impact will increasing urbanisation and the associated urban heat effect have on housefly populations? Only time will tell. **Perhaps we will start to describe the housefly as an old pest presenting new problems in hospitals and beyond...**

PestWest®
www.pestwest.com

PestWest FLYING INSECT SCIENCE

PROFESSIONAL ELECTRONIC STICKY TRAPS

FOR FLIES' EYES ONLY

Environmentally responsible flying insect control.

UNIQUE, OVERHEAD STICKY TRAP THAT FITS DISCREETLY INTO A SUSPENDED CEILING.

SUITABLE FOR SUSPENDED CEILING TILES EITHER 60CM X 60CM OR 62.5CM X 62.5CM

THESE UNIQUE OVERHEAD DESIGNS FIT DISCREETLY AND EASILY INTO NEW OR EXISTING SUSPENDED-CEILINGS.

IDEAL FOR CONVENIENCE STORES, SUPERMARKETS AND AREAS WHERE SPACE LIMITATIONS MAY HAVE PREVIOUSLY MADE SITUATING A STANDARD UNIT DIFFICULT. THE PATENTED DESIGNS AVOID THE POSSIBILITY OF FLY FALL-OUT AND WILL EFFICIENTLY CONTROL INFESTATIONS IN PUBLIC SPACES.

INNOVATION // QUALITY // POWER

Innovation, quality & power

www.pestwest.com

Find us on: Twitter Facebook

PEST CONTROL NEWS

No. 1 SEPTEMBER 1981

Training courses and examinations for PC operators

AFTER two years of planning, the British Pest Control Association held its first one-week training course for pest control operators in August, 1980, and this was followed by further courses in September and April of this year.

• **Professor Onions addressing PCOs at one of the training courses at Aston University.**

To date 65 PCOs have attended these courses, which are residential and are held at Aston University, Birmingham.

Additionally, the Association is holding certification examinations, the successful completion of which will gain for PCOs a BPCA Certificate in general pest control knowledge and practical skills. The first such examination was held in April, when 30 candidates tackled multiple-choice questions and took part in a practical examination.

• **The Certification Board in session under the chairmanship of Sir Emrys Jones**

EXPERT LECTURERS

The course is under the direction of the Association's course tutor, Professor Gordon Onions, of Brunel University. The lecturers are experts from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; local authorities; the RSPCA; and industrial customers; as well as BPCA members.

A Certification Board has been established under the chairmanship of Sir Emrys Jones, formerly Director-General of the Agricultural Development and Advisory Service of the Ministry of Agriculture. With him sit representatives of the universities, the Chemical and Allied Products Industries Training Board and the BPCA. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Health and Safety Executive have observers serving on the Board.

Originally the Association restricted participation in the training courses to members, but now it feels that the scheme is going so well and is of such benefit to the industry that attendance at the training courses should be open to anyone, including local authority PCOs.

The fee, which includes all meals and accommodation at the University from Monday to Friday plus tuition and the provision of training manuals, is currently about £225 for members and £375 for non-members.

The next course is scheduled to be held at about Easter. Further particulars can be obtained from Mr. C. J. Keeble, Director, British Pest Control Association, Alembic House, 93 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TU.

'SUPER-DUPER RATS'? NO BIG PROBLEM YET

ARTICLES in national newspapers recently claimed the existence of a strain of rats resistant to the anticoagulant rodenticide, Difenacoum. The inference given was that the problem is one of national dimensions. Presumably, after "super rat" we shall soon hear of "super-duper rat," although no-one appears to have thought of this yet!

Difenacoum, which has been widely used for some years in the U.K. and in many other parts of the world, has proved itself to be an effective replacement for the older anticoagulants because of its considerably greater potency and its activity against resistant rodents. Any suggestion that this valuable innovation may itself become ineffective should be treated seriously, but the facts are that the gloomy picture presented by the popular Press is, to put it mildly, somewhat exaggerated.

The fact that a strain of rat with a different type of resistance mechanism exists has been known for at least four years. These rats have been carefully studied and monitored throughout that time. In practice, they can withstand about five times the dose of Difenacoum which would be expected to kill a "normal" anticoagulant-resistant animal.

This level of resistance should be contrasted with that of Warfarin. Classic Welsh strain anticoagulant-resistant brown rats can survive a Warfarin dose over 100 times that which is lethal to a non-resistant rat.

It is surprising that a resistance level of only five-fold can cause any significant problem in the field but, in that limited area where these animals exist, field problems have been experienced.

The area concerned is relatively small; sporadic incidents have been recorded in a triangle along the Surrey, Hampshire and Berkshire borders. It is only within that triangle that any problems have been encountered, and the affected area has expanded only very slowly during the four years in which we have been aware of the problem.

To give some idea of the extent of the problem; in 1980, when Ministry staff surveyed 142 farms within the affected area, 85 per cent of rats trapped were found to be resistant to Warfarin, but just 28 individual rats showed Difenacoum resistance.

The new strain is now established in the laboratories of the Ministry of Agriculture and Sorex, where attempts are being made to study the genetics of this type of resistance and its mechanism. The strain has proved to be very difficult to establish as a laboratory culture; the rats concerned breed only with extreme difficulty, which indicates that the strain has a very low viability. This may explain the very slow spread of this type of resistance and its sporadic nature.

Initial tests indicate that the new single-dose anticoagulant, Brodifacoum, is effective in controlling this strain. Further work will be required in order to determine the absolute effectiveness of Brodifacoum, and this will be reported later.

The main difficulty at present is that of obtaining sufficient numbers of individuals to carry out this work. It is an encouraging fact that Brodifacoum has already been successfully used by professional operators to eliminate pockets of rats remaining after Difenacoum treatment.

To summarise; Difenacoum resistance has occurred in a very limited area. The strain concerned is not likely to spread at a speed likely to give rise to a national problem. The situation is the subject of careful monitoring, and a probable solution appears to be already in our hands.

RATCATCHER

THERE is a saying in the City that the truth about a takeover rumour is directly related to the strength of the denial. So no-one should have been surprised when it was announced that Rentokil had taken over Contra Pest.

But even if they were not surprised, there must have been many who were concerned at the news. Those, for example, who had decided to divide their contracts between the two firms, only to find that one company now holds both contracts.

Can it really be in the interests of the Pest Control Industry for one company to have such a large share of the market, and still be allowed to take over one of its most significant competitors?

OUR local authority readers will have been pleased to see that the BPCA is opening its training courses and examinations to non-members of the Association. Any course designed to improve standards by providing training from experts with practical experience is welcome. This course and examination look to be very good news. Congratulations to the BPCA for taking such a far-sighted view.

WE should be proud that it is a British product which has been chosen by the Egyptian Government, in spite of intense foreign competition. Brodifacoum, the new rodenticide from Sorex, is clearly a world winner — a British world winner.

New BPCA President.....

FOLLOWING the resignation for personal reasons of John Nind, the BPCA Vice-President, Mr. Fred Hawkes has assumed the office of President for the coming year.

Fred Hawkes is well-known as the former Technical Director of Contra Pest Ltd., of Bolton, and is now a consultant with Rentokil. His many years of experience in pest control and food hygiene will be a great asset to the BPCA.

o o o

The Executive Committee of the BPCA have nominated Miss Frances McKim (pictured), of FBC Ltd., as Vice-President. This means that her name will go forward to the A.G.M. next May as the first Lady President.

Miss McKim, aged 27, graduated from Reading University with an honours degree in Agricultural Economics. In 1975 she joined Fisons Agrochemical Division (now FBC Ltd.), working in Sales and Marketing, in the UK and overseas, on agricultural and public health projects. In 1979 she was appointed to her present position as UK Ficam Product Manager.

She enjoys outdoor pursuits, the latest of which is windsurfing.

....and Vice President

THIS IS THE BRITISH PEST CONTROL ASSOCIATION

THE British Pest Control Association is the trade association for servicing companies engaged in the control of pests in domestic premises, factories, catering establishments, ships and hospitals etc., covering food storage, public health and ancillary operations; together with general fumigation, including intensive horticultural enterprises.

It also represents the manufacturers of pesticides, chemicals and equipment for pest control as used by servicing companies.

Above all, it sees itself as representing those companies which are in the forefront of the battle to protect the public from health hazards and economic ravages for which pests are responsible. In pursuit of these aims it supports the responsible and safe use of pesticides with due regard for the interests of the general public, children and domestic animals, as well as the environment.

NEGOTIATIONS

The Association was founded in 1942, and the membership this year topped the 100 mark. Probably its main activity, as the only body able to speak for the industry, is representing the industry in all negotiations with Government on all aspects of pest control. Each time the Government considers any proposals affecting pesticide legislation the BPCA is consulted, and all negotiations on the Pesticide Safety Precautions Scheme are carried out through the Association.

Additionally, the BPCA organises field-days and seminars, as well as a major technical conference every four years at which 200 to 300 delegates from all over the world listen to papers on the latest developments in the pest control field.

The Association has an Executive Committee of 14 members, who meet every two months and are responsible for all the decision-making. The Conference Committee makes arrangements for the four-yearly conferences; the Fumigation Committee is currently liaising with the Health and Safety Executive over the implementation of new fumigation regulations; the Servicing Committee has been concentrating on improving hospital contracts, and has been working closely with the Department of Health and Social Security with a view to resolving a problem here which has caused the industry some concern.

The Manufacturers' Committee, only recently formed, has already played a useful part, amongst other things, in assisting MAFF and H and SE in the rigorous policing of the PSPS; and it has held a successful seminar at Cambridge University which was attended by a record number of people in the pest control industry.

The Publications Committee — very much the backroom boys — has been responsible for the publication of the Proceedings of the Fifth British Pest Control Conference, held in Stratford-on-Avon in September 1979, as well as the very popular A to Z of Household Pests, which has had such excellent reviews in the Press. Both publications are available from the Association office at £15.50 and £0.75 respectively, including postage.

TRAINING

Pride of place, however, must undoubtedly go to the Training and Certification Committee, whose members have worked so hard to bring to fruition the Association's Training and Certification Scheme, which was successfully launched last Autumn and which is reported in greater detail elsewhere in this issue.

No report of the activities of BPCA would be complete without reference to CEPA, the Confederation of European Pest Control Associations, a progressive international association for the promotion of which BPCA can indeed take much credit. The membership of the Confederation, too, has steadily increased, with Japan as its latest recruit.

CEPA holds meetings in all the European member countries and, although still comparatively young, has already received recognition from such bodies as the EEC and the Council of Europe, as well as OECD.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The United Nations under attack

A PROGRAMME to eliminate the tsetse fly from Africa that will cost the African nations £885m. has resulted in severe criticism of its proposers, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation. It is considered to be doomed to failure; but, if it were successful, it could be a disaster for Africa.

Further criticism is that it involves the use of pesticides limited for use in the developed world for environmental reasons.

The supposed objects of the programme to eliminate the tsetse fly are:

1. To increase African beef production, not using breeds susceptible to the diseases transmitted by the tsetse fly;
2. To protect the population from sleeping sickness, which is transmitted by the tsetse fly and is contracted by 7,000 people a year.

These objects are criticised on the following grounds:

1. Breeds of cattle exist in Africa which are immune from diseases transmitted by the tsetse fly;
2. To protect the population, huge quantities of pesticides would be used and a major programme of deforestation is planned. These proposals would accelerate the encroachment of the desert on the fertile lands that the indigenous people require for their continued existence.

Better solution?

Perhaps a better solution is to work on the improvement of the productivity of the resistant breeds of cattle and to equip the hospitals, schools and, as far as possible, all areas where people congregate with non-chemical flying insect control equipment such as the Insect-O-Cutor.

Is it right for the developed world, under the guise of assistance, to offer the developing world solutions to their problems if they cause even greater problems? If pesticides are considered harmful to the environment in Europe and the United States, is it right for them to be offered to Africa?

Yours sincerely,
JACK RAWSTHORNE,
Managing Director,
Insect-O-Cutor Ltd.

£1m. RODENT CONTROL CONTRACT

ICI was this year awarded a £1m. contract by the Egyptian Government for the supply and technical servicing of a rodent control programme covering almost 1m. acres of agricultural land in the Nile delta. ICI supplied over 900 tons of "Klerat" (Brodifacoum), which kills rats and mice with a single feed.

Brodifacoum is available in the UK from Sorex Ltd. and their distributors.

NOVEL SPRAYING TECHNIQUE FOR FLEA CONTROL

Last summer Bikem Ltd., of Bristol, evaluated a novel spraying technique using Ficam W*. Bikem is an independent organisation which specialises in pesticide bio-assay work in the industrial and public health field.

DOMESTIC flea infestations in the Bristol area are still very common, despite today's enlightened understanding of cleaning procedures. In all the cases Bikem has dealt with this has been due solely to the cat flea, Ctenocephalides felis.

In most cases the infestation is associated with cats picking up flea eggs on their fur and transferring them into the house. Once inside, the eggs either drop off or are accidentally knocked off, and in a few days hatch into tiny worm-like larvae. These live in crevices around the edges of carpets and feed on any organic material they can find. The larvae eventually pupate, and the adults emerge. In the summer the life cycle may be completed within a few weeks.

TRIALS

Last summer Bikem treated a number of Bristol households which had a flea problem, using the new "mini Herbi Sprayer" and Ficam W (80% bendiocarb). The former is one of the new types of controlled droplet sprays recently developed by Micron Sprayers, of Bromyard, and has many advantages over the old type of pressurised sprayer, not least of which is the very small amount of solvent (in this case water) in which the insecticide (Ficam W for these trials) had to be suspended.

The sprayer is very light, portable and battery-powered, with a 1 litre tank. The insecticide is fed from the storage tank by gravity through a nozzle to the constant-speed spinning disc. The droplets are formed by the spray mixture being dispersed on the spinning disc, so producing a hollow cone of very fine 250 micron droplets. These micron-sized particles permeate the strands of carpet right down to the base and ensure that all fleas receive a dose of insecticide.

APPLICATION

A 15g sachet of Ficam W was suspended in 0.5 litre of water, which was sufficient for 125 sq.m. of surface. A full tank would then cover 250 sq.m. This gives a deposit of 0.24 g a.i. bendiocarb per square metre when applied at an operator walking speed of 1 metre per 5 seconds – i.e. at a slow walk. This has the advantage that for effective spraying only a very small amount of liquid has to be applied, and that large areas can be treated very quickly.

Thorough treatment of the whole house was carried out, paying attention to those areas most heavily infested – i.e. the cat's sleeping area, cracks and crevices near by, rugs and floor coverings and along their edges.

All householders were advised not to clean their carpets for 48 hours after treatment and to undertake disinfestation of their animals by using a suitable proprietary insecticide specifically recommended for veterinary use.

RESULTS

Each householder was most impressed by the speed of treatment and the lack of dampness left, particularly on carpets and fittings.

The sprayer is light in weight and easy and economical to use. The only difficulty is that the spray produced is so fine that at first the operator can scarcely believe he has applied the insecticide. This problem can be overcome by the operator spraying a dark surface and observing the fine white deposit produced.

It is considered that controlled droplet application for flea and carpet beetle control would be particularly applicable to large areas requiring treatment.

**Ficam is a registered trade mark of FBC Ltd.*

Half a century 'on the road'

HERBERT HOLDSWORTH, who has been "on the road" for Killgerm for almost 50 years, retires at the end of September.

Says Herbert, "I have enjoyed my time as a sales representative, met a lot of interesting people and made many friends."

Times have changed since he was asked to transfer from being a laboratory assistant at the original Killgerm Company to sales representative early in 1932. He was allocated an area of Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire, and he travelled around by train and bus, carrying the firm's samples in a case.

In those days toilet rolls cost 45s. a gross, compared with £18 a gross today, and black disinfectant fluid was between 1s. and 1s. 6d. a gallon, compared with £2.50 a gallon now.

His sales included disinfectants, toilet rolls, fumigators and drain rods.

Most of his clients were local authorities, and he thus dealt mainly with sanitary inspectors and surveyors.

In the war he was "called up" into the Royal Armoured Corps in 1941. The following year he was taken prisoner in the Libyan desert campaign, and after a spell in Italy was transferred to a prisoner-of-war camp in Austria.

After the war he returned to Killgerm Company, covering Lancashire, Cheshire, Westmorland and Cumberland, and he continued selling in that area until 1970, when West and South Yorkshire were added to his representation.

Says Herbert: "Today our range of products is much greater. We still sell disinfectants, and there is more emphasis now on weedkillers for parks and highways, insecticides for pest control and chemicals for swimming pools. Since local authority re-organisation greater emphasis has been placed on pest control."

Herbert was born in Liversedge, West Yorkshire, 70 years ago, and on leaving Heckmondwike Grammar School in 1927 joined Killgerm, then based in Cleckheaton. He now lives in Manchester Road, Over Hulton, Bolton; but in view of his associations with Yorkshire it is not surprising that he is a member and former president of the Society of Yorkshiremen in Bolton.

Electrocution for flying insects

INDUSTRIES responsible for retailing food products are faced with a dilemma when it comes to the elimination of flies, wasps and similar flying insects.

On the one hand, the public's conscience is more alert than ever before on the subject of hygiene and the need to keep these pests away from food. On the other hand, environmental propaganda has universally implanted a deep-rooted suspicion of chemical sprays.

It is unconvincing to argue that chemicals, whether sprayed or vaporized, are harmless to humans if a small deposit is left on food, and impossible to deny that flies are free to fall into food.

Many prosecutions worldwide have succeeded as a result of pests being incorporated in food products, despite the most stringent precautions.

The ideal solution to the problem must be a device which has a stronger attraction to these insects than that of exposed food products; it must be of a type against which they cannot develop immunity, and extermination must be instantaneous.

BLACK LIGHT LURE

This was the specification for an invention developed in the USA many years ago and first brought to the UK in 1960 by Henry Simon Ltd. It is now manufactured and marketed by Insect-O-Cutor Ltd.

Research was concerned with the black light lure. This attracts the insects to an electrified grid, and the electrocuted flies drop into a collection tray beneath. Many years of patient investigation into the different attraction properties of light to flying insects resulted in the choice of the ideal fluorescent tube.

Devices were installed in the premises of two local food companies, and the insects caught were collected once a week and identified. The weekly "take" was usually in the order of 10,000.

The original intention was to develop the Insect-O-Cutor for use in the large food factories built and equipped by the company, but its potential in other locations has been developed so that today there are over 300,000 units in use throughout the world.

In the UK the Insect-O-Cutor has the approval of those responsible for public health, and is in use in markets, biscuit plants, creameries, poultry farms, hospitals, food shops and restaurants and by local Councils and airline caterers.

The attractively designed units make no movement, give off no chemicals or smell, yet continuously attract, kill and collect their victims which come within range of the black light lure. The only indication that they are working is a spark whenever an insect enters the grid, a pile of bodies in the collection tray – and a marked absence of flying insects.

The electricity used costs no more than that for a fluorescent lamp.

First two Workshops were fully subscribed

THERE can be few more satisfying sights for the sponsors of any meeting than a room full of delegates. The sponsors of the 1981 Pest Control Workshops have cause to be delighted, for the two Workshops held so far, at Shrewsbury and Falkirk, were fully subscribed.

More than 160 environmental health officers, food hygiene controllers, Ministry advisers, entomologists and pest control operators went to the Hawkstone Park Hotel, Shrewsbury, in April to attend the first Workshop. They came from all over Wales, the South-West, the North-West and the Midlands to hear the panel of highly qualified speakers.

There were more than 100 at the Park Hotel, Falkirk, in May, with delegates coming from Inverness in the North down to the Border and from almost every District Council in between.

KNOWLEDGEABLE

Dr. Mike Megaw, Consultant Entomologist to the Sharpstow Chemical Co. Ltd., began the proceedings with a talk on the development of synthetic pyrethroids. Having great experience in the use of these products throughout the Middle East and North Africa, he must surely be one of the most knowledgeable people on these formulations and their use in public health.

The second paper was jointly presented by Dr. Bob Tapley and Peter Whitaker, of FBC Ltd. It dealt with the new developments in Ficam, probably the main insecticide used by UK pest controllers. In particular it covered the new Ficam Dust and the new approval for the use of Ficam W in the mini-Herbi.

After an excellent lunch, the third paper explained the principles and applications of ULV – Ultra Low Volume. At Shrewsbury, this paper was given by Bob Tapley and Peter Brooke (consultant to Sharpstow Chemical Co.). At Falkirk, the paper was presented by Bob Tapley, who dealt with the principles; Mike Davis (of W. H. Groves and Family Ltd., distributors of Microgen equipment in the UK); and Jonathan Peck (of Killgerm Chemicals Ltd., manufacturers of the ULV formulations used in the equipment), who showed a series of slides outlining the uses of the techniques in the UK.

The final paper, an excellent and most informative presentation by Malcolm Hadler (Technical Director of Sorex Ltd.), dealt with Difenacoum resistance – about which there is a report on the front page – and the advantages of their new world-beating rodenticide, Brodifacoum.

Two further Workshops are to be held – in Northampton on November 18 and in London on December 4. Further details are available from the co-sponsors, Killgerm Chemicals, of Ossett; W. H. Groves and Family, of Surbiton; Sorex, of Widnes; FBC, of Sandiacre; and Sharpstow Chemical Co., of Acton.

Dr. Mike Megaw, one of the Workshop speakers, discusses Residroid with two of the delegates.

APPOINTMENTS

IAN HODDINOTT, South-West Regional Director for W. H. Groves and Family Ltd., has been appointed Contractors Director with a special responsibility for local authority and Government Department pest control contracts. He has been with Groves for many years and has wide experience of all aspects of contract pest control.

BERNARD McHUGH has been appointed a sales representative for Killgerm Chemicals Ltd., of Ossett, and will cover Lancashire, Cumbria, Cheshire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester and South and West Yorkshire.

Aged 52, Mr McHugh has had many years' experience as a sales representative in the paper manufacturing trade. He is married, with three children, and lives at Farnworth, Bolton.

JUDITH M. H. HISLOP has joined the staff of W. H. Groves and Family Ltd. to carry out a series of trials under the control and supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture at Slough on ULV formulations and techniques. This work is being jointly funded by Groves and Killgerm Chemicals Ltd.

AT LAST IN THE U.K. — TRUE ULV

DESPITE the fact that CDA and ULV application equipment has generally been lumped together under the banner "Ultra Low Volume" equipment, there have been very few true ultra low volume performance units available.

CDA (Controlled Droplet Application) really refers to the uniformity of droplet size, which can vary from 50 microns to 350 microns or more. True ULV produces a droplet size within the 5-25 micron range.

The new range of Micro-Gen equipment marketed by W. H. Groves and Family Ltd., in the UK all conform to this criterion. For the first time a truly portable, hand-held ULV generator is available for the space treatment of warehouses, food preparation areas and many other areas of public health interest.

THE FORMULATIONS

Ultra Low Volume application is the method by which the highest concentration of active material is dispersed in the lowest possible amount of diluent or carrier, thus reducing excessive loading of the environment with a socially unacceptable hydrocarbon carrier.

The ULV formulations supplied for use with Micro-Gen equipment have been specially designed by Killgerm Chemicals, of Ossett, to ensure complete insecticidal efficiency against a wide spectrum of target insects and, at the same time, to eliminate the possibility of staining or tainting by the use of near medical grade of liquid paraffin oil as the carrier.

To illustrate the efficiency and economy of ULV, a single litre of ULV 400 (natural Pyrethrins) or ULV 500 (Tetramethrin/Phenothrin) is basically equivalent to a 25 litre drum of ready-to-use fogging material currently used in mechanical and thermal foggers. A saving in treatment costs of up to 40 per cent or more can be achieved, added to which must be the saving in time and labour due to the complete flexibility and portability of the units.

ADVANTAGES

Mervyn Roberts, Hygiene Officer for Fox's Biscuits, of Batley, was one of the first to use the Micro-Gen E2 unit for his factory fogging programme, and he has found many advantages over the system he used before. Not least is that the ULV fog is such that the smoke detectors in the building are no longer activated.

"For the first time in five years I am really going to have an enjoyable Christmas," said Mr. Roberts. He explained that the annual major fogging throughout the factory normally takes 4½ days over the Christmas holiday period. "I can now do the job with my normal staff in one day."

Mr. Roberts, always respected in the food industry and the pest control industry for his accurate and painstaking assessments of new methods and techniques, is most impressed with the flexibility and ease of operation of the E2 and also with the effectiveness and economy of the formulations used through the unit.

Mike Davis, Managing Director of W. H. Groves, said, "For some time I have been a firm believer in ULV techniques, which I have used extensively abroad, and I knew it was only a question of time before I was able to find a range of equipment ideally suited to UK application. Micro-Gen is the system for the Eighties, and I foresee a total acceptance of ULV, particularly in the food industry, once it is realised that it is now no longer necessary to use large lumps of heavy equipment and cumbersome drums of insecticide."

COLOUR CODING

To make the use of ULV even simpler, Mr. Davis and Jonathan Peck, of Killgerm Chemicals, have evolved a system of colour coding for the insecticidal cartridges in conjunction with colour boards located in factory areas to be treated. This ensures that even relatively unskilled labour can operate the Micro-Gen system safely and with the minimum of instructions.

"We mark each area of the factory with a coloured wall board to indicate the colour of the insecticidal cartridge to be used in that area," said Mr. Davis. "On the board is marked the number of minutes needed for the required treatment, so it is simple for the operator to reach for the correct coloured canister and follow the instructions on the corresponding board."

He added, "There is almost no limit to the number of applications to which ULV can be put – trains, buses, aircraft, ships, restaurants, food factories, abattoirs, maggot farms, sewage plants....."

Another advantage of the Micro-Gen system is that the insecticide cartridge can be easily and cleanly changed, even when only partially used, and a ULV 720 odour-counteractant cartridge fitted. This means that the spray tank need not be emptied specially before changing from product to product. It is this aspect which enables the operator conveniently to move from area to area with the same dispensing unit by simply changing cartridges.

Designed and produced by Yorkshire Press and Publicity, 6 Park Place, Leeds LS1 2RU. Printed by Elsworth Bros. Ltd., Bowhan Lane, Leeds LS10 1JD.

PestTech

bringing customers and suppliers together

SAVE THE DATE!

PestTech 2014

National Motorcycle Museum

Junction 6, M42 Motorway
Birmingham

Wednesday, 5th November, 2014

npta

National Pest Technicians Association

Telephone: 01773 717716 Fax: 01773 714050 E-mail: office@npta.org.uk
Web: www.npta.org.uk www.pesttech.org.uk

ELECTRONIC BALLASTS IN UV LIGHT FLY TRAPS

THE CUTTING EDGE OF ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHT TECHNOLOGIES

As a responsible manufacturer of electronic products, PestWest Electronics Ltd has taken on board the demands of the retail, food and packaging industry for more energy efficient equipment.

In the design of the recent generation of new electronic fly killers, PestWest uses components which are on the cutting edge of energy efficient lighting technology, such as:

- High frequency electronic ballasts
- New generation T5 fluorescent tubes

How do lamps work?

The ends of a lamp contain small filament coils which burn brightly and emit electrons that travel down the lamp. These electrons hit mercury atoms inside the tube that emit light. By using different types of phosphors which coat the inside of the tube we can create a variety of different coloured lamps. In the pest control industry we usually use ultraviolet lamps to attract insects to be caught.

How do ballasts work?

We can't power fluorescent lamps directly from the mains supply as they would become overloaded and blow out very quickly. By using a ballast we can limit the power supplied to the lamps. A ballast converts the mains supply into the correct level to power the lamps without damaging them.

Magnetic ballasts

Conventionally magnetic ballasts have been used, which consist of an iron core wound with copper wire that serves to reduce the power supplied to the fluorescent lamp. In addition, we also need to use a starter to create an initial ignition pulse that provides the energy to ionise the mercury in the tube and start producing light.

They are however quite inefficient and a lot of the energy in converting the mains supply to drive a lamp is wasted as heat. Magnetic ballasts also cause the lamp to flicker at twice the frequency as the mains supply they are powered from. This flickering can cause eye strain and headaches. This flickering also causes the ballast to vibrate and make a buzzing noise. In addition magnetic ballasts are quite heavy and will increase the weight of a product.

There are some manufacturers who claim the flickering of the magnetic ballasts helps attract more flies, quoting a study that found a flickering magnetic ballast caught 3x as many flies (Syms & Goodman, 1987). They neglect to mention other studies did not find differences in attractiveness between a flickering magnetic ballast and a high frequency electronic ballast (Smallegange, 2003).

Electronic ballasts

Electronic ballasts use electronic components to convert the mains supply and then carefully regulate the power supplied to the lamps. Electronic ballasts can take the mains supply and perform all the actions of preheating the filaments, igniting the tube and then running the lamp. Because they do not require the starters used with magnetic ballasts, pest controllers can reduce the servicing time and the stock they need to carry.

In general the lighting industry is moving towards electronic ballasts due to their many advantages over traditional magnetic ballasts. They are lightweight, quiet and run at a cool temperature. Electronic ballasts are also more efficient at converting power to drive lamps. They also have solid reliability - with careful design to keep operating temperatures low, electronic ballasts can see a service life of 50,000 hrs.

In addition they drive lamps at a high frequency, so more mercury gas remains ionised in the arc stream and the lamp can typically achieve a 10% higher light output for the same input power.

Fig. 1, The graph on the following page shows how at higher frequencies you get more light output for the same input:

Electronic ballasts usually have a lot more functionality, such as a universal input allowing the lamps to be powered from any type of mains supply. Typically they also contain multiple types of lamp fault detection for defective or incorrect lamps fitted and can automatically shut off the supply if the lamps reach their end-of-life.

Electronic ballasts also have a lower Total Harmonic Distortion (THD), which is a measure of how much the ballast distorts the incoming electricity supply. They also have a lower power factor which is a measure of how the ballast offsets the incoming current and voltage. Both of these factors reduce losses and the cost of the electricity supply for commercial businesses.

As you can see there are a host of good reasons to use electronic ballasts, which explains why PestWest began switching to electronic ballasts years ago.

T5 lamps

The newest generation of fluorescent lamps are known as T5 tubes which have a

smaller diameter of 16mm. These tubes are specifically designed for use with electronic ballasts and come with advantages over the older, larger T8 and T12 tubes. Due to their size they use less glass, reducing the cost of recycling and of applying a shatterproof coating.

Because the lamps are smaller they can fit into smaller spaces and create slimmer products. This is demonstrated with the PestWest Chameleon Vega which uses 3x14W T5 lamps to produce an ultra-slimline unit. Compared to a unit with similar UV emission (3x15 watt T8 tubes and conventional ballast) it has up to 25% less power consumption.

This power saving can become quite considerable as conventional lighting may only operate for a few hours a day, yet fly-killers are designed for 24-hour operation. This makes annual energy savings much more appreciable:

At 15p/kWh annual savings per trap are as follows:

	Chameleon Vega	Similar output unit
Tubes	3x14W T5 Tubes	3x15W T8 Tubes
Ballast	Electronic	Magnetic
Power consumption	47W	65W
Annual electricity costs	£61.76	£85.41
Saving		£23.65

	Nemesis Quattro	Similar output unit
Tubes	4x14W T5 Tubes	2x40W T12 Tubes
Ballast	Electronic	Magnetic
Power consumption	63W	114W
Annual electricity costs	£82.78	£149.80
Saving		£67.02

The electricity savings across a site really begin to add up when replacing old magnetic traps with energy-efficient PestWest traps. If you replaced magnetic traps with 20 Chameleon Vega and 10 Nemesis Quattro units then you would be making an electricity saving of £1143 per year. During the 10- year lifetime of the unit, you would save over £11,000 in electricity costs!

Typical examples of magnetic ballasts (left) and electronic ballasts (right)

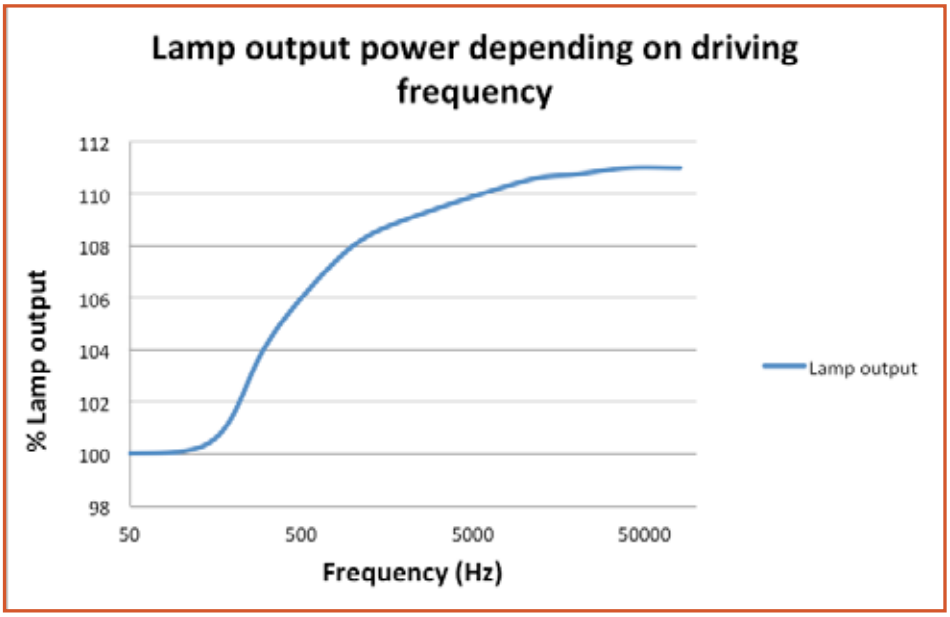


Fig. 1, The graph shows at higher frequencies you get more light output for the same input:

The 8th International Conference on Urban Pests (ICUP)

The 8th International Conference on Urban Pests (ICUP) took place in the stunning city of Zurich, Switzerland, from the 20th – 23rd of July 2014. Pest Control News was privileged to be able to attend such an outstanding conference. Congratulations go to Gabi Mueller (the conference chair) and her fantastic organising committee, with Bill Robinson and Clive Boase efficient (as per usual!) in their executive committee roles. Of course, a successful conference also requires fantastic speakers and willing delegates, of which there were many in Zurich.

Writing an article about ICUP always poses a welcome problem. With so much relevant and exciting content, how does one select which topics to cover in a single article? What follows are brief extracts that are most relevant to the UK and European pest control market, the main focus of pest control news. We urge readers to look out for the ICUP 2014 full proceedings, which will be published online by the end of the year at http://www.icup.org.uk

Bedbugs

It wouldn't be ICUP without a mention of bedbugs and the best researchers in the business were on hand to provide timely and crucial updates. Presentations were given by Dini Miller, Mike Potter, Stephen Doggett and many others, sharing common themes of the challenges presented by bedbug control in multi-occupancy accommodation and concerns regarding insecticide efficacy.

Adam Juson of Merlin Environmental Solutions was there to represent the UK and gave delegates the benefit of his experience with bedbug management on commercial airlines. Most of us are familiar with Adam's work with canine scent detection of bedbugs, so it was interesting to hear his findings regarding bedbug activity on aircraft. Understandably, Adam couldn't give us all the juicy details, with client confidentiality being of utmost importance.

He was able to tell delegates that of the bedbug detection techniques trialled on aircraft, canine scent detection was most effective, more so than harbourage and lure based monitors and also air sampling devices that detect gasses produced by bedbug digestion processes. His experience is that airlines that are proactive with bedbug detection have far fewer seats harbouring bedbugs when compared to reactive airlines that only deal with problems as they arise. A proactive detection policy should help avoid the worst-case scenario reported by Adam, which was a peak bedbug count of 140 bedbugs in one seat, with 126 seats in total showing bedbug activity. This added up to 25g of bedbugs collected from the aircraft! Treatment-wise, insecticide application gave disappointing results, with heat treatments showing promise.

Invasive ants

Continuing with the theme of hitch-hiking insects, Clive Boase (The Pest Management Consultancy) provided delegates with an update on the invasive garden ant *Lasius neglectus*, which may just be the next significant insect pest problem on the horizon in the UK. With *L. neglectus* having already taken hold at Hidcote Manor in the UK, Clive was able to share his numerous observations from this site with the assembled keen observers. Being closely related to the garden ant *Lasius niger*, it might be expected that *L. neglectus* would undertake mating flights for reproduction purposes a.k.a. the 'flying ants' that we are used to seeing. However, this is not the case. *L. neglectus* queens and males have wings but do not fly. Instead, they reproduce by budding (aided by having

multiple queens), presumably similar to Pharaoh ants *Monomorium pharaonis*.

A curious observation is that *L. neglectus* appears to push out native ants within its own range. Clive described an area of 12 hectares colonised by *L. neglectus* that contained almost no native ants such as *L. niger*. The spread of L. neglectus around and from the site has been combated by limiting the movement of ant-colonised compost and rubble, as well as prohibiting the movement of all plants away from the area. Use of Maxforce Quantum at the site is showing good results against *L. neglectus*

but with the 'supercolonies' that these ants form, will eradication ever be feasible? To put things into perspective, Clive estimated that approximately 30,000 baiting points have been used so far!

Rodent control

David Oldbury (National Pest Advisory Panel) introduced the new Chartered Institute for Environmental Health and National Pest Advisory Panel document, 'National Sewer Baiting Protocol Best Practice and Guidance Document.'

He described how in November 2000 Water UK and the Local Government Association issued a joint National Protocol for Co-operation on Rodent Control in sewers. The objective of the protocol was to facilitate improved co-operation between Water UK members and local authorities on the control of rats in sewers and surface infestations.

This new version of the Protocol, which is accompanied by guidance, addresses deficiencies in the implementation of the old version and ensures the continuity of treatments nationally, irrespective of whether

treatments are undertaken in-house by Water UK members, by pest control contractors working on behalf of a Water Company or by the local authority itself.

Among other things it covers the qualifications & training of technicians, the relevant legislation, health & safety matters, equipment and vehicle issues, planning, treatment, record keeping and communications. There are also a number of appendices containing sample record sheets/checklists, specimen safe systems of work, a sewer baiting procedural flow chart and a specimen treatment spreadsheet.

The document is available here http://www.cieh.org/policy/default.aspx?id=46450

Local authority pest control

With many speakers discussing the problems posed by pests, it was concerning to hear Joanne Fozzard (Killgerm Chemicals) give a particularly grim view of the local authority pest control services that should be there to protect us. Jo, presenting on behalf of the National Pest Advisory Panel (NPAP) of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH), described how local authorities have been hit hard, with budget cuts of 19 % resulting in 450,000 public sector jobs being lost. This has had a significant effect on local authority provision of pest control services. As a result there has been a significant increase in local authorities providing advice only, for cockroaches, fleas and bedbugs. The loss of in-house local authority pest control services also represents a loss of knowledge, expertise and experience. How will this impact on public health? Who will deal with emerging pests and the diseases they spread?

Since ICUP 2014 Jo has moved on to work in the food industry. We wish her well and thank her for her contributions to PCN.

So it remains to once again thank Gabi Mueller (Urban Pest Advisory Service, Zurich, Switzerland) Chair of the Organising Committee and all other members of the

organising committee, executive committee, staff at the conference venue, presenters and delegates for an exceptional conference.

It is with great excitement that we look forward to ICUP 2017, which will be held in the United Kingdom and chaired by Matthew Davies of Killgerm Chemicals. Matthew, who is completing his doctorate at Aston University, said, "I am really looking forward to the challenge. It comes as a great honour to be asked to work as the Chair for such an important event in the pest control calendar. I will of course be calling on Moray Anderson's experience as he successfully chaired the organising committee of the 1996 ICIPUE in Edinburgh. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Gabi Muller who has done a fantastic job as the current Chair for ICUP 2014, organising a superb conference here in Switzerland."

PEST CONTROL NEWS CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU AT ICUP 2017!

8th ICUP ZURICH 2014

FIND THE RIGHT PROMOTIONAL GIVEAWAY FOR YOU

Giveaways or promotional goods are often a great way of reinforcing your brand and leaving a tangible reminder of you behind that may result in a repeated call back. The trick is to understand your customer and what is a worthwhile giveaway for them. If you get it right your brand could be displayed on a product your customer uses every-day and therefore provide a strong reminder, making it a useful investment. However, if your promotional item is not appropriate or to your customer's taste it will not be used.

What's right for one customer will not be right for everyone so think from your customer's perspective or better yet, do some research and ask them.

General Public/Domestic

As we all know pest problems can arise in even the most house-proud of homes; pests do not discriminate. However if they are not a welcome guest you have to query why your customers would want a pest related giveaway. Pests may be your passion but domestic customers will not necessarily want this uncomfortable and perhaps embarrassing reminder. A more discreet item may be more welcome and therefore used.

Commercial

Think about your target audience and where they spend their time. Is it an office manager who is desk-based, someone who is based on the shop floor or someone who may spend a lot of time travelling between sites i.e. in their van/car? Whilst there are items that everyone uses, such as pens and keyrings, the person's role will indicate what they will find most useful.

Remember whatever item you choose should reflect your brand. It is what you will leave behind and hopefully what you will be remembered by.

Top tips –

- Approach promotional goods companies and describe your target audience to them. They will have a million different ideas of things you may never have known existed.
- Ask for samples of the items before you order. It is useful to ensure that both the quality of the item and the print quality is of a high standard.
- There will be an item to suit everyone's budget. Don't be overwhelmed! The higher the quantities that you order will secure better prices: however don't order things you won't use.
- If you choose an item that requires a design beyond your logo ensure this is carefully designed by a professional. You have to think of this as part of the cost of the item.
- Try to provide something that people will keep – high-quality, unusual or quirky items may stand the best chance.

KIT MAINTENANCE

XL8 extension

Taking care of your XL8 extension for your DR5 duster can be relatively simple. On occasion, you may need to replace the flexible tip due to wear and tear. Apart from that, the occasional dust blockage will need to be dealt with, which is a simple process. Here are some guidance notes regarding kit maintenance for the XL8 extension for the DR5 duster.

Flexible tip replacement

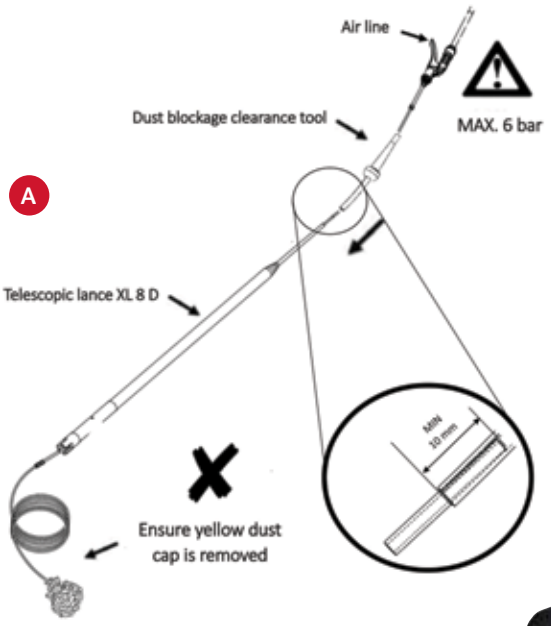
1. Firstly, straighten the old flexible tip then remove the safety cap and transparent tip gasket.
2. Next, you will need to remove the old flexible tip by pulling down through the tube section, according to the manufacturer instructions. However, experience shows that gently pushing the flexible tip through the last pole section can be a more suitable technique.

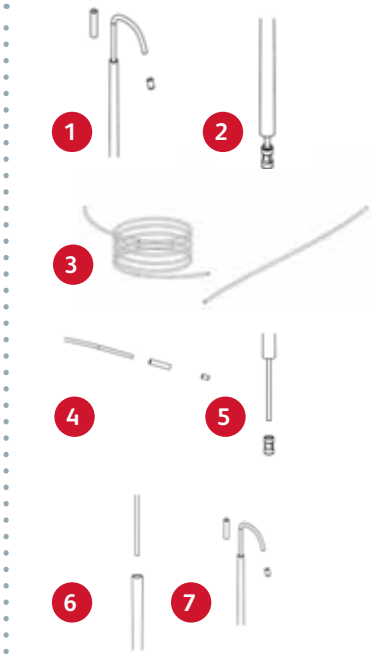
   Having done the above, the compression fitting will be revealed. Pulling back the collar of the compression fitting will release the flexible tip from the fitting and the remainder of the clear tubing.
3. Take the replacement flexible tip and straighten it.
4. Then remove the safety cap and flexible tip gasket.
5. In reverse, pull back the collar on the compression fitting to enable the clear flexible tubing attached to the replacement tip to be pushed into the compression connector. The image to the right shows the 6mm compression fitting and connector plug being fitted to prevent moisture ingress.
6. Now the new flexible tip can be inserted into the end pole section and pushed through as far as it will go.
7. We're nearly there! Just replace the gasket to prevent the flexible tip falling down then add the safety cap. All done!

Using the dust blockage tool

Quite simply, the dust blockage tool 'does what it says on the tin', to borrow a well-known quote.

A. The dust blockage tool should be connected to the XL8 and an air-line as shown in the diagram below. Be aware that the pressure from the air-line must not exceed 6 bar. Users must also ensure that the yellow dust cap is removed from the XL8, as shown.





THE PCN INTERVIEW

From tiny acorns…

John Wilkson

PCN's latest interview is with the CEO of Acorn Environment Services, John Wilkson, who has set up a pioneering programme called the Young Persons Development Model. Working with local schools, the model promotes confidence and a strong work ethic through long-term work experience.

PCN met up with John to find out more about his business and how the Young Persons Development Model has grown.

How did you get into pest control?

I went to Salford College to study meat inspection. Eric Foster from Rentokil gave a lecture on pest control, I had a chat with him and he told me that he was leaving Rentokil to grow a new business and would be in touch about a job. I worked as a technician, then I moved into sales, for Erskine Pest Control and in 1990 I started Acorn Environment Services.

We offer a range of environmental services including pest control, void property clearance, specialist cleaning and grounds care. Based in Hazel Grove in Stockport, we cover the North West with plans to expand nationwide.

What inspired you to start the Young Persons Development Model?

My son kept telling me he was struggling at school. I thought that he might be dyslexic but the teachers didn't agree and every parent's evening they would tell me that he was just lazy. When he moved up to secondary school he was tested by an educational psychologist who found that he was severely dyslexic.

When he was 14 we took him out of school and he came to work for me for three days a week, and the other two he had maths and English lessons with specialist tutors. It made a massive difference to him and I thought to myself that there must be dozens and dozens of kids in the same situation.

What was the next step?

I approached a school in Salford and they were really keen for us to work with some of their pupils. We started with just two. We spoke to them about their aspirations and they told me they had very little hope of a job when they leave school and could even end up in prison, but would rather do something positive given the chance.

How does the model work?

We work with pupils in years 10 and 11 (ages 14-16) and provide work experience and lesson/work plans away from the normal school environment. We pick them up from school two days a week during term time and at the end of each term they have an appraisal and based on performance they receive a gift voucher for somewhere like the Trafford Centre.

When they are 16 we give them a certificate. We aim to instil a good work ethic and life skills. We also help them with interview skills and link them up with other companies.

Do you work with any other organisations?

We currently work with a facilities management and social enterprise company called Vivark Ltd, and registered social landlords such as Community Gateway, Stockport Homes and Salix. We also work with an organisation called Business in the Community. We don't currently receive any government support or funding, but Oliver Letwin MP came to visit us and said that our scheme was "splendid" he asked me to consider rolling it out nationally and we are in the process of forming an association to be launched next spring.

What does the future hold for you?

My son is now 16 and full time with the company training in pest control. I would like to employ a sales rep and expand the pest and bird side of the business.

For the Young Persons Development Model, we have now had 13 kids through the scheme with case studies to prove the success and outcomes. I am really looking forward to seeing the next group of young people progress and they join us this September. We are currently looking for founder members to finance and sit on the board of our association and currently have interest from Carillion, Keepmoat, Mears Group and several social housing landlords.

Further information about the Young Persons Development Model is available from www.acornenviroment.com and you can follow them on Twitter @acornenviron for regular updates.

Acorn Environment Services Ltd

VACANCY:

FIELD SALES EXECUTIVE

Acorn Environment Services Ltd

Acorn Environment Services Ltd operate a pest control business throughout the North West. We are seeking an individual to expand our client base in this region, with the opportunity to move into management based on performance.

This is an ideal opportunity for an honest, energetic and experienced individual to prove themselves and forward their career.

You will ideally have pest and bird control experience and a track record in sales, along with strong interpersonal and communication skills. You will have the ability to identify and create sales prospects and develop strategies for growth. The successful candidate will be self-motivated, hard working, customer focused and organised. You must have the desire to succeed and exceed expectations.

Duties for the role include:

Presenting and selling company products and services to potential and existing clients.

Marketing pest control within the North West, and bird control nationally.

Preparing activity reports, along with completed business and further action required.

Attending marketing events and seminars.

Generating your own sales and leads.

Managing an existing client base.

Transport will either be provided by the company or mileage can be paid on your own car.

The role offers a salary of

£20 - £25k based on experience

and offers a generous commission scheme.

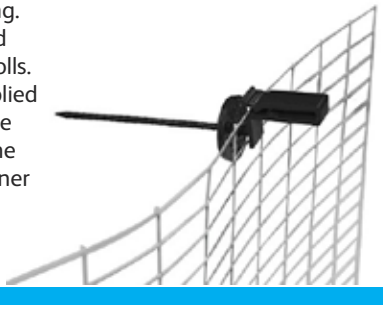
This is a full time permanent role.

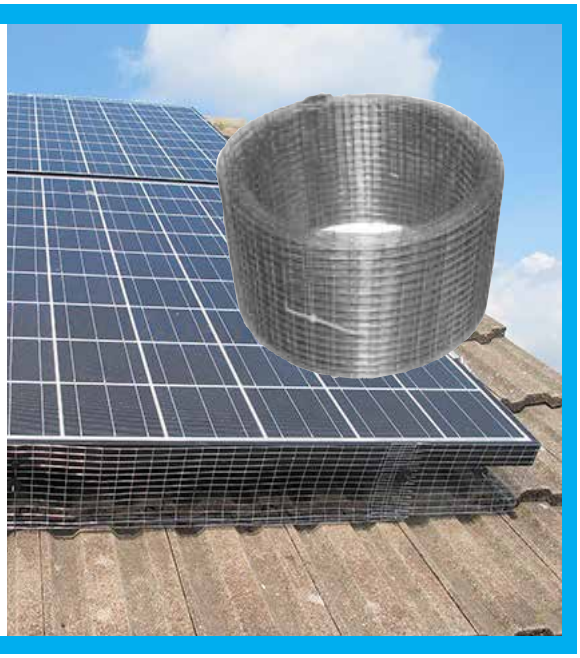
Please submit your CV to sales@acornenvironment.com

SOLAR PANEL CLIPS & MESH

Solar Panel Proofing is a new system from Killgerm designed to prevent birds from nesting under roof solar panels.

It includes a combination of mesh and clips which are easy to install, requiring no drilling. The 19 gauge, 25mm x 12.5mm galvanised mesh is available in 30m x 200mm width rolls. The UV stable polycarbonate clips are supplied in packs of 10 and are designed to fit on the inside lip of the panel without scratching the surface. The clips are fitted two to each corner and then at 500mm points in between.





Killgerm www.killgerm.com

PINK TRACKING DUST

The popular Tracking Dust is now available in pink giving the pest controllers another colour to help identify infestations.

For every 250g pack sold during October and November, Killgerm will **donate £1 to The Breast Cancer Campaign!**

Killgerm Chemicals Ltd., P.O. Box 2, Ossett, W. Yorks. WF5 9NA.
t 01924 268420 f 01924 264757 e sales@killgerm.com
www.killgerm.com

breast cancer campaign
Research that saves lives

NEW WASP AEROSOL

New to Killgerm is a powerful foam wasp nest destroyer that is applied from a safe distance directly onto a nest.

Quick and effective results are achieved through the pressurised aerosols ability to deliver a consistent jet of foam that envelops and soaks into the nest.

X - LURE FIT

Xlure-FIT is a Fabric Insect Trap which contains a special mix of attractants and insect pheromones. Xlure-FIT trap can be used to monitor clothes moths and carpet pests such as the webbing clothes moth, *Tineola bisselliella*, the case bearing clothes moth, *Tinea pellionella*, the varied carpet beetle, Anthrenus verbasci, the black carpet beetle, *Attagenus unicolor*.
www.russellipm.com

PestControl news

If you would like a new product featured!
PLEASE EMAIL **EDITOR@PESTCONTROLNEWS.COM** WITH DETAILS.

Why size is important.

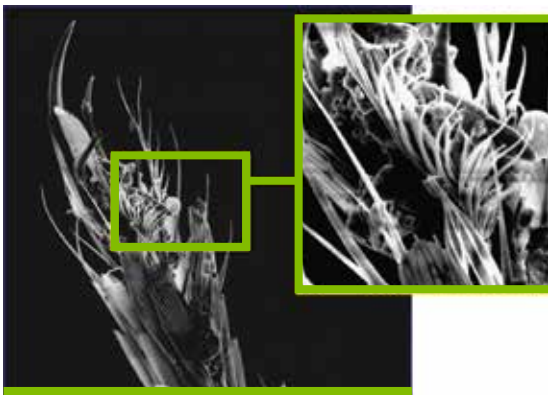


Figure 2. A Demand 10CS microcapsule on a mosquito's leg

THERE IS A TENDENCY TO IGNORE THINGS THAT ARE TOO SMALL TO SEE, HOWEVER, EVEN AT THE MICROSCOPIC SCALE, SIZE IS IMPORTANT.

An insecticide can only be effective if the target pest insect comes into contact with it. On the visible scale, this relies upon the expertise and judgement of the Pest Management Professional knowing where the pest insects are and the best places to apply the insecticide. On the microscopic scale it is the expertise of the scientists, who design and make the insecticide formulation, to optimise the pickup of the insecticide by the pest. Only together can long-lasting pest control, and therefore customer satisfaction, be delivered.

Modern encapsulation technology enables the size of the insecticide containing microcapsules to be regulated. Scientists at Syngenta knew that the size of the microcapsules greatly affected performance, so when they developed Demand 10CS they started, literally, from the ground up.

On a microscopic scale, many domestic surfaces such as concrete, wood, plaster, etc., are surprisingly heterogeneous. Indents, pores and cavities can be readily seen under a microscope, even on apparently smooth surfaces. Microcapsules smaller than about 5µm (1µm is 1/1000th of a mm) readily end up in these cavities after a spray application, see figure 1. Since insect legs are much larger than the cavities and indents in the surface, they don't come into contact with any capsules that are inside these structures, although they readily pick up those large enough to sit on the surface, see figure 2. In effect, the insecticide in a sub 5µm capsule is lost. This sets a lower limit for the size of effective capsules.

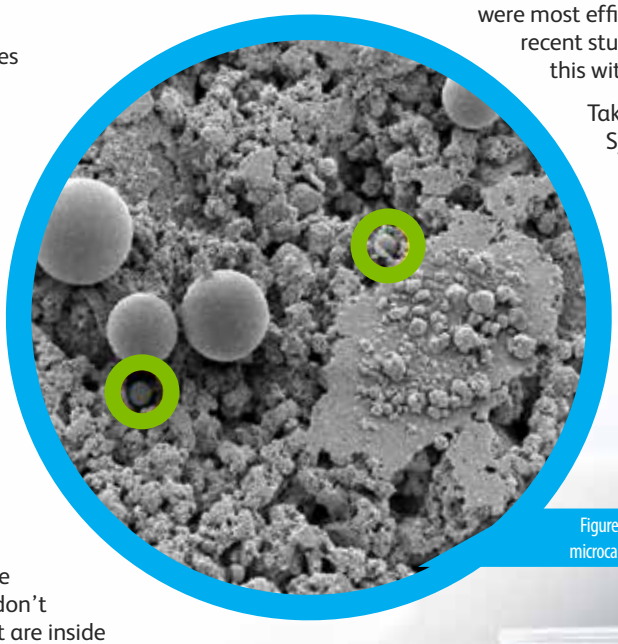


Figure 1. Demand 10CS microcapsules on a cement surface. The circled microcapsules will be unavailable for contact with pest insects

The distribution of microcapsules over a surface will also influence how much insecticide is picked up by the pest insect. Too few capsules per unit area and the chance of an insect coming into contact with them is reduced.

The volume of a microcapsule, or any sphere, increases with the cubed root of the diameter. That is to say, if the diameter of a sphere is doubled, its volume increases by eight fold. Therefore, a single microcapsule 40µm in diameter would contain the same amount of lambda-cyhalothrin as 8 capsules 20µm in diameter or 64 capsules with a 10µm diameter. With an insecticide as potent as lambda-cyhalothrin, there would be more than sufficient contained in a single 40µm capsule to kill multiple insect pests. However, if the amount of insecticide per unit area remains the same, the number of capsules will decrease eight times as fast as their size increases. Therefore, the distribution of the insecticide becomes less efficient if the capsules are too large, as there are fewer capsules to go round, even though each could have controlled many pests.

The third factor that was considered when designing the microcapsules contained in Demand 10CS, was the ease with which a capsule could be picked up by the insect pest. An insect pest has to be in contact with a microcapsule for the lambda-cyhalothrin to partition from inside the capsule into the pest; research undertaken in the 1950s demonstrated that particles in the 10-25µm size range were most efficiently picked up by mosquitoes. More recent studies in Syngenta's laboratories confirmed this with cockroaches and flies.

Taken together, these factors guided the Syngenta scientists to make microcapsules that optimise distribution on the treated surface, enhance availability and maximise pickup of the microcapsules whilst protecting the lambda-cyhalothrin from harsh environments. The end result is an insecticide with high performance on a wide range of surfaces and excellent residual activity. It also shows that, even on the microscopic scale, size is important.

PROFESSIONAL
PEST MANAGEMENT

LONG-LASTING CONTROL. LONGER LASTING SATISFACTION.

Demand® CS uses state-of-the-art microcapsule technology to provide user-friendly, long-lasting control of all key public health insect pests.

- Excellent residual action
- Broad insect pest spectrum
- Easy to use
- Cost effective
- High performance on a wide range of surfaces
- Fast results

FOR LIFE UNINTERRUPTED™

Demand® CS
Insecticide

syngenta®

USE BIOCIDES SAFELY. ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND PRODUCT INFORMATION BEFORE USE. Demand® contains lambda-cyhalothrin. **Demand,® iCAP technology,™ For Life Uninterrupted,™ the Alliance frame, the Purpose icon and the Syngenta logo are trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company.**

Email: ppm.eame@syngenta.com. Web: www.syngentapmp.com

TM

MILNERS Solicitors

BEWARE HIGH JINKS/PRANKS IN THE WORK PLACE?

The corporate culture of yesteryear now has far greater legal implications for you as an employer. When once asked what a client's maternity policy was, and the reply being, "we use condoms" that sort of flippant tomfoolery that may once have been marginally amusing, is certainly a recipe for disaster nowadays. See http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2736984/Breaking-wind-near-colleagues-defacing-ID-cards-switching-language-computers-Tribunal-lifts-lid-prank-culture-turned-rotten-EE-call-centre.html for a train wreck of a claim!

The behaviour of one's employees in a workplace, not only in the physical office space, is exacerbated by the virtual reality that most, if not all, employees inhabit on a regular basis – the dreadful social media.

For example, banter in the office may not be perceived as banter by another employee if the banter offends, humiliates or degrades someone who has a protected characteristic or is even perceived to have a protected characteristic – allowing them to pursue a claim in the Employment Tribunal whilst remaining employed. If one of your employees is behaving in a manner that is causing offence, even if what is being said or done could be constituted as humorous, if a person offended does really take offence it can lead to a massive amount of lost management time, not to mention a good slice of the profits if a claim is made and is ultimately successful. Insurance can protect claims made but check the policy as a lot won't pay out!

What most businesses do not fully appreciate is that whilst the Equality Act 2010 provided protection to employees from discrimination in the workplace, it also provides a statutory defence for employers.

As most people are aware employers are vicariously liable for the acts and omissions of their employees (as this arena is being extended hugely by technology and our virtual world). However, the defence in section 109(4) of the Equality Act 2010 states as follows:-

"In proceedings against A's employer (B) in respect of anything alleged to have been done by A in the course of A's employment it is a defence for B to show that B took all reasonable steps to prevent A—

(a) from doing that thing, or

(b) from doing anything of that description."

To show that all reasonable steps have been taken to prevent the danger of (and costs of defending) potential discrimination claims, employers are advised to have rigorous anti-discrimination policies in place, backed up by training programmes and seminars as well as robust grievance procedures in their staff handbooks. The turning a blind eye style of management is not a legal defence.

Employers who do this and have a paper trail of this, ensuring each employee that attends signs a declaration stating they not only attended but also understood the purpose of the training, are much less likely to find themselves involved in a discrimination claim.

It is however not enough to have a policy in the handbook in an office somewhere - the employer needs to be seen to be actively enforcing their views on discrimination and reminding employees what constitutes discrimination and the consequences of anyone found to be involved in such behaviour.

This effectively means that if a claim is brought it would be against the offending employee with the employer having a statutory defence.

To discuss this or any other legal issue that should arise be it on contracts being entered, claims being made or money that is owed, please feel free to give Giles Ward a call on 0113 245 0852 or contact him at either giles.ward@milnerslaw.com or http://uk.linkedin.com/pub/giles-ward/31/187/6b3 or https://twitter.com/MilnersGiles on a no charge and confidential basis.

0113 245 0845

giles.ward@milnerslaw.com or

uk.linkedin.com/pub/giles-ward/31/187/6b3

MilnersGiles

BPCA

BPCA GIVES OUT MORE THAN 40,000 REFERRALS

BPCA RELEASES A NEW CODE OF BEST PRACTICE ON PESTICIDE WASTE

BPCA has produced a new Code of Best Practice on Pesticide Waste. This new document has been produced to address the crackdown on the pest control sector by UK regulators. The Code of Best Practice is only available to BPCA Members and Affiliates, and has had significant input from regulatory bodies in all four home countries, and covers all aspects of waste legislation. You can download a copy of this essential document through the members' area of the BPCA website (www.bpca.org.uk/members)

Martin Harvey
(Managing Director of Harvey Environmental Services)

PESTEX 2015– DON'T MISS OUT ON THE UK'S BIGGEST PEST CONTROL EVENT

PestEx is the largest UK trade exhibition and conference for the pest control industry. Hosted every two years by the British Pest Control Association and held at the ExCel Exhibition Centre in London, this established and leading industry event remains the choice for visitors and exhibitors alike. PestEx is the premier event for anyone involved in the pest control industry, from pest management business owners to pest control technicians out on the road. PestEx has been devised with you in mind. PestEx attracts thousands of visitors over the two days from all over the world.

PestEx takes place on the 25-26 March 2015 at the ExCel Exhibition Centre in London. Entry is free – all you have to do is book your place at www.pestex.org

FREE EXAM TECHNIQUE WORKSHOPS FROM THE BPCA

Are you struggling to pass the RSPH/BPCA Level 2 Award? Would you like help with refreshing your exam techniques?

BPCA are now providing free exam technique workshops for members and affiliates. The workshops are structured to cover key elements of the syllabus and give suggestions for effective revision and exam techniques ahead of your exam. By attending you'll learn techniques on how to prepare and plan for an exam, organise yourself during the exam, and how to read and interpret the questions. The workshops are designed to make sure you understand the key topics that feature regularly in the exam and most importantly, how to tackle the exam questions, thus increasing your chances of passing.

The workshops are free for members and affiliates, and only £20+vat for non-members.

Where and when:

- Thursday 25 September - Home Counties, Newbury, 2pm-4pm
- Thursday 9 October - Tyneside, Newcastle, 2pm-4pm
- Wednesday 22 October - London, Shenley, 2pm-4pm
- Thursday 20 November - Kent, Maidstone, 2pm-4pm
- Thursday 4 December - Eastern Counties, Newmarket, 2pm-4pm

Find out more and book your free place at www.bpca.org.uk

NEW PRESIDENT FOR PEST CONTROL BODY

Martin Harvey (Managing Director of Harvey Environmental Services) succeeded Henry Mott as the latest President of the British Pest Control Association (BPCA) at their Annual General Meeting held at Nettle Hill, Coventry on 25 June. Martin (49) said of his appointment, "I would like to thank Henry for doing a fantastic job over the last 2 years. I am incredibly proud and excited to be leading the Association at a time when there are major changes both within the Association and the wider industry."

Find out more about the new BPCA President at www.bpca.org.uk/news

TRAINING COURSES

Courses	CPD points	Dates	Venue	Member cost (exc-vat)	Non-member (exc-vat)
Modular Pest Control Course	30	16 October–14 November	BPCA Offices, Derby	£725	£925
General Pest Control Course (Residential)*	24	7-12 September	University of Warwick, Coventry	£875	£1045
Bedbug Control	12	16 September	BPCA Offices, Derby	£165	£195
So you want to be a Field Biologist?	8	14 October	BPCA Offices, Derby	£165	£195
Starting Out in Pest Control	4	23 September	BPCA Offices, Derby	£165	£195
How to Sell in the Pest Control Industry	1	7-8 October	BPCA Offices, Derby	£300	£365
Urban Bird Control and Management	20	29 October	BPCA Offices, Derby	£165	£195
5 Day Fumigation	30	29 Sept – 3 Oct	BPCA Offices, Derby	£875	£1045

Our 2015 training dates will soon be released and made available on the BPCA website (www.bpca.org.uk)

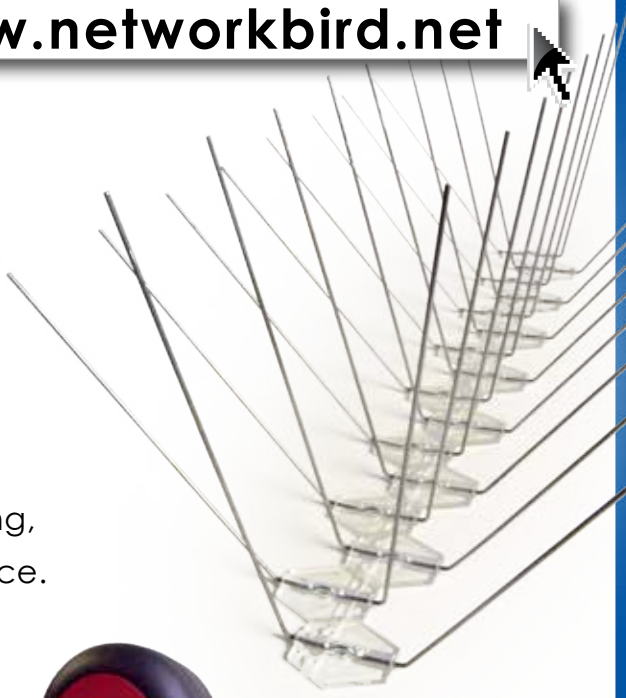
NETWORK

High quality products and services for bird management

www.networkbird.net

AVIPOINT™

The professional's choice, Avipoint™ is cost effective, easy to install and maintain, weather proof, long lasting, virtually invisible when installed and fits onto any surface.



AVISHOCK™

Designed with professional pest controllers in mind, Avishock™ is super discreet, robust and quick to install.

NETWORK BIRD

For a limited time only, spend more than £400 on stock nets and receive a fantastic bundle of stainless steel fixings worth over £100! Contact your distributor for details!

T +44 (0)800 988 5359 E info@pandlsystems.com P+L Systems

RSPH

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

VISION, VOICE AND PRACTICE

As the main provider of qualifications to the pest control industry, RSPH offers a comprehensive range of pest management qualifications of varying sizes and levels. All of these qualifications are made up of a number of different units, which are often shared by the different qualifications. So pest controllers that have obtained one qualification from RSPH may already hold some of the units that are required for the next step up.

THE TABLE BELOW LISTS THE UNITS FOUND IN OUR VARIOUS QUALIFICATIONS.

Level 2 Award in Pest Management	Level 2 Certificate in Pest Management	Level 2 Diploma in Pest Management	Level 3 Diploma in Pest Management
Unit PM2.1: Vertebrate Pest Management	Unit PM2.1: Vertebrate Pest Management	Unit PM2.1: Vertebrate Pest Management	Unit PM2.1: Vertebrate Pest Management
Unit PM2.2: Invertebrate Pest Management	Unit PM2.2: Invertebrate Pest Management	Unit PM2.2: Invertebrate Pest Management	Unit PM2.2: Invertebrate Pest Management
Unit PM2.3: Health, Safety and Legal Aspects of Pest Management	Unit PM2.3: Health, Safety and Legal Aspects of Pest Management	Unit PM2.3: Health, Safety and Legal Aspects of Pest Management	Unit PM2.4: Techniques for the Management of Vertebrate Pests
	Unit PM2.4: Techniques for the Management of Vertebrate Pests	Unit PM2.4: Techniques for the Management of Vertebrate Pests	Unit PM2.5: Techniques for the Management of Invertebrate Pests
	Unit PM2.5: Techniques for the Management of Invertebrate Pests	Unit PM2.5: Techniques for the Management of Invertebrate Pests	Unit PM3.2 General Pest Management
		Unit 2.6: Apply Techniques for the Management of Vertebrate and Invertebrate Pests	Unit PM3.3 Management and Control of Bird Pests
		Unit 2.7: Apply the Principles of Health and Safety at Work	Unit PM3.4 Management and Control of Commensal Rodents
		Unit 2.8: Develop Yourself in the Job Role	Unit PM3.5 Management and Control of Non-Commensal Mammals
			Unit PM3.6 Management and Control of Public Health Invertebrates
			Unit PM3.7 Management and Control of Stored Product Invertebrates
			Unit PM3.8 Selling and Marketing Pest Management Services and Products
			Unit PM3.9 Supervisory Aspects of Pest Management

For the L3 Diploma, units PM3.3 – PM3.9 are options; candidates take only one of these units.

The qualifications at Level 2 show a progression in size from Award > Certificate > Diploma.

The L2 Award consists of theory units only, the L2 Certificate adds techniques units to these and the L2 Diploma is extended further by testing the candidate's ability to apply the theory and techniques in practical pest management situations.

The L2 Diploma in Pest Management is also a requirement for anyone undertaking an apprenticeship in pest management.

One of our pest management qualifications that do not use any of the above units is the RSPH Level 2 Award in Using Aluminium Phosphide Safely for the Management of Vertebrate Pests.

Russell IPM has recently run two training courses for this qualification, with five candidates attending each course. Trevor Green, the trainer for each event, had the fortune (or misfortune) to be visited both by the external verifier and RSPH's compliance manager, Sara Shackleton, during the first of these.

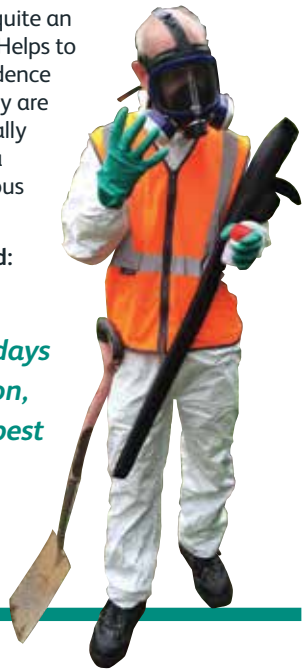
This is not a reflection on Trevor but part of RSPH's quality assurance procedures which means that centres running courses towards an RSPH qualification can be visited at any time. This is particularly true of the aluminium phosphide qualification as tutor assessment of practical work is an important element of this.

The EV and Sara must have been satisfied with what they saw as all of Trevor's candidates over the two courses successfully passed the qualification. The participants also obviously enjoyed the course; one candidate from Check Services Ltd said:

"The course content and format was good and it is quite an intensive program. Helps to give staff the confidence in knowing that they are working professionally and correctly with a potentially dangerous product."

Trevor himself said:

"Personally, I found the two days extremely full-on, as did the five pest controllers who attended, but



very rewarding and fulfilling. Let there be no doubt to anyone contemplating taking this qualification, this is not an 'easy pass' but you will have been through a very professional and thorough process, and should you be rewarded with the 'RSPH Certificate', you will have earned it, and can proudly state you are 'Professionally Trained and Qualified'."

The RSPH aluminium phosphide qualification is the only one which enables centres to assess their own candidates rather than requiring candidates to arrange a separate assessment after taking a course. However the assessment decisions are subject to external verification and, as Trevor found, you never know when the EV or someone from RSPH might turn up (all centres approved to offer the qualification must inform RSPH of the date of their practical assessments and supply GPS co-ordinates of the assessment venue). Before centres are approved they must first satisfy RSPH that their assessors have suitable experience in using aluminium phosphide safely and in assessing candidates.

To further help centres and candidates, RSPH will shortly be sending its aluminium phosphide handbook to the printers so this will soon be available to purchase. The handbook has been written for RSPH by industry experts and will be of interest to all pest controllers, not just those attending courses for the qualification.

NPTA GOLF DAY – SUPPORTING 'WATER FOR KIDS' CHARITY

This year's NPTA Charity Golf Day will be supporting Jonathan Peck's favourite charity, 'Water for Kids' as a mark of respect for him.

The Golf Day will take place on Friday the 3rd of October at Greetham Valley Golf Club in Rutland.

Following on from the very successful first NPTA Golf Day last year, this year promises to be an even bigger event. Golfers will start out with a breakfast of bacon rolls and coffee and finish the day with a hearty meal. Trophies will be awarded for the winners and runners up, with special prizes for the longest drive and 'nearest the pin'. Organiser, Adam Hawley, the NPTA's Vice Chairman, is really looking forward to the day. "We all had a great time last year – with varying levels of golfing skill on show – and this year is shaping up to be even better!"

Anyone interested in joining us should contact the NPTA Office on 01773 717 716.

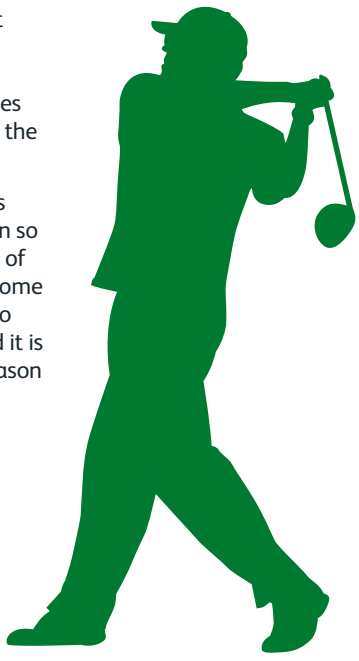
And now back to the real world….

At this year's PestTech event, on Wednesday November 5th, we should have more details about the SGARs Stewardship Scheme and also the new Code of Best Practice on the disposal of pest control waste. Both of these will have a very significant effect on how professional pest controllers carry out their businesses in future, with a very clear gap opening up between the professionals and 'the rest'.

The NPTA will be there to help Members get to grips with these new challenges. From what we have seen so far, those who are already working at the standards of competence should have little problem adapting. Some will need some assistance, particularly with regard to the paperwork that they will need to start using and it is our job to help wherever we can. It's yet another reason to join up and be part of the Association of working technicians – working for each other.

npta
National Pest Technicians Association

Water for Kids



KILLGERM® TRAINING DATES

NORTHERN

DATE	VENUE	COST EXCLUDING VAT
BASIC PRINCIPLES OF PEST CONTROL		
Insect Control		
23rd Sept 2014	Ossett	* £20 to existing customers
Safe Use of Pesticides		
24th Sept 2014	Ossett	* £20 to existing customers
9th Oct 2014	Ossett	* £20 to existing customers
Rodent Control		
25th Sept 2014	Ossett	* £20 to existing customers
REFRESHER COURSES		
Insect Control		
7th Oct 2014	Ossett	* £20 to existing customers
Rodent Control		
8th Oct 2014	Ossett	* £20 to existing customers
SPECIALIST COURSES		
Air Weapons		
22nd October 2014	North	£160 Inc lunch
Bird Control (2 Day course)		
22nd & 23rd Oct 2014	Ossett	£230 Inc lunch
Drainage Course for PCOs		
21st Oct 2014	Ossett	£170 Inc lunch
Wildlife Aware		
18th Sept 2014	Ossett	£185 Inc lunch
Working Safely in Pest Control (IOSH)		
13th Nov 2014	Ossett	£210 Inc lunch
PRACTICAL COURSES		
Safe Use of Aluminium Phosphide for Vertebrate Control		
14th Oct 2014	Bretton	£120 Inc lunch
Practical Mole Trapping		
24th Sept 2014	Pickering	£135 Not inc lunch
29th Oct 2014	Pickering	£135 Not inc lunch
26th Nov 2014	Pickering	£135 Not inc lunch
Practical Rodent Control on Farms		
Available 2nd Wednesday of every month (numbers pending)	Pickering	£135 Not inc lunch
Practical Rabbit Control		
Available 3rd Wednesday of every month (numbers pending)	Pickering	£135 Not inc lunch

SOUTHERN

DATE	VENUE	COST EXCLUDING VAT
SURREY		
BASIC PRINCIPLES OF PEST CONTROL		
Insect Control		
3rd Sept 2014	Reigate	* £20 to existing customers
Safe Use of Pesticides		
4th Sept 2014	Reigate	* £20 to existing customers
Rodent Control		
10th Sept 2014	Reigate	* £20 to existing customers
REFRESHER COURSES		
Insect Control		
15th Oct 2014	Reigate	* £20 to existing customers
Rodent Control		
16th Oct 2014	Reigate	* £20 to existing customers
SPECIALIST COURSES		
Air Weapons		
18th Sept 2014	Chelmsford	£160 Inc lunch
INSECT WORKSHOPS		
Insect Workshop 1 - Bedbugs & Fleas		
13th Nov 2014	Reigate	£120 Inc lunch
SALES COURSES		
Sales Skills		
18th & 19th Nov 2014	Reigate	* £300 Inc lunch

DATE	VENUE	COST EXCLUDING VAT
BRISTOL AND SALISBURY		
BASIC PRINCIPLES OF PEST CONTROL		
Insect Control		
19th Nov 2014	Bristol	* £20 to existing customers
Safe Use of Pesticides		
20th Nov 2014	Bristol	* £20 to existing customers
Rodent Control		
26th Nov 2014	Bristol	* £20 to existing customers
REFRESHER COURSES		
Insect Control		
3rd Dec 2014	Bristol	* £20 to existing customers
Rodent Control		
4th Dec 2014	Bristol	* £20 to existing customers
SPECIALIST COURSES		
Bird Control (2 Day Course)		
15th & 16th Oct 2014	Bristol	£230 Inc lunch
PRACTICAL COURSES		
Safe Use of Aluminium Phosphide for Vertebrate Control		
24th Sept 2014	Salisbury	£110 Not inc lunch
NORTHAMPTON		
PRACTICAL COURSES		
Control of Rural Pests - Practical Trapping Techniques		
Available Upon Request	Northampton	£145 Inc lunch
Long Netting & Ferreting		
Available upon request	Northampton	£120 Not Inc lunch

SOUTHERN CONTINUED

DATE	VENUE	COST EXCLUDING VAT
NORWICH AND NEWMARKET		
BASIC PRINCIPLES OF PEST CONTROL		
Insect Control		
22nd Oct 2014	Norwich	* £20 to existing customers
Safe Use of Pesticides		
23rd Oct 2014	Norwich	* £20 to existing customers
Rodent Control		
29th Oct 2014	Norwich	* £20 to existing customers
Bird Control		
30th Oct 2014	Norwich	* £20 to existing customers
REFRESHER COURSES		
Insect Control		
23rd Sept 2014	Norwich	* £20 to existing customers
Rodent Control		
24th Sept 2014	Norwich	* £20 to existing customers
PRACTICAL COURSES		
Safe Use of Aluminium Phosphide for Vertebrate Control		
12th Nov 2014	Nr Newmarket	£120 Inc lunch

MIDLANDS

SPECIALIST COURSES		
Bird Control (2 Day Course)		
30th Sept & 1st Oct 2014	Birmingham	£230 Inc lunch

SCOTTISH

DATE	VENUE	COST EXCLUDING VAT
REFRESHER COURSES		
Insect Control		
28th Oct 2014	Perth	* £20 to existing customers
Rodent Control		
29th Oct 2014	Perth	* £20 to existing customers
SPECIALIST COURSES		
Bird Control (2 Day Course)		
10th & 11th Sept 2014	Cluny by Kirkcaldy	£230 Inc lunch
PRACTICAL COURSES		
Practical Risk Management		
23rd October 2014	Perth	£120 Inc lunch

RSPH COURSES

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND BRITISH PEST CONTROL ASSOCIATION - LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE IN PEST MANAGEMENT

FEE - £800 + VAT per person
(includes RSPH Exam, bacon sandwich on arrival, lunch & refreshments)

Venue: Ossett	
Module 1 & 2	Monday 17th & Tuesday 18th November 2014
Module 3 & 4	Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th November 2014
Module 5 & 6	Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd December 2014
Module 7 & 8	Monday 8th & Tuesday 9th December 2014
Examination	Friday 12th December 2014

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND BRITISH PEST CONTROL ASSOCIATION - LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE IN PEST MANAGEMENT

FEE - £800 + VAT per person
(includes RSPH Exam, lunch & refreshments)

Venue - Ruislip, Middlesex	
Module 1 & 2	Monday 29th & Tuesday 30th September 2014
Module 3 & 4	Monday 6th & Tuesday 7th October 2014
Module 5 & 6	Monday 13th & Tuesday 14th October 2014
Module 7 & 8	Tuesday 21st & Wednesday 22nd October 2014
Examination	Friday 24th October 2014

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH - LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA IN PEST MANAGEMENT

FEE - £870 + VAT per person
(includes RSPH Exam, lunch and refreshments)

Venue: To be arranged	
Training and information day	To be announced
Core unit examination	To be announced

COURSE CHARGES

* Existing Killgerm customers who have reached a set minimum annual spend limit - Nominal charge of £20.00 + VAT which covers admin, venue, lunch & refreshment costs. (This will be invoiced to customer's account – please provide order number where appropriate)
Non-customers - £120.00 + VAT

Killgerm® TRAINING

For further information on any of these training courses or to book your place, call Killgerm Training on 01924 268445.
Alternatively email training@killgerm.com or book online at www.killgerm.com.

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS 2014

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Contact
21st - 24th October	PestWorld 2014	Orlando	NPMA	www.npmapestworld.org
5th November	PestTech 2014	Birmingham	NPTA	www.pesttech.org.uk
19th - 21st November	Parasitec 2014	Paris	Parasitec	www.parasitec.org

2015 TRAINING DATES COMING SOON!

Killgerm®
www.killgerm.com

Ready...
We give you unrivalled customer support and with sales managers just around the corner, we are always ready for your call.

Aim...
With the widest product range and a fully stocked warehouse we are here to help you target even the trickiest pests.

Fire!
Killgerm are always in your corner, offering insect identification and answering any technical questions that may arise this season.

For all our products and advice on how to target autumn pests, go to our website **www.killgerm.com**

Plus+ POINTS
Collect 2 points for every £1 you spend!
TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

Killgerm Chemicals Ltd., P.O. Box 2, Ossett, W. Yorks. WF5 9NA.
t 01924 268420 f 01924 264757 e sales@killgerm.com www.killgerm.com