

WHAT'S BUZZING?

News from the World of Pest Management



Global Challenges Facing Mice Control



Why Aren't Ants Taking the Bait?



**Ant Infestations
in
Food Processing Facilities
How to Target and Control Them**

Proof is in the Pudding...

"Choose 'right first time' approach – when it comes to proofing we should use the best methods, tools and knowledge available to offer the most permanent solution.



What's Buzzing

August 2023 Volume 16 No. 4



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Hopefully many of you were able to do something nice over the school holidays with the family, despite of the rain and snow, and enjoyed the Matariki long-weekend.

This edition continues to have lots of news, information, a new rodent product and great tips and advice about ant treatments from Dr Paul Craddock.

The association has been contacted by a number of members to talk about our current membership categories, suffice to say that it was debated at length at our last meeting, whereafter some proposed changes were put forward for you input and discussion at the AGM later this month. Hopefully you can attend in person or virtually to have you say about the proposed changes.

You should have already received the notice about the Annual General Meeting and invitation to attend on 17th August, 2023. If you have not received anything yet, please contact David Warrick. You can also see the AGM notice on page 39.

Dates and the venue for our 2024 Biennial Conference have been set, with our headline speaker, Dr William H. Robinson confirmed.

Bill, as he is affectionately known, last spoke at our Wellington Conference in 2015. We look forward to having him back and hearing from him in August 2024. Read more about the conference on page 38.

Happy reading

Warm regards

Peter



July Morning, Mt Egmont, New Plymouth, Taranaki



President's Pen Maihi Cooper

Kia ora PMANZ members, suppliers, family, friends and other interested readers to the fourth edition of the PMANZ What's Buzzing newsletter for 2023.

To kick things off (excuse the pun), there's a great amount of sport on at the moment for all to enjoy, it's really awesome to see the fans and supporters attending matches and getting behind our various sports teams, especially those visiting for the FIFA Women's World cup. I took my family to the opening match, it was an awesome event and showcase of talented sportswomen, an inspiration to my daughter and many others. Good luck to all of you. We have a lot of interesting articles and advertisements in this edition, thank you to all who have contributed and those who continue to support this newsletter.

My 'Safety Moment' for this edition is 'Emergency Response'.

When I think about these words, a variety of thoughts come to my mind, such as, what to do when something goes wrong, am I prepared if something happens and what to do if a certain type of emergency were to happen.

As a pest management technician you will be faced with many scenarios that will require you to have 'assessed risks' and have a plan to manage those. One of these could be having a response plan in place and one item I would like you to take a look at in your vehicle or workplace is your 'hazardous substance spill kit'.

I understand there are many types from a bag of kitty litter to fully kitted with PPE, instructions and multiple absorbent materials. The 'Stop and Think' moment here is to make sure your spill kit is adequate for the activities and work you do. You should know how to use it, for what purpose and it should be available when needed. It is always a good idea to run through a practice drill especially if you have multiple employees at various locations or if you work alone, the practice will keep you better prepared to act if needed.

There are a lot of stories and updates locally and internationally about the weather and what is causing the rain, the high and low temps, etc.

These factors are quite important for us as an industry, as you will often see or hear about continued activity of certain pests such as rodents and even prolonged calls for other pests like flies.

I usually refer to NIWA updates to give me an outlook on what the wider weather picture looks like, however it's always good to keep track of the pest activities you have encountered over the season and years.

These activities can be plotted over time and depending on how detailed you want to get, this information can be used to produce your own pest activity trend.

Another good idea is to add geographic location to this and you will eventually start to see what pests are common in what suburb at different times of the year, very useful when looking for new business.

Later this month we have our Annual General Meeting and I'm looking forward to meeting those of you who can attend in person or online. Thank you in advance for your time.

All members would have received the notice to change the membership categories and establish ongoing industry engagement or in other words 'Continued Professional Development'. I am a big supporter of the ongoing learning and refreshing knowledge part of this notice and I believe this change will set up the next platform to be recognised even further alongside other industries and trades in the near future. Please submit a proxy vote if you can not attend to make your vote count.

Onto memberships, we are continuing to see the growth in the past 2 months, that is great to have more pest management professionals joining the association.

It gives us a greater presence as an industry in New Zealand and the globe, something to be proud of. We have had 20 members join the association that brings us to a current total of 529 in our membership. Please join me in welcoming the following members:

New Qualified Technicians		
Steve	Churchill	Mountain View Services
Azan	Ketan	Truly Nolen
Dianna	Rawlings	Ecomist Wellington
John	Collins	A-Jet Services
Anita	Collins-Preiss	A-Jet Services
Gurpreet	Singh	A-Jet Services
Andrea	Howatson	Rentokil

New Trainees		
Carl	Perry	Zap Services
Harish	Chauhan	PCS Pest Control
Paul	Clifford	Genus Pest Management
Kaipati	Kolo	Kwikill
Yusuke	Kurihara	Ninja Cleaning
Anton	Thurgood	Rentokil
Michael	Almendras	Rentokil
Edmund	Caingod	Rentokil
John	King	Rentokil
Bernadette	Murphy	Ecolab
Joshua	De Leeuw	Ecolab
Pete	Crocombe	Ecolab
Tim	Phelps	Rentokil

That's all from me for now,

Ngā mihi nui,

Kind regards

Maiki

PMANZ President





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Global Challenges Facing Mice Control

by Gerwyn Jones – Asia Pacific Manager,
PelGar International Limited



Recently I asked my fellow pest control colleagues what rodent is causing them the most concern. The answer was mice.

They even said they would rather tackle a black rat (*Rattus rattus*) infestation than a mouse one. This intrigued me and thought it would be useful to dig a little further and see why mice are becoming more prevalent.

There were a few common themes that stood out from my investigation, one of them were sites with abundance of different food sources, properties operating 24/7 and the reluctance by the client to have traps/bait stations on the shop floor. This was of course supermarkets.

A quick internet search will reveal many cases around the world where mice have gotten out of control within supermarkets

and through social media have been reported very quickly and made the National news.

There was an incident at a major supermarket in New Zealand a few years ago that dominated the media channels at the time. It was discovered that baby food pouches on the supermarket shelves had small puncture marks in them. Initially it was thought that this was done intentionally, and the NZ Police were involved. Further infestation revealed that this was mice damage.

A full nationwide product recall of three baby food brands was carried out by the supermarket chain at a considerable cost not only in monetary terms but to the reputation of the brand of the manufacturer and the supermarket.



Article continues after advert

The supermarket chain and its main distribution centre had pest control programs in place, but something went drastically wrong.

This is an example of the challenges we face as pest controllers to keep our client's pest free but due to many different variables the job is getting a lot more complex.

There has been a move globally to reduce the amount of toxins that we are able to use on certain sites, and in some cases even the external bait stations are required to have a non-toxic block or some form of kill trap.

We really need to adapt and understand what we are looking to control and the parameters that have been given to us by the client, and in some part get back to basics. In the past we would have got away with placing a few mouse stations around the site loaded with rodenticide bait with a view to achieve some sort of control or monitoring.

Now we need to take some quality time looking for the usual signs and come up with a plan which involves several different control and restriction methods.



In Australia they have a supermarket chain that will not allow break back traps within any of their stores.

As an industry we are seeing our pest control toolbox being raided, and more and more of our tools for mice control are being taken away from us.

So, what do we do?

Understanding your client is very important and could easily bring in extra revenue. With the UK exporting more and more goods into global markets your customer may be looking into entering these territories much means they will have to comply with the standards imposed by their end customer, such as YUM or AIB etc.

Such compliance and extra reporting will require more time and therefore more revenue for the pest controller.

Keeping your finger on the pulse with what is happening in the industry and what new products are coming through for mice control. This sector has really started to improve with many manufacturers introducing new stations/traps and what is most interesting is the introduction of new rodent lures.

There is a train of thought that mice with their natural curiosity habits will enter a trap/station just to have a look, more recently this is not the case and as pest controllers we need to entice them in.

Several years ago, the only lure that I could recall was Provoke from Bell Labs, now this space is really starting to open up with different matrixes and smells. My advice would be to give them a go and see which one suits you best, plus understand what you are targeting.

At PelGar we have several different bait flavours depending on which country we are going into. We even have an amaretto one!

Think outside the box when choosing what lure to use, especially if there is an abundance of food, maybe look at putting nesting material such as cotton wool on the trap. There was a lone mouse on a Conservation Estate in New Zealand that eluded capture for quite some time, they were eventually caught using the litter from the mouse cage at the local pet shop as an attractant.

If you are going to clean your traps make sure that you only lightly brush them and oil the springs with either linseed oil or beeswax, you want to make sure you keep the pheromones intact to entice more rodents onto them.

When placing your traps, many of the rodent stations now come equipped with tabs at the back to securely hold the rear of the traps in place. This seemingly insignificant feature plays a crucial role. When a trap is triggered and its rear is firmly anchored to the floor, it results in the transfer of greater kinetic energy into the unit, leading to a more efficient and successful kill compared to an unsecured trap.

In closing, one little gem I would like to share with you is a relatively unknown scientific paper that was published in 2017 by M. Frankova, V. Stejskal & R. Aulicky.

The title being “Suppression of food intake by house mouse (*Mus musculus*) following the ingestion of brodifacoum-based rodenticide bait.”

In essence the paper shows that once mice had started to consume a rodent bait which contained brodifacoum then their appetite was suppressed to such an extent that at the point of 100% mortality overall mean food consumption was 75% lower than mice which had not consumed the brodifacoum bait.

Food for thought?



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Why Aren't Ants Taking the Bait?

By Dr Paul Craddock



Ants are known for their cooperative behaviour and can be lured into participating in your pest management program through baiting, which is a powerful strategy for pest control.

Baits are designed as slow acting pesticide applications disguised as food, enticing the pests to consume them willingly but not kill instantly. Ants then return to the nest and feed the bait and accompanying toxin to nest mates, larvae and queens.

The bait's potency is typically above the lethal dose for one ant, ensuring effective elimination of many ants from a single feeding ant.

Read Paul's advice on the next page

Why Aren't Ants Taking the Bait - continued

However, despite their inclination to cooperate, there are reasons why baiting might not yield the desired results:

Inadequate Placement:

Ants are skilled at finding food sources, but this also means they can come across alternate food they prefer instead of the bait. To increase the chances of success, remove alternate food sources whenever possible and place the bait in areas where ants are actively foraging. Care should be taken to keep the bait out of reach from children, pets, and non-target organisms.

Colony Size and Resources:

Ant colonies can be vast, numbering in the hundreds of thousands or more. When using bait, ensure you have enough to accommodate all members of the colony. Certain ants with immense connected colonies might require a substantial amount of bait to have an impact. Additionally, some species may have abundant natural resources or frequently switch food sources, making them less responsive to bait.

Taste and Preferences:

Just like people, ants can be picky eaters. Some ant species may not be attracted to the available baits and may ignore them before they can be effectively controlled. Others might show preference for specific types of bait (e.g., protein vs. sugar based bait) and at different times of the year. Cafeteria

baiting, where a variety of bait types are offered, can help identify the ants' preferences for sugar, protein, or carbohydrates. This allows you to tailor your baiting strategy accordingly.

Bait Shyness:

Ants can sometimes detect the active ingredients in a bait and will then avoid it. Other times ants can “remember” or “learn” a particular bait type previously caused sickness in the nest and will actively become bait shy. Again changing bait type and active ingredients can overcome bait shyness.

In conclusion, successful ant baiting relies on understanding the ants' behaviour and preferences. To ensure maximum efficiency, provide bait that appeals to their taste, place it where they are active, and ensure there's enough bait to reach all members of the colony. By following these guidelines, you increase the likelihood of a successful pest management program.



Argentine ant image from www.antweb.org reproduced under creative commons licence

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Ant Infestations in Food Processing Facility: How to Target and Control Them

by Dr Paul Craddock



The initial sign of ants infiltrating a food processing facility usually arises when employees spot them. Typically, ant infestations originate from the outside, and ant sightings near exterior walls are common. However, ants can also be found deep within the facility. In either case, it is essential to collect specimens for identification, as the ant species involved determines the most effective approach to locate the source of the infestation and implement appropriate control measures.

Different ant species exhibit distinct nesting behaviours, which affect the control strategy.

- White footed ants typically nest within the building structure and respond well to baiting as a control measure.
- Argentine ants, on the other hand, typically nest in the soil outside and can travel long distances from colonies situated along the exterior foundation.
- Meat ants prefer nesting under slab concrete and pavers and may enter through expansion joints.
- Big-headed ants can be carried indoors within the soil of potted plants, often found in office areas.

Article continues on next page

Effective inspections are crucial for swift ant control. Here are some tips to conduct a successful inspection:

- Focus on sites where the target ant species is most likely to nest and trail. For example, soil-nesting ants will be found in the ground outside near the building or beneath a slab floor. Look for displaced soil piles, indicating potential nest sites. Inside, check for displaced soil along expansion joints or behind equipment. Follow ant trails along walls to points where they enter from under the floor or through walls.
- Ants can typically be easily seen in traceable trails moving to and from the food source. Remember the ants with the inflated full abdomens (often seen to be “stripy” under a hand lens) will be trailing towards the nest.
- Ants with empty abdomens will be trailing towards the food source.
- Pay attention to structural guidelines, as ant trails often occur along corners and edges. When following an ant trail, look ahead to spots where the structural guideline changes direction to identify entrance points or potential colony locations.
- Many ant species may have multiple nest sites, so keep searching for additional colonies even after finding one.
- Outside, look under items like rocks or logs for ant colonies and along the base of the building foundations. Also look up, as ants may be bridging across to enter a building via overhanging vegetation touching the building, or even via gates, fences or wiring attached to the wall.



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Targeting colonies is crucial for effective control:

- Most ant infestations originate from exterior colonies. Direct treatment of outdoor colonies and trails with a slow acting, non-repellent spray product (e.g., fipronil based) will help control them. Spray around the complete base of the building in a continuous band, and over any structure where ants may be nesting (e.g., retaining walls etc). Back-up the spray treatment with bait placements at regular intervals. By providing a bait next to a treated band, ants will walk over the band to consume the bait, meaning they will get a double hit from both the dermal contact with the band of spray as well as the consumption of bait. The slow non-repellent action of both the bait and spray means the ants don't realise they are being poisoned. This increases the toxin transference effect through the ant colony as contaminated workers repeatedly return to feed bait to and also touch other nest mates. This ensures the queens and brood within the nest receive toxin and die, resulting in total colony collapse.
- Inside a food processing facility, residual product applications may be limited or not recommended, especially in food areas. Residual treatments can be applied into wall voids or underneath slabs, with any drill holes sealed afterward.
- If the indoor colony cannot be located, ant baits placed in refillable leak proof stations can be placed in areas with ant activity. These stations should be removed from food processing areas when in operation and checked frequently for bait acceptance. If ants ignore the bait, consider using different types of baits until ant activity ceases or the colony is found and treated.
- As always remember to read and follow the label directions for a product, wear your PPE, and ensure products applied do not contaminate food preparation areas, food products and packaging.

Dr Paul Craddock is the Vice-President of PMANZ



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Know your ants



ARGENTINE ANT This species was first recorded as established here in January 1990, at Mt Smart stadium, Penrose, Auckland. Since its discovery, *L. humile* has not only spread in the Auckland area but is now to be found in Northland, Coromandel Peninsula, Bay of Plenty, Waikato, Hawkes Bay, Wellington City, Nelson City and Christchurch. Workers are light brown or brown. Nests are in refuse piles, bird nests, wall voids, masonry voids and in cracks in concrete slabs around the perimeter of buildings. Nests may be deep in the ground during dry or cold weather.



SOUTHERN ANT is by far New Zealand's most universal ant species, being found throughout the North and South Islands, on Stewart I., Three Kings Is, Chatham Is and offshore islands.



WHITE-FOOTED ANT Found throughout New Zealand but more prevalent in warmer areas and become well established, both outdoors and indoors



PAVEMENT (FORCEPS) ANT/ FLAT-BACKED TYRANT ANTS Nests inside in walls, insulation and under floors and slabs near heat sources during winter.



BLACK HOUSE ANT is well adapted for living in open or semi-open habitats in this country, nesting under stones or in dry fallen logs. Often found in domestic gardens; occasionally workers enter houses. Infesting home and buildings in search of food and water, they are especially attracted to sweet foods



PHARAOH ANT Nests inside warm, humid areas near food and water sources; common in commercial buildings; of concern in hospitals where they will enter patient wounds, IV bottles and tubes; can carry more than a dozen pathogenic bacteria



BIGHEADED ANT/BROWN HOUSE ANT/COASTAL BROWN ANT Occasionally invades structures and nests under slabs, but usually nests in soil around structures

Proof is in the Pudding...

John Horsley, BPCA's Technical Officer, looks at pest control proofing fundamentals, and the tools and materials he wouldn't be without on every job.

Reprinted with permission from BPCA



Learning basic maintenance skills can give you a leg up when it comes to being an effective pest professional

Using the right material and tools for the job is crucial to getting it 'right first time'

There are a range of tools that will help you proof and should be staples in your kit bag

When the time is right

There is often a debate on when to carry out proofing work. Some techs prefer to do proofing immediately, and others prefer to control the pests before proofing.

But in most cases, it's very much site-specific and you need to do a thorough survey, assessing what the outcomes of proofing before or after would be.

For example, if you need to proof drains or external holes against rodents, would doing it during the treatment prevent them accessing a specific area of the building where you've baited? Will it be forcing the pests to another part of the building where they'll be harder to control?

To get it right-first-time, we usually get it wrong a bunch of times before that! It's all part of the learning process, but hopefully with the right people guiding you, the right training and the right tools for the job, you'll be one step closer to adding proofing to your skillset.

My dad was a joiner by trade, and from a young age he put me to work learning basic DIY.

As I moved into my teenage years, the projects became more extensive, from hanging doors and fitting kitchens, to building boats.

And in the process, he set me up for life with transferable skills.

If you're fairly new to pest control, why not give yourself a strong foundation by learning some of these skills?

There are so many resources out there now, so if you didn't learn from a parent then try YouTube, shadowing other pest professionals who specialise in proofing or if you're really serious, local colleges offer night school classes for subjects like joinery and bricklaying.

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“Choose ‘right first time’ approach – when it comes to proofing we should use the best methods, tools and knowledge available to offer the most permanent solution. Do the best job possible the first time and you

THE USUAL SUSPECTS

If you don't get in at the ground level with basic DIY skills then the pests you're trying to manage will surely get in at ground level for you!



A hole left by removed waste water pipes is covered by an aluminium plate secured by screws and sealed with clear silicone.



Timber frames can rot at ground level, due to being sat in rainwater. Rodents can easily chew through this rot. Proofing is achieved with an aluminium plate secured by wood screws.



Up-and-over garage doors, and roller shutters can be proofed along the ground with a flexible 'rubber' seal.



Damaged corners to an airbrick, allowing the transit of mice, are sealed with premixed mortar. The airbrick is at some height but the texture of the bricks and the presence of a shrub allow for an easy rodent ascent.



Expanding foam should be rarely employed, as it's easily nibbled away and can degrade over time. It can be used to provide a first-aid measure, where more permanent works are scheduled at a later date. It is useful as a void filler to allow an outer plug of thick mortar.

LIPHATECH

4 Principles of Denial

The four principles of denial apply to any pest control job – if you can manage all 4 then you will have success.

1. DON'T LET THE RODENTS EAT

Maintaining good sanitation, remove food waste and trash, proper food storage etc.

2. DON'T LET THEM DRINK

Eliminate moisture sources by proper ventilation, repair defective plumbing, roof leaks, dripping etc.

3. DON'T LET THEM COME IN

Prevent entry and exclude pests. Caulk, seal, screen and patch exterior pest entry points, trim vegetation.

4. DON'T LET THEM HIDE OUT

Prevent shelter and harbourage, reduce clutter and conducive conditions. Maintain a plant, weed and pest-free zone around the structure exterior.

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IN RODENT CONTROL**

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WHAT'S IN MY TOOLKIT?

We all have our favourites, but here are my six most used tools when it comes to proofing. As always, learn to use the tools correctly and safely .

CORDLESS DRILL

It goes without saying the most used item in my tool bag must be the cordless drill. A good combi drill should cover almost all day-to-day drilling activities.



On most combi drills, you will have three settings: drill, screw and hammer.

Drill – best used when going through wood or steel.

Screw – has a torque limiting function, allowing you to set the pressure you would like the drill to stop driving a screw in and prevent over-tightening screws into wall plugs or timber.

Hammer – this setting is used on all brick and block surfaces when using a masonry drill bit. The exception to this is when drilling into tile; it's best to use the hammer function sparingly as it can shatter the tile.



TIN SNIPS

You can get a variety of tin snips, with the large scissor type best for cutting straight lines and the short, curved ones for cutting around corners. Some designs come with heads for cutting anti-clockwise, clockwise and straight cut.

A set of straight-cut tin snips is usually versatile for



SCREWDRIVER SET

These are a bit old school now and it seems obvious today, but a set of different size screwdrivers can be a game changer. Don't underestimate the simple tools!

In fact, the largest of my flat-headed screwdrivers often comes in handy as a mole dibber for finding mole tunnels. Talk about versatility.

JUST A BIT OF STICKY-BACKED PLASTIC

With what feels like an infinite amount of products available from various manufacturers and outlets, it can be a little overwhelming.

Before I go into materials, it's important to point out that using an incorrect material in the wrong place could not only lead to an ineffective treatment, but also cause damage or even run the risk of causing a fire.

Always be mindful of what you are proofing and if you are using suitable products for it.

CORDLESS MULTITOOL

Possibly my all-time favourite tool is a multitool. For cutting and sanding in awkward places, there is no better tool.

I've used it mainly for cutting into plasterboard, backboards in cupboards or into floorboards. It gives an excellent clean cut, is accurate, and you can go slowly into the plasterboard to not cut through any cables or pipes that could be behind.

You can get steel blades that work great for trimming the edge of bristle strips, should you put it on slightly extended and the door doesn't close.



SPIRIT LEVEL

A small spirit level is a simple but great solution, especially one that's magnetic. They can help level up things like EFK units and inspection hatches, and level off bristle strips and proofing plates. They also double up as a handy ruler



STEEL FILE SET

Sometimes the finishing touches make all the difference. Taking the burs off the ends of cut steel will save you or someone else from cutting themselves on them. This is equally important when cutting metal plates and



METAL PLATE

Aluminium plates are a staple, particularly the ones slightly larger than the size of a sheet of A4 paper. You can cut sections for small jobs or use the whole thing for stuff like missing breeze blocks or even proofing around 4-inch waste pipes.



You can now find flat plates that are cut in two with a half-moon missing out of each half. These will have a standard hole size of 15mm water pipe in a house, 40mm/50mm waste pipe from a sink, and 100mm of 4 inches, a standard toilet waste pipe size.

WIRE WOOL

Wire wool is a great product when used correctly but often requires covering with silicone, meaning it's better for smaller holes.



I particularly like this for proofing door frame corners or small holes in the brickwork. It can be more discreet than a metal plate, and using silicone over the top helps it stay in place, preventing it from being removed by rodents or anyone else.

In most cases though, I wouldn't classify this as a permanent solution, as it could quickly fail if it had not been securely fixed.

I have even come across two instances where wire wool has caught on fire. One was on a site where the customer carried out some proofing and filled all the holes with wire wool. A piece had been pulled out and ended up on a cable connection.

The second time was in a technician's bag when a piece of wire wool came into contact with his torch. The charging connector on his torch created enough charge to ignite the wire wool.

SILICONE AND CONSTRUCTION ADHESIVES

You will mainly find three types of adhesives: silicone, silicone with adhesive, and construction adhesives.



Silicones are made from silicone polymers, whereas construction adhesives are typically made from polyurethane, epoxy, or acrylic. I found using silicone gave a better finish when filling gaps around wall floor junctions.

Silicones are much better for areas where you need some flexibility or extreme temperatures and weather conditions.

Construction adhesives usually are less flexible depending on the formulation.

Cure time can be a factor, as silicones will take longer to cure, and some will only create a stronghold once almost entirely cured,

EXPANDING FOAM

It's a swear word in the pest control industry! Popular with the cowboys and rodents can chew right through it. I've seen mice create a nest inside a piece of hollowed-out expanding foam.



However, I found it handy when working in a warehouse with expansion joints on the concrete floor. To narrow down our control area, we filled the gap with expanding foam.

The following day mice had chewed out of one end, which allowed us to narrow down our treatment area and see if they emerged in a different location from the floor void.

Once the treatment was completed, we scraped the foam back just below the concrete slab's surface and applied a rubber product to seal expansion gaps. The foam helped prevent the sealant from falling down the void.



BRISTLE STRIP AND RUBBER BOOTS

I'm not sure it is possible to talk about proofing without talking about bristle strips. Before fitting any bristle strip, it is worth asking a couple of questions:

Could the door be fitted better?

Is the door in good enough condition for a bristle strip to be fitted?

Wooden doors are ordinarily susceptible to rot around the base of the door, meaning a screw would not hold a bristle strip on. It sounds obvious but it's a common mistake.

In most cases, bristle strips are simple to fit, ensuring they fit the gap left when the door is closed.

Pan head screws are best when fitting into wood doors, and the self-tapping screw I found works best for metal doors.

There is also a solid rubber-style door sweep, including some filled with wire wool so they can't be chewed through. Rubber can catch on the floor, making it difficult to open the door.

When fitting them, I put a 2p coin under each end of the strip to raise it up slightly. This prevents it from catching the floor but wouldn't allow mice to squeeze under.

SAND AND CEMENT

In the past, making mortar or cement required buying a bag of each ingredient and mixing it in a small bucket.

You can now get premixed in a tub, silicone-style tubes or bags where you just add water.

I would mainly use the 3kg tubs as I found I could use them on a few jobs before it gets used up or goes off.

You can also get heat-resistant fire cement in 1kg pots, should your site require it. These products usually are best for anything under a golf ball sized hole; larger, and it becomes difficult to stop the cement from falling out or settling, leaving a gap at the top of the hole.

Thanks to BPCA for this article

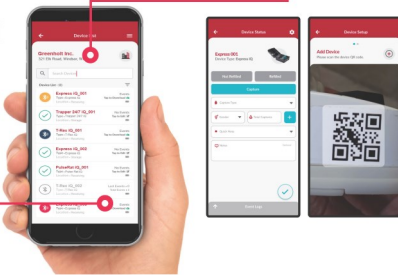


KNOW WHEN AND WHERE RODENTS TRAVEL

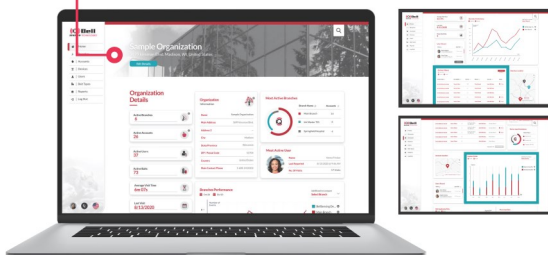
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Bell Laboratories' iQ® products, powered by Bell Sensing Technologies, use fully integrated, built-in sensors to track and monitor rodent activity so technicians never have to check an empty trap or station. Instead, the onsite technician can check the device from up to 30 meters away using the optimised Bell Sensing mobile app for a time savings of up to 78% compared to using traditional stations.

By implementing this innovative technology, technicians can quickly move through sensitive or complicated accounts like restaurants, manufacturing facilities, grocery stores, or schools without attracting attention or causing disruptions. Working directly in the most critical areas creates a more seamless customer experience and allows the PMP to focus where it matters most. Technicians are also empowered to apply extensive knowledge and expertise to each account like when to add additional bait stations or rodenticide, or where to move bait stations. Having this data on-hand can also better protect residential and commercial accounts from rodent-spread diseases and damage, since technicians can quickly pivot devices based on seasonality or areas of high activity.

Account managers will also have an accurate visual of the importance of rodent control. The customised online portal shows a record of each device's timestamped rodent activity, which can be used to analyze trends and review historical data.

Since not all accounts nor rodents are the same, Bell offers a full suite of iQ® products to implement at their client's accounts, including rat and mouse-sized bait stations, multiple catch traps and snap traps. Setup for iQ® devices is simple and easy and there are no subscription or data fees.

To get started, technicians simply need to scan each device's QR code and provide basic information about the device. Once the device has been registered, it can start tracking and monitoring rodent activity.

To learn more, contact your distributor, or visit www.bellsensing.com.

News Worth Sharing

Why the climate crisis is making our insects run for the hills

Around the world, different species are shifting their habitats upwards, with potentially catastrophic results for our ecosystems

In the Alps and Apennines of southern Europe, nearly all the longhorn beetles are moving uphill, and way up at the peaks, the isolation of a brown butterfly with orange-tipped wings is pushing it towards extinction. This is a snapshot of a global trend. With temperatures rising and pressure on biodiversity growing, insects vital to our ecosystems are not only moving north and south, but up.

Research shows many animals are making similar moves, but insects' high levels of mobility and short generation times allow them to respond quickly to change, meaning the uphill momentum can be rapid. Bumblebees in the Pyrenees have moved upwards on average by more than a metre a year, with some species making significantly greater journeys. Moths on Borneo's Mount Kinabalu have followed suit.

All of this makes them a useful indicator of the speed of global heating and ecological impacts at higher altitudes – often biodiversity hotspots and havens for endemic species. To try to grasp the implications, scientists are filling their backpacks and lacing up their walking boots.

Source **The Guardian**— Read Original [HERE](#)



Source: [Wing Beats Archive](#) — [Winter 2022](#)

Wing Beats is published quarterly by the Florida Mosquito Control Association. This magazine is intended to keep all interested parties informed on matters as they relate to mosquito control. All rights reserved. Reproduction, in whole or part, for educational purposes is permitted, without permission, with proper citation.

We were all taught that mosquito larvae hang from the underside of the surface of water so that they can "breathe" in oxygen through their respiratory siphon. Ask any mosquito worker and they will tell you that this is true. This belief is so ingrained in our common knowledge of mosquitoes that we have failed to recognize that it might not be true.

During research on the development of acoustic larviciding as a novel way to kill mosquito larvae using sound waves, the contradicting evidence that mosquito larvae do not use their siphons for "breathing," as has been the established belief, was discovered by Nyberg and Muto (2020).

This article is based on their work published in Nature, Scientific Reports, <https://rdcu.be/b1wFJ>.

The perspective of a pressurized and isolated tracheal system, as well as mosquito larvae not having an obligate need to breathe air, disrupts accepted dogma and is deserving of further study. It is too early to assess the impact on mosquito control operations, however, with this new understanding of respiration the use of surfactants for control could be further optimized.

In addition, we suggest all the insects within the infraorder Culicimorpha have closed tracheal systems.

If so, they may also be susceptible to acoustic larvicide, perhaps at a different frequency, and could be another tool for black fly control.



Fig. 1. Image of *Ae. aegypti* post-acoustic exposed larvae which led to Graham White inquiring as to the source of the large amount of gas.

Read the full article by clicking [HERE](#)

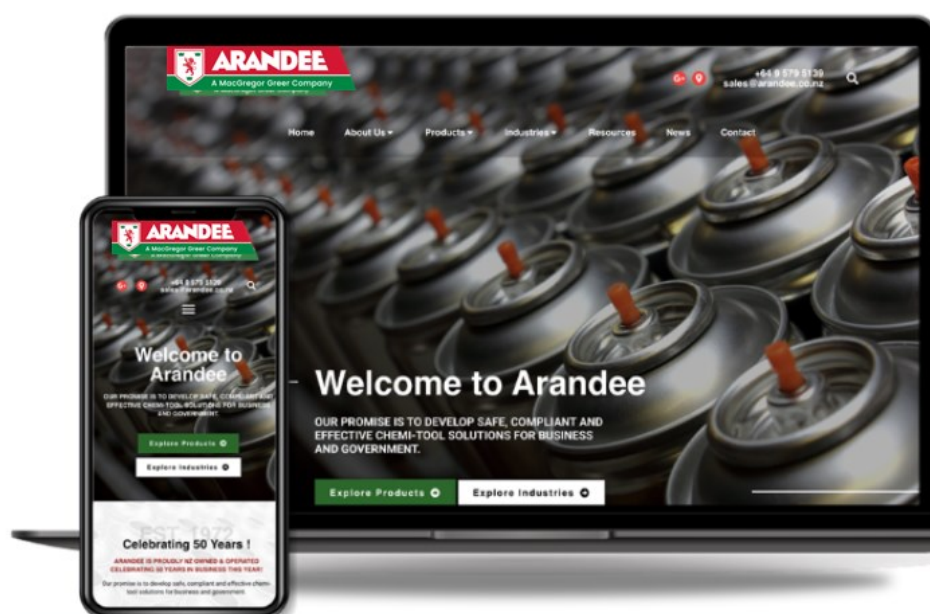
Arandee New Website

Arandee was founded in 1972 by Ron Greer. It proudly remains New Zealand owned and operated.

Today, **Arandee** continues to develop innovative chemi-tools with a dual focus on product efficacy and compliance.

The range carries a high degree of local authority/government approval (MPI, EPA & AsureQuality) giving the end user confidence that it is safe and fit for purpose.

We are committed to environmental responsibility and ensure that every step of our value chain, from laboratory to customer, adheres to strict internal and internationally recognised guidelines of best practice.



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- Product details, images, case information, SDS, TDS, approvals and so much more!
- Send us a photo of MAC products in use and go in the draw to win a monthly **MAC Pack** prize pack
- Sign up for our newsletter to stay up to date with news, reviews and product launches – there are heaps in the pipeline!



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Attending PestWorld is about creating possibilities- possibilities to expand your business, grow your career and network, support your customers, and engage in the pest management industry. Pest-World 2023 brings individuals from every facet of the pest management industry from around the globe to share their knowledge, hear different perspectives on business trends, learn the latest technical research, and form lasting bonds within the industry. Join us this year in Honolulu, HI as we come together to connect with one another, be inspired, and learn.

Early-bird registration ends September 6.

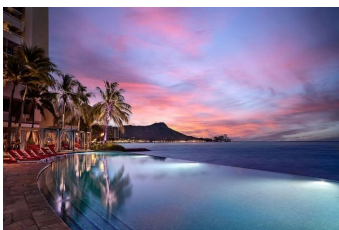
Register by this date to take advantage of the lowest pricing available.

NOTE: Let Peter Barry know if you are interested in attending as PMANZ can do an international member registration for PMANZ members

Hotel Information

This year, NPMA has three hotels to choose from to enjoy your stay in Honolulu. Each of the hotels are one mile from the Hawaii Convention Center, and NPMA will provide a shuttle service during peak times from the Sheraton.

Book your hotel stay in one of the three hotels below by September 20 to lock in the per night room rate. After this date, rooms are subject to availability.



**Hawaii Convention Centre
Auditorium**

Click [HERE](#) for full hotel details



NEW ZEALAND NEWS



There are calls to add feral cats to the list of predators New Zealand



A dead feral cat caught with dozens of native species – mostly native bats – in its stomach. (Source: DOC)

The move is seen as vital to protecting our fragile native species, but the views of pet owners is a stumbling block.

Predator Free 2050 is New Zealand's highly ambitious goal to eradicate some of the predators posing enormous risk to native birds and animals.

The predators being targeted are:

Stoats

Ferrets

Weasels

Possums

Rats

Despite mounting evidence of how great a

threat feral cats are to New Zealand's biodiversity, they are not included on the list.

Only last year DNA testing by a team of Department of Conservation (DOC) scientists showed cats were killing native pekapeka (bats) in Hamilton.

Those results support earlier DNA-based research by DOC which conclusively proved feral cats had killed 50% of the kea in a study in Arthur's Pass — stoats killed the other half.

Kea birds are considered threatened—nationally endangered, lesser short-tailed bat are endangered, and their long-tailed relatives are nationally critical.



Motion activated wildlife camera snaps image of feral cat in the Southern Alps. (Source: DOC)

Tamsin Orr-Walker of Kea Conservation Trust is a staunch advocate for the world's only alpine parrot. "There's quite a bit of opposition to the idea of controlling cats."

"We've got this great effort at the moment, Predator Free 2050, which is targeting stoats, and possums, and rats to protect our endangered wildlife. And yet cats are not on that list. Feral cats should be on that list and I think that that needs to be the first step forward."

Feral cats can roam for many kilometres and have been trapped both down at sea level and high up in the Southern Alps. Around 40% of Kiwi households have a cat and Nelson believes "People don't have pet rats generally, or pet stoats, but, you know the whole thing around domestic cats and companion cats makes it a really hard question to answer."

DOC master trapper Dean Nelson captures around 150 to 200 feral cats every year. He says he's been catching those numbers consistently for 18 years in a highly protected area around the only population of kakī (black stilts) in Aotearoa New Zealand. Orr-Walker of Kea Conservation Trust also thinks our relationship with moggies makes the idea of heavily targeting feral cats unappealing to many people in the general public.

Nelson said feral cats don't feature on the Predator Free 2050 list because they are just so difficult to control. "Politically, the idea of trying to get rid of cats is not particularly appealing to a range of people. "It's a very controversial subject that's probably been put into the 'too hard' basket. I think we just need to bite the bullet and recognise that it's a discussion that has to be had."

She says we need to separate our emotion from our family feline from the fact our unique species are defenceless against cats, and increasingly, in danger.

Jessi Morgan is the chief executive of the Predator Free New Zealand Trust — an independent charitable trust with the aim of inspiring New Zealanders to protect our unique species.



Captured feral cat. (Source: Kea Kids News)

She said we simply don't have the legislative environment to undertake cat management in most parts of the country, but some are pushing for it.

"There is a unanimous call from welfare and conservation groups to introduce a National Cat Management Act. The complexity is mainly around identifying owned cats."

Cats fall between the legislative cracks but some regional councils have already taken action.

"There are about eight councils out of 13 that have feral cats as pests and there are about 20 bylaws around the country which require desexing."

She acknowledges cats as pests is highly political and emotive.

"Cat management is really challenging because cats are highly destructive pests as well as really important pets. As cat owners we have a long history of letting our cats roam."

Morgan supports the SPCA's position that New Zealanders microchip, desex and keep their cats on their home property.

Keeping cats contained at home would require a fundamental shift in attitude but one Morgan be-

lieves Kiwis are increasingly onboard with.

She points to evidence from Lincoln University's 2019 Environmental Perceptions Survey which found 75% of those surveyed agreed unowned cats are a significant threat to native species, and 50% of people agreed that domestic cats are a significant threat.

While last year the Predator Free New Zealand Trust commissioned [research](#) that found:

- 66% of people supported microchipping cats
- 75% supported desexing
- 43% agreed cats should be restricted to their owners' property

"I think in time feral cats will be added to the Predator Free 2050 goal as there's no point leaving feral cats out there to undermine the work we've done to remove rats, stoats, ferrets, weasels and possums," Morgan said.

SOURCE: One News

You read and see more [HERE](#)

Flock Off Continues to Soar: Electromagnetic Bird Deterrent System Shows Impressive Results in New Zealand

Flock Off, the cutting-edge Electromagnetic bird deterrent system, celebrates its one-year anniversary since its successful release in Australia. With remarkable results in deterring seagulls, pigeons, and various other pest bird species, Flock Off has continued to impress the bird deterrent industry.

Exciting Success in New Zealand

New Zealand has witnessed the exceptional efficacy of Flock Off with multiple successful installations, particularly on open roof situations, where Red Bill Gulls (*Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae scopulinus*) and Southern Black-Backed Gulls (*Larus dominicanus*) have been effectively deterred.

A Game-Changer for Australian Installations

In Australia, Flock Off has proven to be a game-changer for Silver Gulls (*Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae*) seagulls, providing a superior alternative to elevated netting and elevated grid wire systems. The system's advantages, such as reduced labour intensity, elimination of the need for penetrations into water-proof roofing, and its visually discreet design, have been embraced enthusiastically by building managers and owners, as well as Bird Managers.

PestiCon Conference Presentation

At the prestigious PestiCon conference in Australia this month, Peter McCarthy will be presenting an in-depth introduction, case studies, and the future direction of electromagnetic bird deterrent system technology, shedding light on the innovative potential it holds for the industry.

Comprehensive Support for New Zealand Installers

Flock Off offers comprehensive support to New Zealand installers through its local representative, Jason Costello. He plays a pivotal role in providing assistance, project design, and training to potential installers. Our six-point plan for remote training ensures that installers are well-equipped, with options ranging from the user-friendly Flock Off app, detailed installation instructions, a selection of instructional videos and installation images, to online training sessions via Zoom or Google Meet, and personalised assistance with system design.

Contact Information

For Bird Managers in New Zealand ready to embrace this cutting-edge technology, contact Jason Costello at 027 345 004 or visit our website at www.flockoff.co.nz.

For technical details and further information, please reach out to Peter McCarthy at peter@pestIT.com.

About Flock Off:

Flock Off is a revolutionary electromagnetic bird deterrent system, designed to address the pressing issue of pest bird infestations without causing harm to the birds. With successful installations in both Australia and New Zealand, Flock Off has earned a reputation as a safe, effective, and environmentally friendly solution, making it the preferred choice for building managers, property owners, and Bird Managers alike.



A Revolution in Bird Management

The Flock Off System is a revolutionary, high-tech and humane solution to stop birds from landing on structures immediately and permanently. Flock Off can help eliminate the costs, risks, health hazards and damage caused by birds, ONCE AND FOR ALL!

Flock Off has been successfully installed on 10,000+ structures throughout America, Europe, Australia and now New Zealand. These structures include commercial, residential, agricultural, military, billboards, signal towers, solar panels, sports venues and utilities to name but a few.

Flock Off impacts the bird's navigation by creating an Electromagnetic "force field" around any structure that causes birds to simply find it impossible to land. Flock Off is discrete, easy to install, and very effective!

The system is now available in Australia and New Zealand.

Call to learn more, or visit our website today!

New Zealand Sales – Jason Costello 027 345 0044

Australian Sales – PestIT 03 9457 1700

www.flockoff.co.nz

www.pestit.com.au



As pest control specialists and an industry supplier to a wide variety of small and large businesses, PestIT's focus is to supply non-chemical solutions to achieve the best possible pest control outcomes. We create, distribute and support our clients with pest control products and systems that are 'cleaner, greener and smarter'. In today's climate, our 'green' approach remains sensitive to managing broader implications for global warming. By choosing PestIT, we help reduced waste, remove chemicals and lead the way forward for smarter technology.

New partnership for NZ AutoTraps adds firepower to hitting NZ's predator free target



A new partnership between the inventors of the country's only automatic resetting combined possum and rat trap and the owners of New Zealand's largest privately-owned conservation estate will provide a much-needed boost to New Zealand's fight against predators and pests.

The New Zealand Carbon Farming Group (NZCF) has acquired a 50 per cent share of NZ AutoTraps, the companies have jointly announced today, in a new deal that will help support the next phase of growth for the innovative local trap manufacturer. NZCF head of business development Scott Pollard says having extensively tested NZ AutoTraps' products within the NZCF conservation estate, the difference the traps

can make in New Zealand's fight against predators and pests is obvious.

"We were fortunate to have been using NZ AutoTraps products in our pest and predator control programme and have seen what a highly effective tool it is," says Scott Pollard.

"We've been evaluating the company's flagship product, the AT220, over a number of months, and have not only found it to be very good at removing a range of target species, from possums to rats, stoats and weasels, but it also saves significantly on labour and management costs."

Article continues on next page

NZCF currently invests more than \$1 million per annum into the largest privately-run pest control initiative in the country. The programme, which includes the use of professional pest control contractors, has removed over 30,000 pest animals in the last 18 months. The programme supports the establishment of new forests and the actively managed transition of NZCF's privately-owned permanent conservation estate into a biodiverse native environment.

"Large-scale programmes like ours really benefit from the efficiency of the autotrap, especially in targeting possums which cause massive damage to native tree growth," says Scott Pollard. "But with many pest and predator control programmes reliant on small budgets and volunteers, the labour-saving features of the AT220 could be a total game changer in helping Aotearoa New Zealand reach its predator-free 2050 target."

The scale of the problem targeted by the trap is significant, with more than 25 million native birds, chicks and eggs estimated to be eaten by predators – including rats, stoats and possums – each year. Possums also consume an estimated 21,000 tonnes of vegetation per night, with many native trees and plants particularly favoured.

NZ AutoTraps created its Fieldays Innovation Award-winning trap after inventor Kevin Bain saw traditional pest traps in the bush which had been triggered and the bait taken, without killing a predator. After several years of development and practical trialling, the company's latest AT220 trap features nightly auto-baiting and an automatic self-reset for up to 100 cycles, with the trap able to work for up to 6 months between servicing. The trap is also programmed to be inactive during the day to protect native species.

The business currently supplies traps to Predator Free 2050 large landscape projects, local and regional councils, lwi, pest control companies and private landowners and farmers.

NZ AutoTraps co-owner George Campbell says the NZ AutoTraps team is excited about the new partnership with NZCF.

"To dovetail in with New Zealand Carbon Farming and help protect their forests, is a really good fit and a really great partnership," says George Campbell.

"The NZCF team has a professional team out on the ground with practical knowledge and experience and is constantly talking to farmers, neighbours and landowners about improving pest animal control, which will be helpful in terms of feedback and building connections. We've also got plenty of room to scale up our local manufacturing operation in Whakatāne and invest in more people to help support our growth."

The business sees significant opportunity to both ramp up production of the AT220 and introduce new concepts targeted at different species in the fight against predators and pests, as well as additional features to protect native species.

While focused on the local market, George Campbell says the pest and predator problem is widespread, with many countries struggling with introduced species.

"From mongoose in Hawaii to snakes in Guam, we're seeing growing demand for our product from export markets because most places have something that is harming native populations," says George Campbell. "We have concentrated on New Zealand because we really want to help sort out our problem first but there is a big market out there as well."

Read original [HERE](#)



A walk down Memory Lane

"A pest manager is a person who understands the biology and habits of pest and uses or encourages the customer to use the safest practical measures to prevent or control pests."

Eric Van Essen

Extracted from The Presidents Pen of
August 2011 PMANZ Newsletter

Our Pest Management Association is unique in that the membership are all stakeholders and have an equal say - big or small companies, manager or technician. This business is our livelihood whether we own or work for a company and we must control our destiny. As a small voluntary organisation without compulsory registration, we have to prove we are worthy of the confidence of our customers, the public and the legislators.

We have to set our own standards and must abide by them. It is a competitive business but we can't compromise on health, safety and environmental care. The technician often works in sensitive situations and must respect the trust placed in them. Keeping in mind "how would this look on camera" could be a good idea.

Just having an approved handlers certificate does not make a pest manager.

A pest manager is a person that understands the biology and habits of pests and uses or encourages the customer to use the safest practical measures to pre-vent or control pests.

A pest is simply a plant or animal in the wrong place at the wrong time. This does not means we

have to take a "scorched earth" approach. Knowing the life cycle of the pest and educating customers and their neighbours can be helpful and can improve your results and credibility. Mosquitoes, ants, flies and rodents are not just the problem of your customer. This applies to domestic or commercial customers. If there are breeding sites, larval habitat, nests, etc. off

property, you may only be able to give temporary respite as the adults of most pest species are in the mobile and nuisance stages but they will just keep coming if the source isn't dealt with. This ends I customer to use the up with dissatisfaction of and loss of customers. Encouraging cooperation between neighbouring properties can be a useful strategy and possibly lead to additional work.

In commerce, customers are dependant on the strength of all links in the supply chain. Pests can infest at many stages from raw materials to finished products. All participants in the supply chain must play their part and protect themselves against pests.

Source: The PMANZ Newsletter April/June 2009 Edition





PMANZ CONFERENCE 2024

"EMERGING CHALLENGES IN PEST MANAGEMENT"

This conference will focus on the evolving nature of pest management and the new challenges it presents. Discussions will cover the need for adaptive pest control strategies.

Thursday 29th and Friday 30th August 2024.



Dr William H Robinson will 'headline' the conference.

Bill, as he is affectionately known, visited New Zealand in 2015 where he shared his vast knowledge with PMANZ members in Wellington.

He has a B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. with majors in biology and entomology and minors in geology, meteorology and botany. He was a Professor and Director of the Urban Pest Control Research Centre at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University for about 30 years.

Along with 20 graduate and post-doctoral students he has conducted and published research on cockroaches, carpenter ants, dust mites, fleas, flies (phorids), termites, wood-infesting beetles, insecticide resistance, wood protection, insecticide application technology and turf pests. He has written several books on urban entomology and a series of training manuals for service technicians.

He has been technical director of B&G Equipment for 15 years.

Dr Robinson is a renowned pest control researcher and innovator who possesses half a century of experience studying and testing application technologies and techniques. Founder of the Urban Pest Control Research Center, he has served as technical director for B&G Equipment and The Fountainhead Group.



Notice of PMANZ 2023 Annual General Meeting

The PMANZ 2023 Annual General Meeting, will be held online at **1:30pm on 17th August 2023.**

ONLINE LOGIN DETAILS

The AGM will be broadcast live on Zoom:.

Login details are as follows:



To Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86919429362?pwd=eXM1aVNDSzFRa2ZLNzJrNVVM2TTRUz09>

Meeting ID: 869 1942 9362

Passcode: 508845

Attendants will be able to view and hear presentations from your Treasurer (Rowan Washer) and then your President (Maihi Cooper). The chat function will be enabled for attendees to ask questions.

Maihi's presentation will also include the proposal to update the sections of the 2018 Constitution covering **Membership Categories and Training Pathways**.

You can read more about the proposed Membership Category changes on the three pages >>>>>

NOTE: The notice for the AGM was sent to all members in late July, but in the unlikely event that you did not receive it please contact Executive Secretary, David Warrick, on info@pmanz.nz for further information

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PROPOSED CHANGES OF MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

BACKGROUND

In recent months, a number of members have voiced concerns to PMANZ Council about:

1. The low level of experience and practical knowledge of pest management displayed by new UPM graduates, who, nonetheless, meet the existing PMANZ constitutional requirement for Master Technician.
2. The current lack of a pathway for Registered Technicians to be recognised as Master Registered Technicians.
3. The value and meaning of the differential between Master Registered and Registered Technicians.

Therefore, the proposal by the PMANZ Council to restructure membership categories is intended to address these concerns and, more broadly, to restructure membership categories to lay a platform for the future of our industry and our Association.

PRACTICAL GUIDE TO THE CHANGES

WITH EFFECT FROM RENEWAL 1 MAY 2024 NEXT YEAR:

Individual membership categories will be retitled as “**Qualified Technician**” (replacing Registered Technician) and “**Master Qualified Technician**” (replacing Master Registered Technician).

HOWEVER, WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT:

- All students, whether qualifying through L3 UPM, Australian unit standards, or through an equivalent qualification approved by PMANZ Council are eligible to apply to become a **Qualified Technician**.
- **Qualified Technicians** who have qualified through L3 UPM will be entitled, on the 12-month anniversary of their becoming a **Qualified Technician**, to apply to be recognised as a **Master Qualified Technician**.
- **Qualified Technicians** who have qualified through the Australian standards system, may apply to be recognised as a **Master Qualified Technician** upon completing 12 months since their acceptance as a **Qualified Technician** AND completing a training module covering any items that PMANZ Council determines is necessary, primarily to “New Zealand-ise” their knowledge base for NZ legislation. For the avoidance of doubt, this upgrade path also applies to members who are currently listed as **Registered Technicians**.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

The maintenance of Master Qualified Technician status – for ALL Master Qualified Technicians will be dependent upon providing evidence of CPD.

To earn and maintain status as a Master Qualified Technician, the member will be required

to attend training activities in the following combination, within the calendar year prior to each

renewal:

- PMANZ Biennial Conference or any two of:
- PMANZ Webinars or Training Sessions
- Third party paid training sessions
- Supplier trade show and training

Evidence of attendance will be filed by the member in the CPD section of their account on the PMANZ website membership system, to then support their renewal status.

Master Qualified Technicians who do not undertake the necessary CPD activities within a particular year will revert to Qualified Technician status for the following year but remain eligible for upgrade in subsequent years.

If a Qualified Technician does not want to undertake CPD, then they are eligible to remain as a Qualified Technician.

Members may “late file” attendance certificates for “correction” of certificates issued, but CPD attendance outside the qualifying period cannot be backdated.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR ME?

READ OVER THE PAGE TO SEE HOW THIS WILL AFFECT YOU

PMANZ Membership Enquires

Please note that the executive secretary David Warrick, handles all membership renewals, certificates and ID cards as well as provision of vehicle stickers.

He may be contacted on:

EMAIL: info@pmanz.nz or

FREEPHONE: 0800 476 269 (0800 4PMANZ)



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR ME?

Q: I am currently studying L3 UPM.

A: On successful completion of your course, you will be entitled to have your PMANZ membership upgraded from Trainee to Qualified Technician status. Then, on the first year anniversary, you will be entitled to apply to be recognised as a Master Qualified Technician.

Q: I am currently a Registered Technician.

A: Provided you have one year's "post-qualification" practical experience, you now apply to be upgraded to Master Qualified Technician status. This will require completion of the PMANZ-approved NZ legislation training. The format for this will be a one-day course and test, that can be attended online. Details of this are currently being finalised and will be circulated to members in the near future.

Q: I am currently a Master Registered Technician

A: On 1 May 2024, your membership will be retitled as Master Qualified Technician, complete with all your existing membership benefits. For this renewal, there will be NO requirement to have undertaken CPD in the previous year.

For the 1 May 2025 membership year, ALL members renewing as a Master Qualified Technician will be required to have completed CPD in the previous 2024 calendar year. For example: attendance at the August 2024 PMANZ Biennial Conference will equate to the CPD required for maintenance of Master Qualified Technician status for the 2025/2026 membership year.

Q: I am currently a Master Registered Technician, but am not sure about doing CPD.

A: (As above), on 1 May 2024, your membership will be retitled as Master Qualified Technician, complete with all your existing membership benefits. There will be NO requirement to have undertaken CPD in the previous 2023 year. However, when renewing membership thereafter, if you still do not wish to undertake CPD, you will be renewed as a Qualified Technician.



Inaugural WIPM Recognition Awards

Announcing the triumphant success of the Inaugural WIPM Recognition Awards! The Termite Professional Conference in Queensland, Australia bore witness to a night of jubilation as Women In Pest Management celebrated these outstanding women who have left an indelible mark on the Pest Industry. With great pride, Nicky Turner, President of Women In Pest Management, with Eliza Urey, Events Coordinator, presented the esteemed awards to our worthy winners at the Gala Dinner.

Let's applaud the exceptional recipients of the 2023 WIPM Recognition Awards:

1. New Zealand Excellence Award: **Viv Van Dyk** (Bait Technology Limited)
 2. South Pacific Excellence Award: **Kushnumma Begum** (Flick Hygiene, Fiji)
 3. Leadership Award: **Stephanie Paddick** (Jim's Termite and Pest Control)
 4. Office Employee Award: **Amanda Robin** (Competitive Pest Services)
- Female Technician of the Year Award: **Nathaly Haeren** (Pesty Girls Pest Management)

Each of these remarkable women has made invaluable contributions to the Pest Management field, and we celebrate their outstanding achievements and dedication. Cheers to their continued success and inspiration to others in the industry!

Viv Van Dyk

We want to give a special shoutout and a heartfelt congratulations once again to Viv Van Dyk, the deserving recipient of the prestigious Inaugural 2023 New Zealand Excellence Award. Viv is a well-known figure in the pest management industry, and her contributions have been invaluable. It was truly a delight to have Viv travel all the way to Australia to personally accept her well-deserved award. We kindly request the New Zealand pest management industry to actively support and embrace this esteemed accolade.

The response to the awards was overwhelming, with over 100 exceptional nominations received for the five categories. The gala dinner, attended by over 200 individuals, was filled with excitement and applause for the deserving winners. Looking ahead, we eagerly anticipate the continuation of these awards in 2024, with the hope of announcing the next New Zealand Excellence Award Winner at the 2024 PMANZ conference.





WIPM Networking Breakfast

The WIPM Big Networking Breakfast exceeded all expectations, with an impressive turnout of over 150 dedicated men and women in the pest control industry. The event was a resounding success, thanks to the incredible support from The Termite Professional Conference and our sponsors. We were treated to a delectable spread of delicious food, perfectly complemented by the captivating insights shared by our esteemed keynote speaker [Amanda Stevens](#).

WIPM Coast to Hinterland High Tea Event

The day began by indulging in a leisurely shopping spree in Montville's charming hinterland on the Sunshine Coast, followed by a delightful high tea at [Secrets on the Lake](#), accompanied by an array of refreshing cocktails and exquisite French champagne. As the day progressed, we concluded our festivities with steaming cups of hot chocolate and endless pots of tea. It was a diverse group of individuals that attended the event, even some from Fiji, including business owners, female pest technicians, administrators, and employees. The atmosphere was filled with enthusiastic conversations as the ladies shared their pest-related experiences and exchanged innovative business ideas. Laughter filled the air, forging everlasting bonds and creating cherished friendships.



WIPM Leadership Development Workshops

The leadership workshops were held as a parallel stream during the [Termite Professional Conference](#), exclusively designed for women in the pest management industry. To ensure an intimate setting and foster a hands-on experience, we limited the participants to each workshop.

This allowed us to create a close-knit group where delegates could actively engage with each other and the guest speakers. The beauty of our workshops was the flexibility they offered to participants.

Each workshop focused on a different topic, allowing attendees to choose the sessions that aligned with their interests. It was great to witness the diverse range of women attending the conference, with some of them opting to join us for some workshops.

We experienced an abundance of new knowledge acquisition, alongside a blend of fun, laughter, and dance moves.



Keynote Speaker, Toni Powell

Head on over to our Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/womeninpestmanagement/> for more on all our events and awards.

Thank you to our sponsors:

- [Rapid Solutions](#)
- [Sherwood Chemicals](#)
- [APC TriStar Developments](#)
- [Pestie Profiles](#)

Until next time,

***The WIPM Committee
Aimee McBean and
Nikki De Renzy***



L to R—Nicky Turner, WIPM President; Vivienne Van Dyk, NZ Excellence Award Winner and Eliza Urey WIPM Committee Member and Events Coordinator

Find resources and tips for small business owners to help you look after yourself and your team.

If you're suffering financial-related stress and anxiety, talk to your GP. They'll be able to assess where you're at and refer you to a specialist if necessary.

You can also access trained counsellors for free by texting or **calling 1737**. Find out more at 1737.org.nz:

1737.org.nz(external link)

Other mental health and wellbeing support can be found at Depression.org.nz:

Depression.org.nz(external link)

Sorted has free finance tools, guides and resources on its website:

Sorted.org.nz(external link)

If you want to talk to someone for support around debt or personal budget issues, you can ring the free

Money Talks helpline on 0800 345 123:

[Money Talks](https://MoneyTalks.org.nz)

Call or text for free support

If you have questions about government financial support or business help, call the COVID-19 Business Helpline:

North Island 0800 500 362 or

South Island 0800 505 096.

If you feel a bit overwhelmed, anxious or just

want to talk, free services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

call or text 1737 for support from a trained counsellor

Lifeline 0800 543 354 or text 4357

Samaritans 0800 726 666

[Helplines\(external link\)](#) — Mental Health Foundation

[Mental health and wellbeing support](#)

Source Information Provided by:



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HIKINA WHAKATUTUKI



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Toolbox

PMANZ website Statistics

For the 3 months between 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023, the new PMANZ website received 2002 visitors that viewed 4406 pages - that is an average of 2.2 pages per person, representing a 5% increase over a similar period last year.

The top page views are listed below.

This gives us a great indication of what pest activity is of current concern to the public.

Home	227
Find a Professional	81
Urban Pest Management Qualifications	51
Ants	40
About us	37
Join us	29
Members Area	28
Code of practice for the food industry	27
Alphabetical list of registered technicians	27
Wasps	21
Flies	20
Mice	18
Rats	17
Bed Bugs	16
PMANZ Council Members	15
Associate Members	12

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NEW ZEALAND TECHNICIANS FORUM

Black Cockroach vs Oriental Cockroach

A member recently had some confusion between these two species of cockroach.

A Black Cockroach was brought into the house amongst a pile of firewood, and was initially thought to be a Oriental Cockroach.

When I was alerted to this finding, I was startled, as up to now there have been no official recorded sightings of *Blatta orientalis* in New Zealand.

I phoned around and also spoke to our own Entomologist, Dr Paul Craddock, to see if he had heard of any reported sightings. He was as dumbfounded as I was.

After some investigation, we realised it was probably our own Black Cockroach / Kekerengu. Also known as 'Stinkroach' that had come in with the firewood.



Black Cockroach | Kekerengu

Platyzosteria novaeseelandiae [Family: Blattidae]

Native: Found in the North Island and northern South Island. Also known as stinkroach as it makes a strong smell when disturbed. It lives in native forest under the bark of trees, in rotting logs and even (in some areas) on coastal rocks. It is sometimes brought into houses with firewood, but is not a pest. It has no wings. Tribal variations include: **kekeriru, kekereru, kekereu, keriru and kikararu.**

Whereas the **Oriental cockroach** (*Blatta orientalis*), also known as the water bug or black beetle is easily distinguishable from other cockroach species due to its dark, shiny appearance and relatively large size. Adult females typically measure around 1 to 1.25 inches (2.5 to 3.2 cm) in length, while males are slightly smaller. Unlike some other cockroaches, both male and female Oriental cockroaches possess non-functional wings, rendering them flightless.



However, their powerful legs allow them to move swiftly, making them efficient runners.

Oriental cockroach exhibits avoidance behaviour. They emit an unpleasant odour, which serves as a deterrent to potential predators and threats.

It is often associated with damp and dark environments, and is commonly found in basements, drains, sewers, and other moist places. The insects are particularly active during the night, preferring to remain hidden during the day to avoid predators and conserve energy.

While Oriental cockroaches play an essential role in the ecosystem by helping to decompose organic matter, they can become pests when they infest human dwellings.

Technical Hints—

How Insecticides work on Cockroaches?

Insecticides work on cockroaches through various mechanisms, depending on the specific type of insecticide used.

Here are some common ways in which insecticides target and eliminate cockroaches:

1. Contact Poisoning:

Many insecticides are designed to kill cockroaches upon direct contact. These insecticides contain chemical compounds that are toxic to cockroaches. When the insecticide comes into contact with the cockroach's body, it can penetrate its exoskeleton and disrupt its physiological functions, leading to paralysis or death.

2. Ingestion:

Certain insecticides are formulated as baits, which are attractive to cockroaches as a food source. These baits contain slow-acting insecticides that the cockroaches consume. Once ingested, the insecticide disrupts the cockroach's nervous system, leading to eventual death. The slow-acting nature of these insecticides allows the cockroaches to carry the poisoned bait back to their nests, where it can be shared with other cockroaches, effectively targeting the entire population.

3. Growth Regulators:

Some insecticides act as growth regulators, interfering with the development and reproduction of cockroaches. These insecticides disrupt the moulting process, preventing nymphs from developing into adults and inhibiting the reproductive capabilities of adult cockroaches. By affecting their life cycle, these insecticides can effectively control the cockroach population over time.

4. Respiratory Attack:

Certain insecticides are formulated as aerosols or fumigants, which are sprayed or released into the air. Cockroaches inhale these chemicals, which can damage their respiratory systems and cause suffocation or other respiratory failures.

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