# WHAT'S BUZZING? News from the World of Pest Management





Summer 2024 Issue



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#### **FROM THE EDITOR**





### **Editor's Note**

EMAIL: peter@pmanz.nz

Its that time of year again, when chaos descends upon us as we prepare for Christmas celebrations, as well as trying to finish up our work before the big day!

Hopefully, yours is more organised than most and get to enjoy a great Festive Season with family, loved ones and friends.

While you enjoy your summer break, perhaps ponder your use of digital IPM as a New Year's resolution...

Urban Integrated Pest Management (IPM) aims to reduce pesticide use and manage pests logically, particularly in sensitive areas like the food and beverage industry, which has successfully implemented IPM globally.

Digitalising IPM can address these challenges by simplifying data collection, enabling round-theclock monitoring, and improving communication and action plans. Digital tools can enhance efficiency, reduce labour costs, and provide real-time data, making IPM more sustainable and environmentally friendly. The future of IPM lies in its digitalization. Read more on page 11 ,from Dr Partho Dhang on the "Need for Digitalizing IPM for Future".

Do also read Dr Paul Craddock's excellent piece on "Pesticide Exposure and Toxicity" on page 39, particularly as you use your spray equipment this summer.

As the year comes to a close, I hope you have enjoyed the newsletters we have compiled for you. We'll see you in the New Year, for our Autumn Issue in March.

Until then may you have a very Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Warm regards

Peter





## **Pest Management Association of New Zealand**

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#### **PMANZ Membership Enquires**

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)

#### **Fair Dealing**

Articles provided in "What's Buzzing" are drawn from a number of sources. The source of the material is always quoted, either by author, publication and/or organization, in line with the practice of 'Fair Dealing' under the <u>Copyright Act 1994</u>, <u>Section 42 (3)</u>, which allows news reporting of current events without infringement of copyright. This news is for PMANZ members and friends of the association for their ongoing education. The information contained in this newsletter does not necessarily reflect the official views or opinions of the PMANZ Council and/or its members.



# President's Pen Gerwyn Jones

Dear Members and Colleagues,

As the warm embrace of summer starts to settle over Aotearoa, our industry enters one of its busiest periods. With rising temperatures and longer days, the activity of insect pests like flies, fleas, ants, and cockroaches will ramp up, prompting the increased demand for the services of our members. It's a great opportunity to showcase the our professionalism and expertise in providing effective and responsible solutions for the clients.

Summer, however, brings more than just increased pest activity. It also introduces challenges for us as professionals working in often hot and demanding conditions. Working outdoors or in warm, enclosed spaces can lead to dehydration, heat stress, and fatigue. We need to mitigate these risks, keep water on hand and take regular hydration breaks, wear breathable, lightweight, UVprotective clothing, and schedule the most physically demanding tasks for cooler parts of the day. Don't forget sunscreen, hats, and sunglasses to protect against harmful UV rays.

Ensure your vehicle and equipment are summer ready, particularly where chemicals are concerned, as heat can impact their stability and effectiveness. Refresh your team's awareness of safety protocols, particularly around handling pesticides in warmer conditions, and encourage open communication about fatigue or heat related symptoms. As wasp activity increases during the summer months, it's vital to stay vigilant fessionalism, it's what keeps our induswhen treating nests. Wasps are highly defensive of their colonies, and treatments can quickly escalate into dangerous situations if not approached correctly. Always wear full protective gear, use suitable application methods, and ensure you have a clear escape route in case of an aggressive response.

Finally, take a moment to check in with yourselves and your colleagues. The combination of high demand and high temperatures can take its toll. Supporting one another and maintaining good communication ensures we all thrive this season.

PMANZ is here to support you as you navigate this bustling season. Please remember to lean on the resources, training, and network that the association provides. If you have any tips, strategies, or stories to share about summer pest management, we'd love to hear from you.

Thank you for your dedication and protry thriving.

Finally, I wish you and yours a Merry **Christmas and Happy New Year.** 

Stay safe, stay cool, and let's make this summer a successful one!

Best regards,

Gerwyn Jones

**President, PMANZ** 







PMANZ and board would like to welcome the following new members to the association:

Newly joined as Qualified Technicians		
Jacob	Drumm	Westferry Property Services
Kristopher	Tanyag	Rentokil
Gavin	Lotz	Rentokil
Jason	Knauf	Essential Pest Control
New Trainees		
Cristian	Mendez	Ecolab
Balvinder	Singh	Pestproof Pest Control



# more than a membership IT'S A PARTNERSHIP



# Ripcord<sup>®</sup> Xtra

A high performance residual insecticide for the control of a wide range of pests

**Ripcord® Xtra** is an improved, high-performance formulation of a trusted New Zealand product providing greater control and treatment flexibility. The formulation's unique micro-crystalline particles provide superior surface adherence and residual action so pest controllers can rely on Ripcord Xtra to control a large variety of difficult insect pests.

- Broad spectrum control for use in domestic, commercial, agricultural and public health applications
- Rapid knockdown and superior efficacy delivering the signs of sensitisation within 5 minutes, and knockdown within 30 minutes
- Low dose formulation minimising costs whilst maximising results
- Superior residual action resulting in even surface coverage and excellent adherence to porous and other difficult surfaces
- Micro-crystalline formulation promotes bio-availability of the active resulting in superior control of difficult pests

For more information on Ripcord Xtra visit **pest-control.basf.co.nz** or contact your local BASF representative on **0800 932 273** 





## Commercial pest management with Ripcord<sup>®</sup> Xtra

Effective pest management in commercial settings demands versatile, high-performance solutions. Trusted products such as Ripcord Xtra will give professional pest managers peace of mind knowing that it has the important relevant approvals required from the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) allowing the use of the product safely within commercial properties, including facilities that process animal products within New Zealand. With its fast-acting formulation and broad-spectrum efficacy, Ripcord Xtra is engineered to meet the rigorous challenges of managing pests in environments where hygiene and compliance are paramount.

#### **Targeted performance for complex environments**

Ripcord Xtra contains 60 g/L of the active ingredient alpha-cypermethrin, a synthetic pyrethroid renowned for its quick knockdown and residual control. Whether it's flies in food processing areas, cockroaches in kitchens, or stored food product pests in warehouses, **Ripcord Xtra delivers consistent results**. Its unique formulation ensures superior residual action resulting in even surface coverage and excellent adherence to porous and other difficult surfaces, making it **suitable for challenging commercial environments**.

#### Applications in animal product processing facilities

Facilities processing animal products face unique pest pressures, particularly from flies, mosquito's, Indian meal moths, and other vectors that compromise hygiene and safety standards. **Ripcord Xtra is ideal for controlling pests in these settings without major disruptions to the day-to-day operations.** Its ability to target certain pests on walls, cracks and crevices, and other structural areas ensures pests are managed effectively before they potentially contaminate products which can lead to economic loss.

When applied according to label directions by the pest professional, **Ripcord Xtra is a safe** and effective option to use in facilities where food is processed or stored. Regular treatments help maintain regulatory compliance, and combined with high standards of cleanliness, it forms part of a successful ongoing pest program.

#### Benefits of Ripcord Xtra for commercial premises

- 1. **Broad-Spectrum efficacy** controls a wide range of pests, reducing the need for multiple products.
- 2. **Rapid knockdown and superior efficacy** its quick mode of action (sensitisation within 5mn and knockdown within 30mn) minimises pest sightings, this can be crucial in commercial settings where quick results are the customers' expectations.
- 3. **Flexible application** suitable for indoor and outdoor use, it addresses infestations across various zones within commercial, agricultural, domestic and

public health situations.

- 4. **Residue persistence** provides ongoing protection, ensuring long-term control between the pest program visits.
- 5. **New low dose formulation** minimises costs whilst maximising results for the pest manager.

#### Application best practices to optimize results with Ripcord Xtra

- $\rightarrow$  Adhere to an integrated pest management approach.
- → Conduct thorough inspections to identify pest hotspots.
- $\rightarrow$  Apply with precision using suitable equipment for targeted areas.
- → Integrate insecticides into a comprehensive pest management program, incorporating regular monitoring and good sanitation practices.

When professional pest managers incorporate Ripcord Xtra into their pest program, they can ensure superior pest control outcomes for their commercial clients.

## **Ripcord Xtra's** proven efficacy, reliability, and ease of use make it an essential tool for reducing pest pressure even in the most demanding commercial settings.



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To find out more about Ripcord Xtra visit <u>Ripcord® Xtra | BASF Pest Control Solutions</u> <u>New Zealand</u>

To learn more about range of solutions visit <u>Learning & Resources Hub | BASF Pest</u> <u>Control Solutions Australia</u> or contact your local BASF representative on 1800 558 399.

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## NEED FOR DIGITALISING IPM FOR THE FUTURE

#### Introduction

Urban Integrated pest management (IPM) is principally a concept where the objective is to reduce pesticides from human vicinity and manage pests logically. It is well known that even though pesticides do not pose a high level of risk to human health if the application of the product and the management of the application take place according to proper and adequate procedures, but persistent and repeated exposures to pesticides over a life time may pose greater risk especially to the paediatric population.

Urban IPM involves multi-level stake holders, who differ in their background and perception. A single treatment site may need coordination between administrator, engineer, housekeeper, landscaper and sanitary staff. Difficulties in communicating with each other remains an obstacle. In addition, stake holders have shown combination of negative behaviour such as psychological resistance to change, fear from loss of authority, resistance against learning new technologies, and general fear of failure; in addition to fear that IPM will restrict use and access to pesticides, and the notion that IPM is more expensive than traditional pest control, preventing IPM adoption

IPM implementation requires the implementor/ staffs to be skillful, knowledgeable and confident. A noticeable industry trend towards overreliance on products and industry designed



practices is preventing development of skills among practitioners.

Application of chemicals by spraying remains the most dominant work in a pest control activity. This approach is less skillful and less time consuming. Overall controlling pests has become more or less a singular act, requiring no or less specialized training and knowledge.

#### Success of Urban IPM

Urban IPM has proven to be successful whenever it has been correctly implemented. One sector where attempts to implement IPM has been most successful globally is the food and beverage industry. In an attempt to restrict pesticide usage and maintain operations pest free on a longer run, many companies adhere to strict IPM procedure. Information gathered from personal interviews, code of practice document, and referring to internal company documents, there is verified proof that IPM programs are put to rigorous practice in this sector. These programs pass third-party audits and many obtain high rating for quality. The continuity and expansion of the program over years is a strong indicator of IPM's sustainability and success.



An advance light trap incorporated with a communication port (Courtesy of Alcochem).

To assist the pest control market in their quest for better and faster information on the flying insect infestation level in any premises.

Alcochem Hygiene has developed an insect counting system, which can count insects and provide info on this in real time

#### **Future of Urban IPM**

The future of IPM lies in encouraging commerce and sustained business. A large part of the pest control business is dependent on a system of generating residual income, referred to as maintenance which involve monitoring, preventing, communicating/ reporting and occasional treatment.

IPM can make use of this system and generate income incorporating sustainable and environmentally responsible approaches. One such shift would be digitalization, involving precise data collection tools such as smart devices and monitors, analytical and reporting software and communication tools. Monitors with remote sensing can supplement expensive labour, reduce manpower, and provide accurate data for analysis. These monitors can cover large area and inaccessible areas and work around the clock providing real time information. Digitalization will help to instantly collect and analyse data which conventional pest control cannot do simply.

In this age data is a powerful asset when governed through a well-designed collection and analysis system in a program. The collected data not only helps provide feedback on pest activities, but also help to advance IPM applications related to quality of building, future policies, need for specific research, training, and extension.

There are several pest management software systems available in the marketplace either as off the shelf or with some degree of customization to address various needs of pest managers.

## Identify the enemy, avert economic disaster.

The key to E-Gleek<sup>™</sup> is understanding it's advantage. Early pest identification, quick alerts, actionable reports and informed control options. E-Gleek<sup>™</sup> pest identification and reporting technology is simple to set up and activate. Image identification traps can be 'self-trained' in field to quickly identify target species. This is ideal when there is urgent need in dealing with high-alert pests which threaten crop cycles and economic stability. Real-time coverage of multi-trap locations alerts to problem pests before or during emergent and costly infestation cycles. E-Gleek<sup>™</sup> is ideal for all Forestry, Horticulture, Food Storage and Bio Security situations – with fast and accurate pest identification and real-time reporting. Such a precise level of pest monitoring and reporting is simply not possible with traditional pheromone bag traps and people on the ground.

E-gleek's precise and real-time identification and reporting allows you and your clients to make better informed and more timely intervention decisions. Avoiding financial losses and economic disaster is the ultimate benefit. With obvious benefits of early-identification and reporting of insect pests in all industries, E-gleek provides the ultimate solution with targeted and customised alarms, scheduled reports, on site data capture and 4G remote connection. Call our crew at PestStop to discuss your specific needs.



#### PEST STOP<sup>™</sup> PEST TECH IS ADVANCED PEST CONTROL SYSTEMS. Ask us about:

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- TubeTrap<sup>™</sup> control, elimination and re-wilding options.
- BRCNZ UV LED bulbs & tube lights. Retrofittable long-life, low energy bulbs, with targeted light spectrums.
- MinkPolice<sup>™</sup> / TrapSensor real-time remote managed, multi-trap tech.
- NATTARO<sup>™</sup> Bed Bug monitor traps Self-servicing, 24/7 monitoring.
- HeatMe<sup>™</sup> Thermal eradication ro eliminate termites, wood boring species and bed bugs. 100% effective, non toxic - multiple advantages.

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E-Gleek smart technology advantage provides early, targeted, pest identification, real-time and scheduled activity reporting. Pest controllers – are you looking to increase operational benefits and outcomes for your client base using automated, self learning, multi-point insect pest monitoring. Stay in control - contact E-gleek via PEST STOP today.



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Staff digitally managing IPM schedule for ahead of an operation. (Credit Partho Dhang)

As a case study, a work is presented here describ- Even though pest can be successfully eliminated, ing digitalising an IPM program for Santa-Clara County, California which took care of 36 county departments housed in over 188 facilities.

A PDA based digitalized system replaced a previously existing paper-based arrangement and removed limitations such as one-directional flow of information, unreachability, modifiability, remotely accessibility, slowness in modification and updating, and information protection.

Digitalization allowed precise time-based pest reporting from a project area spread across 10.64 million square feet in an area covering a 50-mile radius throughout the county.

The program reported "reduction by 95% of total number of pesticides, number of applications using pesticides, total pesticide volume and toxic exposure to pesticides".

In addition, for a five-year period, the performance data recorded a steady decline in servicerelated complaints. The complaints were restricted to only 7% of the total of 180 buildings which were identified as court complex, hospital complex and correctional facilities, areas receiving high influx of people and goods.

their re-infestation remains a challenge.

In this context it is found that one of the factors which makes re-infestation easy is problems related to building and surrounding landscapes.

Root cause of re-infestation happens where building design are not addressed at the outset. Mostly engineering and architect are largely unaware of the relationship between building design and pests.

Smart traps for rodents, flies and cockroaches with inbuilt communication software allow uninterrupted real time data transmittal, allowing coverage to both accessible and inaccessible areas of the building and landscape without the need for human inspectors.

Examples from Europe and Australia on electronic rodent management with reporting software is gaining popularity. These tools have larger coverage area, useful in areawide situations, programmable, less energy and labour consuming.

Furthermore, digitalising all other aspect of the urban IPM including costing, tracking job and personnel; tasking vehicle and equipment, data communication; virtual design; data and database sharing; and time and energy management will make IPM programs competitive and sustainable.

#### Article continues on next page

#### Conclusion

Urban IPM is the mainstay for keeping sensitive premises free of pests and pesticides on a longer term. This has been in practice in many instances and in particular for the food industry.

The success is achieved by creating a pool of trained people within the available workforce of the customer, as well as contracting or outsourcing from outside, who unidirectionally work towards implementing IPM. In one instant these pools of people have been referred as "IPM Champions", thus differentiating and separating them from being regular practitioners.

This action is a must for urban IPM to remain distinct, relevant and sustainable.

The competition to urban IPM comes from conventional pest control, where IPM is often wrongly pointed out to be expensive, needs excessive documentation, slow to execute and involve restrictions. On the other side conventional pest control has been shown to be ineffective with respect to effi-cacy, in addition to being shortterm and significantly more detrimental on the environment.

The way out from the quandary is adopting digitalized IPM, to generate unbiased round the clock data and deter-mine action. The data will not only address pest issues, but also something beyond, such as look into human sensitivi-ties, structural improvements, economics, and environmental concerns together. In this way IPM will direct pest control towards a "greener" direction.

## This article has been edited for PMANZ members

The full article can be read on the PMANZ website. Click HERE

Partho Dhang is an Urban Entomologist who earned his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in zoology from the University of Madras in Chennai, India. His extensive involvement in the pest control industry spans research and development, training, and business development, leading him to edit and author numerous books published by CABI. He is a prolific speaker at international conferences world-wide and regularly contributes articles to various international magazines. He lives in the Philippines.





CONNECTED. INSPIRED. EDUCATED.

## PestWorld 2024 hits a new high in Denver

Records were broken when the professional pest management industry from around the globe gathered at PestWorld 2024 held at the Gaylord Rockies Resort & Convention Centre, Denver, Colorado, USA between 22-25 October.



For the first time ever, over 4,000 delegates attended PestWorld 2024. Of these, more than 500 were international delegates from 53 different countries. The exhibition also reached a new high with nearly 280 exhibitors. Reaching such elevated records was quite appropriate as PestWorld 2024 was held in Denver, Colorado, known as the 'Mile High City', as its official elevation is exactly one mile above sea level. Organised by the National Pest Management Association (NPMA), CEO Dominique Stumpf greeted everyone at the opening ceremony. She explained how excited she was saying: "This is so much more than just an annual convention. It's a homecoming for our industry leaders, innovators and trailblazers. It's a time to reunite, recharge and chart the future of the pest management industry together."

With the event being held in Denver, quite appropriately the opening ceremony, sponsored by Envu, closed with a performance by Chris Collins and his Denver tribute band who performed some of John Denver's most famous hits.

During the following three days there was plenty of opportunity for delegates to learn and share experiences. There were nearly 70 educational sessions delegates could attend. Subjects ranged from technical issues such as designing new rat proof cities, the science behind termite control, best practices for fumigation, to mastering wildlife control. In addition, there were sessions addressing management topics, new office technology and keeping people safe.

The exhibition is always at the heart of PestWorld events and visitors had the opportunity to visit stands not only from US exhibitors but also those from Europe, South America and Asia. Taking advantage of such an international audience, Envu took the opportunity to release news of its latest acquisition, the mosquito technology company In2Care headquartered in the Netherlands.

Once again attendance was good at the Global Pest Management Coalition with representatives from such diverse countries as Canada, India, Pakistan, Morocco, the Dominican Republic and the Maldives present. During the meeting, the presidency of the Coalition passed from Alberto Ponjoan from Spain to Manuela Cordeiro from Portugal who represents the Confederation of the European Pest Management Associations (CEPA).

At PestWorld events there is always time to network and make new contacts, especially at the social events. The international reception sponsored by Orkin always proves popular and on the final night the PestFest party, sponsored by MGK, drew these four hectic days to a close. Both of these events were held outside taking advantage of the magnificent sunny weather which ran throughout PestWorld.



So, make a note.

Next year's PestWorld is to be held in Orlando, Florida from October 21-24, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Issued on behalf of NPMA by

Frances McKim, Active Solutions Tel: +44 1509-233219 Mobile: +44 7957 316705 Email: frances@activesolutions.uk.com

## Global Pest Management Coalition Selects 2025 Board Members



The Global Pest Management Coalition announced the officers and members of their 2025 Board of Directors, with Manuela Cordeiro of Portugal, serving as president of the Board of Directors for the Coalition.

The Coalition also announced that it has formally been established as a 501(c)6 organization in the United States, marking an important milestone in its development as a global trade association. This new tax-exempt status, recognized by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, enables the Coalition to better serve its international membership while strengthening its ability to promote industry interests worldwide. As part of this transition, the Coalition's governing Council has been formally restructured as a Board of Directors, aligning with international corporate governance standards and enhancing the organization's operational effectiveness.

Congratulations to one of officers and members:

Congratulations!\*

Gerwyn Jones New Zealand Federation of Asian and Oceania Pest Managers Association (FAOPMA) President, Pest Management Association of New Zealand

For the full list of officers and members—Click HERE

Board terms will begin Jan. 1, 2025.

Full information about the Coalition and Council officers and members is available online at <u>www.pestmanagementcoalition.org</u>.



#### Mission

The mission of the Global Pest Management Coalition is to provide a unified voice across the globe promoting the value of pest management in ensuring the protection of health, home, food, and businesses.

## How safe are natural insecticides?

#### By Dr Joanne Dowle



'All-natural' doesn't mean non-toxic. Dr Joanna Dowle (Senior Advisor at the Environmental Protection Authority) looks at four plant-based insecticides to bust the myth 'natural' chemicals are safer than those made in a lab.

This is an excerpt from the EPA's Science at work series of science communication stories.

Chemicals are chemicals, whether they come from a plant or a lab. Plants have evolved over many thousands of years to make their own pesticides specific to the critters that like to nibble on them.

Inspired by these complex processes and products of plant self-defence, natural product chemists have developed ways to extract these chemicals from plants and figure out what they are.

Synthetic chemists have then developed ways to make these chemicals – and related synthetic derivatives – in the lab.

Whether lab-made or direct from nature, if two molecules have the same chemical structure, they will have the same properties – regardless of whether one was made by a series of enzymes in the cell of a plant, or by a chemist in flasks in a lab.

But the myth persists that chemicals made by plants are somehow safer than chemicals made by people. The buzz words "all-natural" and "organic" are all too frequently used to convey a message that something is safe.

Continue reading the story: How safe are natural insecticides? | EPA

#### The facts about natural insecticides

Let's have a look at a couple of plant-based insecticides.

#### Neem oil



#### **Pyrethrin insecticides**

Here are the details about pyrethrin and its use as a natural insecticide:

**Active ingredient** 

#### Pyrethrin insecticides



Mode of action Affects insect's nervous system causing paralysis and death.



**Regulatory status** Permitted for organic farming in New Zealand, the EU, and the USA.



Synthetic equivalent **Pyrethroids** usually have higher efficacy and are sometimes safer.

Mixture of six Break down rapidly in the pyrethrins. environment Not very acutely toxic to humans Can cause allergic skin reactions or asthma in some people Harmful to beneficial insects, such as bees **Chemical structure** Extracted from Dalmatian chrysanthemum daisy flower (Tanacetum R¹ cinerariifolium, formerly called Pyrethrum cinerariifolium). History

Toxicity

Powdered dried flowers have been used as an insecticide, called pyrethrum, since 1000BC in China.



R²





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NATURE-CIDE is your range of natural botanical oil insecticides that *really work*, inside and out, and provide *true residual control!* 

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**ENSYSTEX.CO.NZ** 

## WATCH OUT FOR THESE 3 SUMMERTIME PESTS

## Warm temperatures have arrived, which means summer is right around the corner! Unfortunately, it also signals prime pest season.

Think: If you were a pest, where would you go?

Pests can detect food at a distance and will aim straight for the source, which could very likely be inside of your client's food processing facility. Because many pests are tiny and can fit through small spaces, they can be incredibly difficult to keep out—they might not even realize when pests are hiding in the facility. But ahead of their next audit, you'll want to do everything to prevent and remove them so there aren't any surprises that take points off your client's score.

Most facilities are already employing an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programme to proactively help prevent pests from finding a way inside. If you haven't yet implemented an IPM programme, then do so as soon as possible. IPM is a customisable, sustainable solution that focuses on prevention and exclusion tactics for pest management, using traditional treatments only as a last resort. Your IPM programme should be tailored to the individual facility, considering a variety of factors including region, surrounding environment, facility design, and more to create the most effective plan possible. Documentation is essential to IPM programmes, serving as a measure of success and marking the need for programme changes for your client to help support you and your pest management programme, which in turn demonstrates preventative and proactive pest management efforts and progress to an auditor.

It's important that an IPM programme is in place before summer, or you'll run the risk of an infestation. The three most likely pests to invade food processing facilities and cause a problem are cockroaches, ants, and flies. These pests pose the biggest threat to facilities, especially since infestations can set in rapidly during summer's prime conditions for pest activity.

#### Article continues after the advert

## **MAC**

## Merry Christmas

Slouched at home or stuck at work, Flies and insects drive you berserk. A fly in your drink or a buzz in your ear— Santa's SLAY will bring you cheer!

You've tried it all to keep them away, But nothing compares to Santa's SLAY. No need to swat, to cuss, or to fight, Santa's SLAY clears pests from sight.

It leaves no smell, no stain, no trace, Just peaceful vibes for your holiday space. So gather with family, let laughter ascend— Merry Christmas to all, from Arandee, your friend.



#### Cockroaches



A year-round threat, cockroaches pose a unique challenge to food processing facilities. Over their multi-million-year history, cockroaches have become one of the most resilient creatures in the world.

A notoriously hardy pest, they can sometimes find their way inside by hitchhiking on products or employees' personal belongings, although usually cockroaches come in directly from the outdoors. Vents, sewage pipes, and drain pipes are all potential points of entry.

Cockroaches are less likely to be spotted during business hours than some other pests because they're nocturnal pests, most often in hiding during the day.

Cockroaches are known to hide when they sense danger as well, which can make them even more difficult to detect at times. When one is spotted, it is usually a good signal that more are present and hiding in the facility walls, basement, or other areas with less human traffic.

A cockroach sighting could mean that it was forced out of hiding due to overcrowding, which is never something you want behind the scenes.

#### Ants

Like cockroaches, ants are a crawling pest that can fit through miniscule gaps in a building's exterior in search of food. They aren't known to spread diseases like cockroaches, but can compromise food products and hurt your clients bottom line in the event of product losses after they forcibly break in and steal food to eat or take back to the nest.

Their ability to use chemical trails to lead others in their colony to food sources is well documented, as is their ability to use pheromones to signal danger. These characteristics exist in most ant species, but what make ants so tough to deal with, is the diverse habits between different species.

Noting where and how many ants you've found can be valuable information for a pest management professional. That being said, accurate identification, as with cockroach species, is important.

Ant prevention is similar to cockroach prevention, and shares some similarities with fly prevention as well. The same exclusion tactics used for cockroaches, like caulking any cracks and crevices on the outside of the facility, will work for ants.

Don't forget to get your client to trim the trees and other vegetation that may touch the building exterior and provide access to the building. The only difference is that ants can fit through even smaller gaps, so it's essential for them to pay close attention to openings in your building's exterior. Regular cleaning, sanitation and garbage removal will also help remove attractants that draw ants.



Article continues after advert

## UVA LED Targeted Spectrum insect glue traps.

Targeted spectrum UVA LED Glue Board Insect Zappers and Traps Technology have advanced significantly with precision and control afforded by LED voltage-regulated technology. The need to efficiently attract and eliminate pesky and unhygienic flying insect pests has now been enhanced with over 30 different models of IP rated UVA Glue Traps and Zapper technology now available from BRC. Another great thing about BRC® tech is our LED tubes can be retrofitted into many other brands of insect glue boards and zappers to replace standard UV-A fluorescent tubes. BRC LED UVA tubes are available to fit a range of ATHENA, CAPTURE, AGR, ITRAP, FTC, HALO and CHAMELEON Light Traps. Making a change to UVA LED makes sense - standard flourescent tubes are being phased out of market and LED is more effective at targeting most flying insect pests - including fruit flies, butterflies and moths.



BRC LED tubes and bulbs have a specific density of LED points, which provides homogeneous distribution of the flux, and has a favorable impact on the attraction of insects (positive phototaxis). Ask our crew at BRCNZ.co.nz for more information and supply options. BRC LED technology not only provides the best value and quality for insect control - but also ensures a hygienic environment for work and living spaces with BRC Traps, Sterilization and Hygiene systems.

## BRCNZ ARE ASSOCIATED WITH PEST-TECH ADVANCED PEST CONTROL SOLUTIONS.

- AuroTrap™ Multi-kill rodent kill-traps
- EGleek™ target species capture, I.D., counting and auto reporting.
- TubeTrap<sup>™</sup> control, elimination and re-wilding options.
- BRCNZ UVA LED Glue Traps and Zappers. With retrofittable long-life, low energy bulbs.
- MinkPolice<sup>™</sup> / TrapSensor real-time remote managed, multi-trap tech.
- NATTARO<sup>™</sup> Bed Bug monitor traps. Self-servicing, 24/7 monitoring.
- HeatMe<sup>™</sup> Thermal eradication ro eliminate termites, wood boring species and bed bugs. 100% effective, non toxic - multiple advantages.

## UV-A L.E.D. PEST TECH TARGETED INSECT CONTROL!

MGi UVA L.E.D. GLUE BOARD INSECT ZAPPER is targeted and fast pest elimination. Unique, modern design, the MGi blends perfectly to compliment commercial or residential spaces.



#### Flies

In terms of filth, flies are even worse than cockroaches—they're twice as filthy and are often nicknamed the microbial dispenser. They spend most of their time feeding on garbage and organic material, and then will go straight from these areas to land on a food source. When they do so, they transfer thousands of potentially disease-spreading pathogens just like cockroaches.

One type of fly that is frequently overlooked is the drain fly, which is appropriately named after its tendency to feed and breed in drains where organic material has not been completely washed away. These little flies will look like gnats in the air and can move from drain to drain in a facility if the problem is not resolved quickly. Keeping drains clean and free of debris is the only way to keep them from making your facility their new home.

Like both cockroaches and ants, proper sanitation will eliminate many of the attractants that draw flies inside. It is important to get your client to install screens over windows and avoid leaving doors open for extended periods of time. Often flies get in by simply flying through the front door, especially if the building has a negative air pressure. Installing automatic doors, air curtains, maintaining positive air pressure, and insect light traps can help greatly decrease the likelihood of a rogue fly finding its way inside of a facility.

While all three of these pests have similar habits, and can be prevented using some of the same methods, each poses its own challenge to food processing facilities.

Cleanliness and maintenance can make a huge difference in the battle against summer pests, but a full IPM programme is the best way to make sure your client's facility is prepared for pests during the season they're most active.







#### The Original Professional Strength Insecticide

#### Leading General Purpose Pest Solution

- The original bifenthrin a professional strength low odour emulsifiable concentrate formulation that is easy to mix
- Class leading ant and spider control
- Registered for use on residential and commercial properties
- Safe to use on foliage will not damage lawns, gardens or greenery
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## **Science News**

## House Fly Resistance to One Neonic Insecticide Doesn't Extend to Others, Study Shows



It is not uncommon for insects to develop resistance to an entire class of insecticides based on overexposure to one. But a new study offers some good news in the case of house flies (Musca domestica) with behavioral resistance to imidacloprid, finding no apparent cross-resistance to other neonicotinoid insecticides. (Photo by Caleb Hubbard, Ph.D.)

One of the most common methods to control house flies are toxic baits, which contain a phagostimulant (a substance that induces feeding, in this case usually based on sucrose) and toxic insecticide. Overuse and misuse of insecticides, however, have resulted in resistance to every major insecticide class.

Insecticide resistance can take two forms—physiological or behavioural. Physiological resistance involves mutations that modify the insecticide's target site or boosting expression of genes to produce enzymes that detoxify insecticides. Behavioural resistance is the evolution of responses to toxicants that help the insect avoid the lethal effects of the insecticide and reduce exposure to the chemicals.

Neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides are commonly used against insect pests. Imidacloprid is the most common of these insecticides, routinely used in baits against house flies. However, house flies have developed both physiological and behavioural resistance to imidacloprid.

Other neonics could be used that are chemically different from imidacloprid. A team from the University of California, Riverside, decided to investigate whether flies that were resistant to imidacloprid could show "cross-resistance," that is, resistance to other members of the same insecticide class. Their study, published in August in the Journal of Medical Entomology, shows that, at least in their sample of house flies resistant to imidacloprid, the flies showed no behavioural cross-resistance to other neonicotinoids.

Source Entomology Today — Read Original HERE



## **Science News**

## Novel way to beat dengue:

## Deaf mosquitoes stop having sex



Scientists believe they have found a quirky way to fight mosquito-spread diseases such as dengue, yellow fever and Zika, after showing that deaf male insects struggle to mate and breed.

Mosquitoes have sex while flying in mid-air and the males rely on hearing to chase down a female, based on her attractive wingbeats.

The researchers did an experiment, altering a genetic pathway that male mosquitoes use for this hearing. The result - they made no physical contact with females, even after three days in the same cage.

Female mosquitoes are the ones that spread diseases to people, and so trying to prevent them having babies would help reduce overall numbers.

The team from the University of California, Santa Barbara, studied Aedes aegypti mosquitoes, which spread viruses to around 400 million people a year.

They closely observed the insects' aerial mating habits - that can last between a few seconds and just under a minute - and then figured out how to disrupt it using genetics.

They targeted a protein called trpVa that appears to be essential for hearing.

In the mutated mosquitoes, neurons normally involved in detecting sound showed no response to the flight tones or wingbeats of potential mates.

Source **BBC** — Read Original <u>HERE</u>



## News Worth Sharing

New York's Rats Given More Access to Birth Control Than Women in Some States



#### A rat looks for food unperturbed by humans while on a subway platform at the Columbus Circle 59th Street station on May 8, 2023, in New York City. Gary Hershorn/Getty Images

The handing out of free contraceptives to New York's rats also presents a startling fact: Rodents in the city will have easier access to free birth control than some American women.

Rat contraceptives look set to be made widely available in some areas, though.

ContraPest, as it is known, is made by SenesTech. The product prevents rats from reproducing for 45 days after consuming it, according to Sky News. A New Scientist article written in 2017 claims ContraPest worked by making rats infertile because it triggered early menopause in females while impairing sperm production in the males.

Newsweek has reached out to SenesTech via an online form on its website for comment.

The company's website says the contraceptive comes in liquid form and is the "only EPAapproved contraceptive for both male and female rats, targeting the source of reproduction."

Supporters, such as the animal rights charity PETA, say the method is more humane than killing the rodents and there is no danger of killing other animals by mistake, which is a known risk with poison.

Source Newsweek — Read Original HERE



#### **NEW ZEALAND NEWS**



## World first: revival of the rat-specific toxin

A new breakthrough in predator control is on the horizon — a rat-specific toxin that leaves birds, pets, and livestock unharmed. Scientists worldwide have been exploring how to make it palatable to rats. We spoke with Dr Lee Shapiro about a new norbormide formulation and method, which he believes will be "an essential new tool in the predator free toolkit."



Research has discovered a formulation of norbormide which is palatable, effective, and fast acting in rats. Image credit: PFNZ

## A targeted approach

<u>Rats thrive across most of the country</u>: in our deepest forests, on farms, scurrying through compost bins, city streets, <u>even our supermarkets</u>.

We have tools for controlling numbers in *some* environments, various toxins and traps, but they all come with their own complications and compromises.

What makes the toxin norbormide so exciting is that by targeting one species alone it can be used in any number of different environments safely.

Norbormide isn't harmful to native birds or, indeed, any other creatures.

It doesn't bio-accumulate, i.e., it can't be passed on to other animals who might scavenge any carrion, and it poses no danger to livestock or family pets.

## A blast from the past

Norbormide has been around since the 1960s.

Interesting <u>side story</u>: it was accidentally discovered in an American laboratory when researchers were searching for a new antirheumatic drug.

When that didn't work, they investigated its potential as an appetite suppressant. It had no ill effects on house mice or cats, but to their surprise, it had a remarkable effect on the Rattus species.

Article continues on next page

As an ultra-targeted toxin, it has always had huge potential but has never been widely used. It is fastacting, preventing the circulation of oxygen in the blood and killing its targets within an hour.

Unfortunately, this was also its downside.

"Rats are incredibly clever creatures; they have a feeding strategy that has allowed them to be very adaptive," Lee explains. "When they enter a new environment, they will nibble on any unfamiliar food and essentially wait to see if it has any ill effects."

If rats consumed a sub-lethal dose, they quickly became sick and learned to avoid it, so the compound largely faded into obscurity. "What you need are poisons with a slow onset of symptoms, or you need to trick them into eating it."

#### **Outsmarting the pests**

The trick is pre-baiting, leaving a non-toxic form of the bait out for weeks and replacing it with the toxic version.

"The rat comes along and says "yeah, I know this" and you've already overcome that aversion."

Lee has been working on this research with Boffa Miskell, the University of Auckland, and Invasive Pest Control, with <u>funding from Predator Free 2050</u> Limited, conducting field trials and landing upon solutions to make the poison more palatable and find strategies to make the delivery as effective and efficient as possible.

The results have been promising. <u>Norbormide-</u> <u>containing paste baits proved highly effective</u>, achieving elimination of Norway rat populations on three poultry farms and ship rats at two large field test sites.

The research is now in the hands of the government to approve registration. If all goes to plan, norbormide could be in widespread usage across the country very soon.



Norbormide was marketed as a species-selective rodenticide in the 1960s and 70s. Image credit: eBay

"It's not a silver bullet."

Lee explains that other tools work better in different situations, such as GPS-guided 1080, AI smart traps, and others.

"Norbormide really fits by targeting rats and removing that risk to non-target species. It's a tool for improving our ability to respond to rodent control across all the different habitat types, whether that's off-shore, high country, native bush or urban environments."

Norbormide's targeted nature and relative safety make it an uncontroversial poison that can ramp up control of one of our biggest pests and ultimately make the 2050 target more achievable.

Source: Predatorfree NZ— Read Original HERE





**Patent Pending** 

The Future of Bird Deterrent Technology

I'm excited to introduce not only the brand new Symterra Pulse system but also a limited opportunity to access the system, that launched on November 15, 2024.

#### About Flock Off:

All New

Flock Off was launched in Australia and New Zealand by PestIT and is now known as Symterra. This is a electromagnetic bird deterrent system that creates an invisible, humane bird deterrent barrier around your building. Symterra Pulse is designed to permanently prevent birds from landing on or around structures, without the use of chemicals, poisons or physical traps.

#### **Key Features of Symterra Pulse:**

Electromagnetic Field: Disrupts birds' navigation, making it impossible for them to land.

Discreet & Low-Impact: Minimal visual presence compared to netting or spikes.

Fast Installation: Requires fewer structural modifications, reducing labour time and costs.

Eco-Friendly: No harmful chemicals or traps, making it an environmentally friendly solution.

#### Exclusive Offer: for the NEW Symterra Pulse System

We are pleased to offer you early access to the Symterra Pulse System, our upgraded system available (only 20 Symterra Pulse Kits available in November 2024) before our next production run in January 2025.

This advanced system offers several improvements over the original Flock Off, including:

- **Enhanced Bird Deterrence:**
- Faster and Easier Installation:

- Suitability for High-Risk Areas:
- Lower Maintenance:
- No Open Circuit Risk:
- Higher Compliance:

This limited release of Symterra Pulse is available for immediate pre-order, and I encourage you to act quickly (before October 31) or sooner as the next production run won't be available until January 2025.

#### **Next Steps:**

This current offer is supplied on a "first in" order preference. Please confirm your interest and the number of kits needed, and I can formalise a plan with you or your certified installer.

#### For more information, see the Symterra Pulse Introduction on the next pages.

Please let us know if we need to reserve a required number of systems for your Project?

We look forward to discussing how we can help you manage your bird issues with these advanced systems.

Regards,

Peter McCarthy, & Jason Costello

**New Zealand Sales:** 

**Contact: Jason Costello** Mobile: 027 345 0044 Email: jason@flockoff.co.nz

Peter McCarthy Office: 1300 665 657 Email: peter@pestIT.com

Corrosion Resistance:

## All New Symterra Pulse



## The Future of Bird Deterrent Technology

#### What is Symterra Pulse?

Symterra Pulse is the latest innovation in bird deterrent technology, designed to keep your property free from unwanted birds without harming them. Utilizing advanced, proprietary technology, Symterra Pulse creates an invisible barrier that birds won't cross. Whether you're protecting a commercial building, an industrial site, or your home, Symterra Pulse offers a reliable, humane, and effective solution for bird control.





#### Why Choose Symterra Pulse?

• Advanced Technology:

Symterra Pulse uses a proprietary signal to deter birds, ensuring effective protection across a wide range of environments.

• Humane Bird Control:

Our system deters birds without harming them, keeping your property bird-free and maintaining ethical standards.

• Easy Installation:

Designed for quick and straightforward installation, Symterra Pulse can be set up without the need for specialized tools or technical expertise.

Low Maintenance:

Once installed, Symterra Pulse requires minimal upkeep, providing long-lasting protection with little to no intervention.

#### • Flexible Design:

Choose from multiple mounting and height combinations and paintable parts to ensure that Symterra Pulse works with your architecture and blends seamlessly with your property's aesthetic.

## **How Symterra Pulse Works**



Symterra Pulse creates a deterrent zone around your property by emitting a unique signal that birds perceive as an area to avoid. This signal, akin to a force field, keeps birds from landing and nesting in protected areas. The system is safe for birds, pets, and humans, operating at a voltage similar to household appliances.

## Symterra Pulse Components and Their Functions

Symterra Pulse is composed of several key components that work together to provide effective bird deterrence. Here's a breakdown of each component and its role in the system:



#### **Emitting Line**

#### **Control Hub**

The heart of the Symterra Pulse system, the Control Hub generates and manages the proprietary signals that create the deterrent zone. It is easy to install and connect to your existing power supply, providing continuous protection with minimal energy use.

The Emitting Line is the primary physical component that extends the deterrent signal across your property. It is designed to be flexible and can be installed on various surfaces such as rooftops, ledges, or beams. The Emitting Line length can be customised to suit your specific needs and property layout.





#### Supports

These small, discreet holders secure the Emitting Line in place while ensuring it maintains the proper height and alignment for optimal performance. Supports are available in various heights to accommodate different installation requirements and surfaces.

#### **Line Extenders**

These connectors are used to join multiple sections of the Emitting Line together, ensuring a secure and seamless connection. Line Extenders are durable and designed to maintain the integrity of the signal throughout the entire system.



#### Simple Installation and Customization

Installing Symterra Pulse is relatively straightforward and can be completed in less than a day. The system is designed to be flexible, with multiple mounting options that allow it to be installed on various surfaces, including metal, wood, and concrete. Additionally, Symterra Pulse is customizable to match your property's design, with colour options and paintable parts that blend seamlessly with your surroundings.

## **Ready to Protect Your Property?**

Don't let birds become a problem on your property. Symterra Pulse is the reliable, humane, and effective solution you've been looking for. Click below to learn more or to purchase Symterra Pulse today!

#### **Certified Installers**

Since launching the Flock Off system in 2022, PestIT and Bird Control Systems NZ have trained and certified installation companies throughout Australia and New Zealand. For technical assistance, system design, product support and training, please contact:

#### Australia Sales:



26 Mologa Road Heidelberg West, VIC 3081 Email: <u>sales@pestIT.com</u> Ph 1300 66 56 57 | Mobile 0438 665 657 | <u>www.pestIT.com</u> Cleaner | Greener | Smarter | Pest IT

## **Workforce Development Funding News!**

A new fund, the Workforce Futures Fund | Tahua Rāngaimahi Anamata, opens in February 2025 for applications to support workforce training initiatives in eight specified industries, including Urban Pest Management.

#### **Fund Details**

The \$15 million Workforce Futures Fund is expected to be distributed over the next few years through two annual grant rounds. However, the actual lifespan of the fund will depend on the volume and value of applications received. Projects will need to benefit the industry overall, rather than just one company.

The fund's purpose is to support innovation in workforce development and demonstrate the value of strategic investment. It will support greater use of technology; collaboration across workforces; and projects that build or improve service delivery.

It will fund:

- Vocational training, workforce development and education;
- Programmes, information and resources to promote best practice and continuous improvement; and
- Attracting people to work in the sectors and workforce retention.

#### **First Funding Round**

The first round of applications opens in mid-February 2025. For more information visit www.workforcefuturesfund.nz.

Further details will be posted on the PMANZ website and included in future newsletters, as they become available.

#### **Fund Origin and Management**

The fund was created using reserves from Careerforce after its merger into Te Pūkenga as part of the Reform of Vocational Education. The Community Social Services Industry Training Organisation (CSSITO), a charitable company with registered charity status, holds the funds. CSSITO's shareholders include representatives from the eight sectors: Aged Care, Ara Taiohi, Building Services, Disability, Home & Community Health, Platform Charitable Trust, Social Services Providers Association and Pest Management Association of New Zealand (PMANZ)

#### **PMANZ** involvement

PMANZ plans to apply for funding, for projects that will be developed through its Council members. These projects will be planned to benefit PMANZ members, together with the wider Urban Pest Management industry.



The PMANZ Continuous Professional Development programme continues to gain momentum. Nearly 170 members have now achieved the 20 points required for next year's renewal as Master Qualified Technicians – well done to you!

Full details of everyone's CPD status – modules passed and points earned – have been updated onto your individual accounts on the PMANZ website.

Also, every qualified member will shortly be receiving an email with advice about your current CPD points status, together with pointers to the PMANZ CPD modules and quizzes for those who haven't (yet!) achieved the 20 points, not forgetting that members operating via the Australian units also need to complete the NZ Legislation quiz.

If you're in doubt about your own CPD status or need help accessing the online modules on the PMANZ website – just call us on the 0800 number (0800 476 269) and David will be pleased to assist.

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A walk down Memory Lane Extracted from PMANZ Newsletter of December 2014

## Rodent glueboards prohibited from 1 January 2015



ED: The following message came through to me from Dr Kate Littin, Manager, Standards Programme, Animal Welfare Animal and Animal Products, Regulation & Assurance, Ministry for Primary Industries; regarding the prohibition of glueboards.

It is part of a wider advertising campaign from MPI relating to this change in regulations.

The sale and use of rodent glueboards will be prohibited from 1 January 2015, under the Animal Welfare (Glueboard Traps) Order 2009.

"Now is a good time to think hard about whether you need to use rodent glueboards at all," she said, and raised the following points for consideration:

□ You will need Ministerial approval if you have to use or sell rodent glueboards (or if you supervise others who use them).

□ To get approval, you will need to show that you have considered alternative techniques and describe what rules and requirements you have to meet through the use of glueboards.

□ You'll also need to describe your IPM layout. Users have to meet a number of conditions.

□ Boards have to be checked as often as possible and at least daily, as is the case now, and rodents have to be killed humanely and checked that they are dead before disposing of the board.

□ Approvals will normally be issued for one year, and you'll be required to report on the number of boards used and rodent and non-target captures.

Most importantly, you'll have to follow your PMANZ code of practice and Standard Operating Procedure. This is being finalised now. Or you can supply your own SOP when you apply for approval.

Approval is being processed now for the main suppliers. Make sure your supplier has approval before you have to rely on them in a hurry.

If you cannot do without glueboards in 2015, see PMANZ website for more detail or email animal-welfare@mpi.govt.nz for the application form.

ED: The **Code of Practice** (COP) and **Standard Operating Procedures** (SOP) for the continued use of glueboards are on the PMANZ website Members Area.

## **Technical News**

By Dr Paul Craddock

### Understanding Pesticide Exposure and Toxicity



As we head into the spray season for pest control, here is an important reminder on understanding **Pesticide Exposure and Toxicity.** 

In pest management, understanding the relationship between toxicity and exposure is crucial. The formula to remember is:

## Hazard = Toxicity x Exposure

This means that the risk (or hazard) depends on both the toxicity of the pesticide and the level of exposure to it.

A new technician recently expressed concerns about the long-term effects of working with pesticides, especially during exterior sprays. It is important to know that many pest management professionals enjoy long careers with no issues by understanding and managing these risks.

#### What is Toxicity?

Toxicity refers to a substance's ability to cause harm to living organisms. For pesticides, this is measured by the chemical properties and concentration of the product. There are two main types of toxicity

Acute Toxicity: Immediate effects from a single or short-term exposure, often measured by the LD50 value (the dose required to kill 50% of a test animal population). A lower LD50 means higher toxicity.

**Chronic Toxicity:** Effects from long-term or repeated exposure, which can include cancer, reproductive harm, or other long-term health issues.

In New Zealand, hazardous substances are labelled with specific signal words to indicate their level of danger.

These signal words are part of the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) for classifying and labelling chemicals. These signal words help users quickly understand the potential hazards and take appropriate precautions when handling these substances.

If you need more detailed information, you can refer to the product's Safety Data Sheet (SDS) or the EPA's guidelines on hazardous substances labelling.



The two main signal words used are:

**DANGER:** This is used for the most dangerous substances.

**WARNING:** This is used for less dangerous substances

Additionally, products imported from Australia might use other signal words such as **CAUTION, POISON**, or **DANGEROUS POI-SON**, with **CAUTION** indicating the least dangerous and **DANGEROUS POISON** indicating the most dangerous substances

For example, a product labelled "CAUTION" requires a larger dose to cause harm compared to one labelled "DANGER-POISON."

Hazard Statements: Hazard statements may also be on the label. These statements alert you to the harm that the product can cause for example, MAY CAUSE MILD SKIN IRRITATION.

**Precautionary statements:** Precautionary statements are phrases on the label that describe what you should do to reduce or prevent harm from hazardous substances, for example, **KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHIL-DREN, or USE ONLY OUTDOORS OR IN A WELL-VENTILATED AREA.** 

**Symbols on the labels:** Product labels sometimes have symbols (see pictograms over page) on them to warn you about the harmful properties of the product.

## **GHS HAZARDS PICTOGRAMS**



GHS01: Explosive



GHS02: Flammable



GHS03: Oxidizing



GHS04: Compressed Gas



GHS05: Corrosive



GHS06: Toxic



GHS07: Harmful



GHS08: Health hazard



GHS09: Environmental hazard

#### **Reducing Hazard and Risk:**

While you cannot change a product's toxicity, you can reduce your exposure to minimize risk. Here are some tips:

**Personal Protective Equipment:** Always wear the personal protective equipment (PPE) specified on the label. Consider additional PPE if necessary. Make sure the PPE is up to standard and fit for the purpose (e.g., use nitrile gloves, not latex rubber). For example, wear the correct filters on your mask and ensure these are up to date and not expired. Also make sure your gloves are long enough to cover the gap between your overall cuff and wrist.



#### Be Cautious During High-Risk Activities:

Mixing and loading liquid concentrates carry the highest exposure risk as the chemical is at its most concentrated at this point. Follow any additional PPE requirements during these tasks. Always wear gloves when holding or handling bottles or containers of chemical (even if they are closed) as they may easily be contaminated by residue & drips etc on the outside.

#### **Choose the Right Formulation:**

Different formulations pose different risks. For example, emulsifiable concentrates have higher dermal exposure risks, while wettable powders have higher inhalation risks. Water dispersible granules generally pose lower risks.

Practice Good Hygiene: After work, wash your hands thoroughly, change out of work clothes, and wash your uniform and overalls separately from family laundry to prevent contamination. Regularly clean and maintain your other PPE.

Wear clean overalls daily and remove overalls between jobs. Do not sit in contaminated overalls in your vehicle driving to the next job.

Learn how to don and doff PPE correctly to avoid cross contamination. This includes tips like turning gloves and overalls inside out to prevent contamination of your vehicle. Another tip is to have a "clean" and "dirty" area in your vehicle where only clean or dirty PPE is stored respectively. Keep a supply of paper towels and wetwipes to wash and dry yourself and your PPE.

#### Maintain your PPE:

Regularly clean and maintain your PPE, like masks. Make sure mask valves, seals and filters are working properly and you have conducted a proper fit test. Rubber seals deteriorate over time and masks should be replaced periodically. Also replace your coveralls periodically, particularly when the elastic cuffs begin to deteriorate or they become ripped or worn out.

#### **Conclusion:**

In New Zealand, all pesticides must be approved by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), ensuring they do not pose unreasonable risks to humans, wildlife, or the environment. Understanding how toxicity, exposure, and hazard are related is key to safely managing pesticides.

Always follow label instructions and refer to the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for comprehensive safety information. Reducing exposure is essential to minimizing risk while effectively controlling pest populations.

Continued vigilance & self-discipline is the key, as it is all too easy to skip safety steps when we are busy, tired, rushed etc. during our day-to-day duties, meaning we unintentionally increase our exposure to the hazardous substances we use.



## **Technical News continued**

### **Oddspot: The Australian Winged Wētā**



Australian Winged Weta Photo: Gerwyn Jones

Our new PMANZ president, Gerwyn Jones, recently spotted this weird looking wētā, noting it had wings and looked more like a big cricket.

What he had actually found was a specimen of the Australian Winged Wētā, an invasive species in New Zealand. This species has been causing some concern among conservationists since its first recorded sighting in New Zealand in 1990. This small, winged insect, originally from Australia (where it called the King Cricket), has established itself in warmer regions such as Auckland, Waikato and the Coromandel Peninsula, and has been expanding its range, most recently being spotted in Northland.

Looking much like New Zealand's native wētā, it grows to about 30-37 millimetres. The key distinguishing feature is the presence of small, transparent wings similar to those of a cicada. Primarily nocturnal, the Australian Winged Wētā is active at night, which helps it avoid predators and find food. Unlike many native New Zealand wētā, which are often herbivorous, this species is likely carnivorous, feeding on other small invertebrates. Despite having wings, it is not known for strong flying abilities, using its wings more for short glides or jumps.

Article continues on next page

The presence of the Australian Winged Wetā poses several threats to native species:

- **Competition for Resources**: It competes with native wetā for food and habitat, potentially reducing the availability of these resources for native species.
- **Habitat Displacement**: By occupying crucial habitats, it can displace native wetā, leading to reduced habitat availability.
- **Ecosystem Dynamics**: Its presence can alter the dynamics of the ecosystem, affecting the food web and the survival of native species.

Typically, we advise Pest Controllers to avoid treating wetā or applying insecticides where wetā are present. However, as this species is non-native, reducing its population will mitigate its impact on native species.



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## **Photo Competition**

#### PMANZ



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Send us your best pest photos and we will ensure they are printed in each newsletter issue with a final prize at the end of 2025 of \$350.00 for the best photo adjudged by the council meeting in November 2025

Max Bell of Pestproof NZ sent through this message and two photos.

"Just reading the latest newsletter. Great info in the newsletter thanks. A couple of photos of work stories for the photo section of the newsletter."



Encountering geckos in roof cavities. This is a Raukawa gecko, or NZ common gecko. Photo Max Bell



Collecting bedbugs from the field for product testing: Photo Max Bell

## For Sale - Commercial Pest Control Business, Auckland

Owner retiring from this successful part time business

Long standing customers (some over twenty years) include:

Food Manufacturing Transitional Facilities Manufacturing Industrial Transport Schools Clubs

No residential work

Formal (one and two year) contracts with some customers

Integrated Pest Management Systems in place

Equipment to go with the sale:

- IGEBA TF35 thermal fogger. 10l tank
- Solo back pack sprayer
- Solo 2I sprayer
- Rega hand held sprayer
- Macromist wet/mist fogger
- All pest control devices on each site including all Insect Light Traps (35 units)
- Vehicle optional

Contact Kevin on 021535405

## 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. Lifeline 0800 543 354 or text 4357 Samaritans 0800 726 666

You can also access trained counsellors for free by **texting or calling 1737**.

#### Call or text for free support

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

#### 1737.org.nz(external link)

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

Depression.org.nz(external link)

<u>Helplines(external link)</u> — Mental Health Foundation

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

#### Source Information Provided by:



#### https://www.business.govt.nz/



MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT HIKINA WHAKATUTUKI



## Take the stress out of tax



#### **NEED TAX GUIDANCE**

Just click on the illustration to take you to the IRD Tax Toolbox

## **Technical Hints - Know your NZ cockroaches**

#### Cockroach (Native Bush)

Celatoblatta spp, Kingdom: Animalia Phylum: Arthropoda Class: Insecta Subclass: Pterygota Infraclass: Neoptera Superorder: Dictyoptera Order: Blattodea Family: Blattidae Species: Celatoblatta (about 16 species) Common name: Native Bush Cockroach,



These small cockroaches are NZ natives. They are found in logs and leaf litter, under loose bark. Most of the species favours damp, dark habitats. They are not a household pest. They are usually introduced into a house usually by firewood. They are omnivorous and may feed on all sorts of organic materials. They can even eat dead wood, which they digest with the help of symbiotic gut flora. The species Celatoblatta quinquemaculata can be found under slabs of rock in the subalpine and alpine regions of New Zealand. It is unusual because it survives through freezing conditions by allowing the water within its body to freeze and as temperature rises they become active.





Juvenile

# more than a membership IT'S A PARTNERSHIP