



Pests and Pesticides in Child-serving Facilities: An IPM Newsletter

UT Online School Pest Management Survey— Deadline for Entry is December 31, 2009

By Karen Vail

Most of you, as the individual in your school district most responsible for pest management decisions, should have received an email invitation to conduct an online pest management survey. The e-mail explained the details of the survey and provided a unique logon identifier. Should you fail to receive your logon identifier information, please contact Karen Vail at kvail@utk.edu or 865-974-7138. Only one survey can be completed for any school within the same school year.

The results of this questionnaire will direct our efforts to further educate and support Tennessee child-serving facilities in pest management practices that reduce and balance children’s exposure to pests and pesticides. Based on the information you provide on your questionnaire, facilities will receive a rating of “no”, “low”, “medium”, or “high” IPM use. Those facilities rating “low”, “medium” or “high” IPM will receive a certificate and be listed on the UT YEAH web site with the facility’s name and rating. This will let your families know that you are working to reduce exposure to pests and pesticides.

The deadline to enter data in the survey is December 31, 2009.

Federal School Pesticide Bill Introduced

From Zach Bruns, IPM Institute

“On December 1st, Rep. Rush Holt (NJ) and 14 cosponsors introduced a new and improved version of the *School Environment Protection Act* (SEPA) --[HR 4159](#). This bill will take hazardous pesticides out of the schools nationwide, requiring the adoption of defined pest management methods in schools that prohibit chemicals with listed adverse health and environmental effects and missing data. It creates a national School IPM (integrated pest management) Advisory Board with independent authority to establish the allowable "least-toxic" materials in schools with a technical advisory panel (modeled on the National Organic Standards Board).”

Special points of interest:

- > [UT Online Pest Management Survey Due December 31, 2009](#)
- > [New School Pesticide Bill Introduced](#)
- > [School IPM Advisory Board Meeting Dec. 4](#)
- > [New US Pest, bean platanid, found in Georgia.](#)

The Tennessee school IPM advisory board will meet, Friday, December 4 from 1:30 to ~ 3:30 central time and will provide input into existing and future UT school IPM programs

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Tennessee School IPM Advisory Board to Meet Friday, December 4, 2009

By Karen Vail

The Tennessee school IPM advisory board will meet, Friday, December 4 from 1:30 to ~ 3:30 central time. The meeting will be held in UT Extension's Central Region Office located at 5201 Marchant Drive, Nashville, TN (615-832-6550). The board will provide input into existing and future UT school IPM programs.

Agenda

1:30 Central Time Start

Board Members Introductions

Introduction to School IPM

Discussion of TN School IPM Demonstrations: Rhea, Cumberland and Moore Counties

Update of Other UT Extension Efforts to Increase IPM Adoption in Tennessee

Stakeholder Input for the 2010 USDA Extension IPM Grant

Discussion/Review of New or Revised Publications:

Managing Fire Ants in and Around Tennessee's Schools,
PB1603, &
SP674

3:30 Conclude

While we cannot invite all of school pest management decision-makers to attend at the meeting site, you can log into the session via the internet. Directions for attending via the internet (Centra) are listed below. You'll need to download the Centra program as described below. Please do this ahead of time so you can fix any problems prior to the meeting. If a large number of participants are involved, it will be difficult to get input from everyone. If your Centra raised hand is not recognized during the session, you should send me comments via email (kvail@utk.edu).

Internet or Centra Directions:

Access Centra via LiveOnline@UT at <http://liveonline.utk.edu> and install/reinstall the Centra client.

Click "System Requirements" (1st button under Technical Support).

Check your system requirements.

Under Download Centra Software, select PC: "Download Centra"

Follow the steps to install the software.

To access a Centra session:

Open <http://liveonline.utk.edu>; bookmark this site for easy access.

Click the "Login to LiveOnline" button in the upper right hand corner of the page.

You are a participant wishing to attend a meeting, so click "Attend"; enter the Event ID number (LKT203279). You'll then be prompted for your email address.

This session may be recorded and each attendee may have the capability of distributing this recording. Each participant's use of recordings and participant information is subject to U.S. and international privacy laws.

Another Brown Speckled Bug Invading Structures!

By Beth Long and Karen Vail

Ah, the joys of late fall. Leaves changing color and falling, and lady beetles, brown stink bugs and other critters looking for a nice warm place to go for a long winter's nap ...

And now in Georgia, a new exotic insect has been found, one that feeds on kudzu as well as legume crops, such as soybeans. According to USDA APHIS PPQ, confirmation was received on Friday, November 6th of a species new to the United States. The plataspid bug, *Megacopta cribraria* (Fabricius), was identified by Joe Eger (Dow AgroSciences) and entomologists at North Dakota State University and the USDA-ARS Systematic Entomology Laboratory. On November 3rd, the Extension Service, along with Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA) and PPQ personnel conducted a survey in several Georgia counties. Large numbers of this plataspid were found in and around kudzu patches. Multiple life-stages were found in the kudzu leading all to believe the insects have been feeding on it for the past year.

This insect is native to India and China, and has not been found in Tennessee or in any U.S. state other than Georgia. For the last several weeks, the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service has been receiving calls from homeowners and pest control operators about small beetles amassing on and around white houses in several Northeast Georgia counties including Barrow, Gwinnett, Jackson, Clarke, Hall, Greene, Oconee and Walton counties.

The insect, also called the bean plataspid, seems to be attracted to light surfaces and appears to be most active during warm periods of the day. This is similar to the congregating activity that might be reported by homeowners calling about the brown marmorated stink bug, a similar brown speckled insect that we are monitoring for in Tennessee. However, according to Dr. Dan Suiter, an entomologist with the UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, this new exotic species is rounded, pea-sized and brownish with a wide posterior.

If you receive reports of this insect or of the brown marmorated stink bug, please send samples to Dr. Karen Vail at UT Knoxville for identification.

For more information, go to <http://www.bugwood.org/blog/archives.cfm/search/?term=bean+plataspid>



Megacopta cribraria
(4-5 mm). Joe Eger, Dow
AgroSciences



Bean plataspids aggregated in a
corner. D. Suiter, UGA



M. cribraria on fascia boards.
D. Suiter, UGA

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**Comments or questions
 on this newsletter?
 Contact kvail@utk.edu**

For more information about IPM in Tennessee schools and other facilities, or to view past issues of *Pests and Pesticides in Child-serving Facilities*, please visit schoolipm.utk.edu or utyeah.utk.edu

NATIONAL IPM INFORMATION

eXtension's Pest Management In and Around Structures: Urban Integrated Pest Management
<http://www.extension.org/Urban%20Integrated%20Pest%20Management>

National School IPM
schoolipm.ifas.ufl.edu/

IPM in Schools Texas
schoolipm.tamu.edu/resources.htm

IPM Institute of North America
www.ipminstitute.org/

School IPM PMSP—all schools IPM by 2015
http://www.ipminstitute.org/school_ipm_2015.htm

National Pest Management Association IPM
www.whatisipm.org/

EPA schools
www.epa.gov/pesticides/ipm/schoolipm/index.html

For further information about the IPM program at your school or in your county, contact your county Extension Agent or the school IPM Coordinator. For county agent contact information, please visit www.agriculture.utk.edu/personnel/districts_counties/default.asp

Precautionary Statement

To protect people and the environment, pesticides should be used safely. This is everyone's responsibility, especially the user. Read and follow label directions carefully before you buy, mix, apply, store or dispose of a pesticide. According to laws regulating pesticides, they must be used only as directed by the label.

Disclaimer

This publication contains pesticide recommendations that are subject to change at any time. The recommendations in this publication are provided only as a guide. It is always the pesticide applicator's responsibility, by law, to read and follow all current label directions for the specific pesticide being used. The label always takes precedence over the recommendations found in this publication.

Use of trade or brand names in this publication is for clarity and information; it does not imply approval of the product to the exclusion of others that may be of similar, suitable composition, nor does it guarantee or warrant the standard of the product. The author(s), the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture and University of Tennessee Extension assume no liability resulting from the use of these recommendations.

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