

School & Home Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Newsletter – April 2017



COLLEGE OF
AGRICULTURE
& LIFE SCIENCES
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

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Arizona School Earns National Recognition – IPM STAR Award

One of the major programs conducted by the University of Arizona (UA) Community IPM Team is **the Arizona School Integrated Pest Management Program**. Our approach to implementation of IPM in schools includes both indoor and outdoor environments. Some of the common problems in school **indoor** spaces are cockroaches, bed bugs, mosquitoes, ants, flies and rodents. **Outdoor** issues faced by schools include mosquitoes, stinging insects, weeds, poor turf and irrigation management and improper selection of landscape plants. These issues often result in unnecessary expenses and under-utilization of the full potential and functionality of school indoor and outdoor environments, causing anxiety and stress to students, teachers staff and parents.



Team members meet school staff before an IPM visit

The UA team conducts initial indoor and outdoor IPM assessments in our partnering schools and provides prioritized recommendations to school staff and administrators. The team members work with the school staff to implement those recommendations and the progress

towards achieving the IPM goals is closely monitored. The Team also provides IPM trainings, and other educational events each year for school district staff, as well as up-to-date information on pests and pest management in school and community environments through pest newsletters, fact sheets, training practicums, and more. District contacts develop enduring connections with subject matter experts and the UA Team serves as an ongoing resource and promptly responds to staff questions about pests, pest management, and site management to reduce pest problems.

Schools with excellent performance in IPM practices are encouraged to apply for IPM STAR certification by the IPM Institute of North America. The district undergoes a rigorous evaluation by the independent organization. One of our partnering school districts, **Maricopa Unified School District**, recently earned national recognition through their IPM STAR Certification awarded by the IPM Institute of North America. Facility management improvements championed by Dan Vezie, Chad Whittle and Jim Shoaf (MUSD) have ensured safe, vibrant learning environments for Maricopa students. Read more about their success story at <https://goo.gl/VjzAuQ>.



Maricopa Unified School District, AZ earned IPM STAR Certification for excellence in school

IPM STAR Certification is presented by the IPM Institute of North America in partnership with the US Environmental Protection Agency Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program. The certification program was made possible in selected school districts in Arizona with the support and assistance of the University of Arizona, Arizona Pest Management Center and collaboration

with the Southern IPM Center Enhancement grant (from USDA-NIFA) “Quantifying the Financial Cost of School IPM” awarded to Texas A&M University, Texas AgriLife Extension.

For more information on the UA Community IPM Team, our activities and collaboration opportunities, contact the Team Coordinator Shaku Nair, nairs@email.arizona.edu or visit <https://cals.arizona.edu/apmc/schoolIPM.html>.



Photo from formal presentation of the IPM STAR certification to Maricopa Unified School District in Arizona on March 29 at the school board meeting. UA team members Lucy Li, front row left, and Shaku Nair, front right, flanking Maricopa's IPM team of Dan Vezie, IPM Coordinator next to Shaku, then Chad Whittle and Jim Shoaf on Dan's crew. The others are board members and the district superintendent.

Arizona Pest Management Center Engages Tribal Communities

Dr. Shaku Nair and Dr. Shujuan (Lucy) Li, entomologists at the UA Arizona Pest Management Center, presented a two-day IPM Workshop in collaboration with the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona at the Tohono O'odham Nation in Sells, AZ on February 22-23, 2017. The workshop was aimed at promoting IPM or integrated pest management within the Tribal community, and focused on the major pest issues faced by its members. IPM is the most sensible, economical and sustainable method of managing pests. IPM integrates the use of cultural, physical, biological and chemical tools, avoiding over-dependence on any single method of pest control. This holistic approach minimizes economic, health and environmental risks. About 90 staff and administrators from various TO Nation departments attended the workshop, which will be key to

disseminating the information within the community. The Nation welcomes future collaboration with UA, and we hope this workshop will lead to many more opportunities for us to work together.



Dr. Shaku Nair, Assistant in Extension-Community IPM talks about IPM Philosophy



Dr. Lucy Li, Assistant in Extension-Public Health IPM talks about bed bugs and their management

If your school district or housing management team are in need of a pest management practicum or educational event the Community IPM team can provide education events on a cost recovery basis. For more information School Staff should contact Dr. Nair at nairs@email.arizona.edu; Housing and Medical Facility Staff should contact Dr. Li at LiSj@cals.arizona.edu.

Webinars and Events

Please join in for the [2017 All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series](#). This webinar series provides information about good and bad insects. Webinars are free and open to everyone. Webinars will be on the **first Friday of each month at 2 p.m. Eastern time.**

Upcoming webinars include:

1. Ticks - May 5, 2017
2. Aphids, Scales, and White Flies - June 2, 2017

For more information about upcoming and past School IPM webinars:

<http://articles.extension.org/pages/74016/2017-all-bugs-good-and-bad-webinar-series>.

The **EPA Center of Expertise for School IPM** is now hosting its [2016 - 2017 webinar series](#) featuring experts from across the country relaying educational and practical strategies for establishing and improving integrated pest management programs in schools.

Upcoming webinars include:

1. Contending with Invasive Plants on School Grounds - April 11, 2017
2. Managing Bed Bugs in Schools, Childcare Centers and Boarding Schools - May 9, 2017

For more information about upcoming and past School IPM webinars:

<https://www.epa.gov/managing-pests-schools/webinars-about-integrated-pest-management-schools>

April 17 (Monday), 21 (Friday), & 28 (Friday), 8:00-5:00 pm. Arizona. [Pesticide Applicator Training and Testing: A Review in Preparation for Initial Licensing Exam – Golf and Agriculture Applicators](#). University of Arizona, Maricopa County Cooperative Extension Office, 4341 E. Broadway Road, Phoenix, AZ 85040.

3 days review of the *National Pesticide Applicator Core Manual* to prepare for initial licensing exam (Exam on 28th)

<http://www.nasda.org/9381/Foundation/11379/11383/30485.aspx>. CEU's applied for April 17 and for April 21 for current license holders. Questions and to register, please see <http://turf.arizona.edu/events.htm> or contact Kai Umeda KUmeda@cals.arizona.edu.

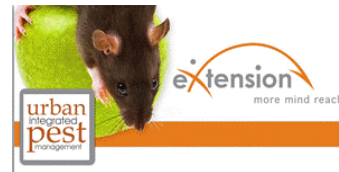
April 26, Wednesday, 9:00-12:00 pm. Arizona. [Fertilizer & Pesticide Applications Workshop: Math Made Easy and Equipment Calibration](#). University of Arizona, Maricopa County Cooperative Extension Office, 4341 E. Broadway Road, Phoenix, AZ 85040.

This workshop covers: refresh or learn to accurately apply fertilizers or pesticides; understand and calculate for accurate applications; hands-on spraying with boom, hand-gun, backpack pump sprayers; and hands-on spreading granules with centrifugal spreader. Questions and to register, please see <http://turf.arizona.edu/events.htm> or contact Kai Umeda KUmeda@cals.arizona.edu.

May 11, Thursday, 8:00-12:00 pm. Arizona. [Annual UA Turfgrass Field Day](#). Rincon Vista Sports Fields, 501 S. Plumer Ave. Tucson, AZ 85719.

For more information about the EPA Schools program, visit:
<http://www.epa.gov/schools/>

For more information about Community IPM, visit:
<http://www.extension.org/pages/23359/urban-integrated-pest-management-community-page>



For more information about School IPM in Arizona, visit:
<http://cals.arizona.edu/apmc/westernschoolIPM.html>

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To view all our previous newsletters, visit:

<https://cals.arizona.edu/apmc/public-health-IPM.html#newsletter>

<https://cals.arizona.edu/apmc/westernschoolIPM.html#newsletter>

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