

Hello school and child care IPMers,

April monthly update is as follows:

 FREE TURF IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS...


Healthy turf is a great way to *prevent* pests and children's injuries. University of Arizona's "SmartScape Program" will be conducting spring 2007 Turf Irrigation Management workshops at the Karsten Turfgrass Research Facility in Tucson. The workshop is designed for those responsible for large turf areas (includes school athletic fields). Instruction includes the basic biology of turfgrass, environmental and cultural factors that affect irrigation, irrigation auditing and scheduling, and problem solving. No CEU's but the class is FREE. April 10th, 7:30 am – 12:00 pm. Must RSVP to attend by calling the SmartScape Program at 520-626-5161.

 RAT POISON BLAMED FOR PET FOOD SCARE...

Menu Foods brand wet foods (pouches or cans) is the source. "Aminopterin" is the culprit. Aminopterin is not approved for use in the United States as a rodenticide, but it is used on such crops as wheat in other countries like China, and wheat gluten is an ingredient in some types of wet pet foods. Dry pet food is not thought to be contaminated at this time, though concerns have prompted the FDA to look further into the extent of contamination.

 RE-ISSUED RESOURCE ON BED BUGS.....

"Monograph of Cimicidae" by Robert Lanham is called the "definitive source on bed bugs" by the Entomological Society of America (ESA). Originally published in 1966, it is a comprehensive resource on bed bug ecology, anatomy, transmission, management, etc., written for scientific and pest professional readers. Only 250 copies were recently re-issued. You can order a copy through the ESA by calling 301-731-4535 ext. 3009 or e-mailing sales@entsoc.org.

 WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE HONEYBEES?...

You may have heard the term Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) in reference to our nation's honeybee populations, recently. It is a poorly understood affliction whereby honeybees leave the hive to forage and simply do not return. There is widespread speculation as to what causes this hive abandonment currently affecting honeybees across the country. The Carl Hayden Bee Research Lab reported no confirmed cases in Arizona as of March 2007; however, Dawn has indicated that there may be a few unconfirmed cases in southern AZ. FYI: Africanized honeybees do not appear to be afflicted by CCD.

Thanks all,
Dawn & Jennifer

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