Hello Coalition members and interested others,

Several bits of helpful information in this month’s School IPM program update for you:

All remaining uses of the pesticide Lindane were banned by the US EPA, effective August 2006. Lindane, an organochloride first registered in the 1940’s, has been found to bioaccumulate in animal tissues (similar to DDT). Until August 2006, it was commonly used in head lice shampoos. It has been increasingly (and voluntarily) replaced by manufacturers in recent years, now eliminated altogether by the EPA for “safer alternative pesticides” (US EPA, http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/reregistration/lindane/). Please keep the ban on lindane in mind when in cases of head lice outbreaks in your district; lice shampoos may sit on shelves in homes for quite some time!

GOT BED BUGS? If you have ongoing bed bug issues we’d like to know! Bed bugs will be the topic in a forthcoming issue of the Pest Press, and as always your tips and expertise add to the usefulness of this publication.

SHARE YOUR PREFERRED PESTICIDE PRODUCT WITH US! We’ll include it in this year’s lab trials, comparing the efficacy of various pesticides on spiders, cockroaches, and scorpions. Send us your product preferences by March 1st and we’ll let you know how they stack up!

The Dec. 7, 2006, Arizona Children’s Environmental Health Coalition meeting produced some great information and good discussions. Presentations, meeting minutes, and fact sheets on the new law SB 1350 (governing pesticide applications in child care facilities) are available from Dawn or Jennifer.

At the Dec. 7 Coalition meeting, several folks seemed under the impression that notification signs put up after emergency applications need a picture of a pesticide applicator spraying in order to be in accordance with state law. The widespread sentiment was that this picture is an inaccurate portrayal of the role of pest management professionals and IPM methods in general. Bravo folks, so we followed up with the Arizona Structural Pest Control Commission to find out more. Here’s what they had to say:

“We wholeheartedly agree.

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with what was said… Namely, a picture of an applicator spraying pesticides does not properly describe pest management.” Also “…there is no requirement to have a ‘picture of an applicator’ on the pesticide notification.”

SPCC will not have an issue as long as required information described in the statute [A.R.S. 32-2307 (D)(2)(c)] is included on the sign for post-emergency-applications.

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