

From: Jennifer Snyder [mailto:jsnyder@ag.arizona.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2008 3:04 PM
To: 'azschoolipm@cals.arizona.edu'
Subject: September monthly update

Hello all,

September's school IPM monthly update is below. Attachments referenced are available at <http://cals.arizona.edu/urbanipm/listserv/update/index.html>.

On a mixed note, I am leaving my position with the University of Arizona for graduate studies in entomology this week. (Go bugs! Or is it Beavs?) It has been my incredibly great pleasure to have spent these several years in Arizona learning from you all. Please direct any future correspondence regarding school IPM to the program director:

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Best wishes!

~Jennifer

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Jennifer for all her time, effort and devotion to this project. It has been a pleasure to work with her and we will all miss her greatly. If you would like to send a message of thanks Jennifer's email address will be functional for another 2 weeks. Dawn.

September school IPM monthly update...

****NO KIDDING...**

A new product designed to discourage structural pests has hit the North American market. It's called "The Mosquito". The pest: loitering youth, graffiti vandals, etc. The product is an ultrasonic device engineered for the sensitive ear-drums of the young. Most humans approximately 25 yrs old and younger can hear the irritating, high-pitched squeal; those older cannot. The product was invented by Howard Stapleton and is manufactured by the aptly named business "Kids Be Gone". Cost per device is \$1400. For more information, see www.kidsbegone.com/

The target audience for this device is businesses battling loitering youth, we thought those of you who interface with parents and children should be aware. Thanks to Linn Haramis for the tip.

****TICKS, FLEAS...PLAGUE?**

August marks a spike in flea and tick season. An astute member of one of Arizona's school districts raised a good question: is plague in the low desert a problem when fleas are found (however rare that may be)?

We consulted Arizona's Dept. Health Services, Epidemiology Division, for clarity. Answer: plague in the low desert is not a concern. The plague bacterium, *Yersinia pestis*, is not viable in the hotter temperatures of the low desert (elevations below 4,500 ft). So even if fleas, ground squirrels, or mountain lions are present, plague should not be. A plague fact sheet can be downloaded from AZDHS at www.azdhs.gov/phs/oids/vector/index.htm

**** SO LONG SPCC...**

As most of you already know, Arizona's Structural Pest Control Commission is being transferred to the Dept. of Agriculture in an effort to improve efficiency and public service. Here's an update:

"Governor Janet Napolitano signed legislation (House Bill 2822) into law eliminating the Structural Pest Control Commission (SPCC) and replacing it with the Office of Pest Management (OPM), which will continue to be housed at the same location in Scottsdale. The law goes into effect immediately.

Under the new law, the OPM assumes the authority, powers, duties and responsibilities of the former SPCC. All licenses issued by the SPCC retain their validity for the duration of their terms. The SPCC's administrative rules and orders will continue to remain in effect until superseded by administrative action by the OPM. All administrative matters, contracts and judicial and quasi-judicial actions, whether completed, pending or in process, of the SPCC are transferred to and retain the same status with the OPM.

The Director of the Arizona Department of Administration will be appointing an Acting Director for the Office of Pest Management. For more information contact 602-255-3664."

**** PEST CONTROL HANDBOOK...**

"The Handbook of Pest Control (Mallis) Ninth Edition – an industry standard in education for more than 55 years, is the leading reference source in the structural pest control industry. It is a scientific guide and practical aid of the biology, behavior and control of structural pests." Copies currently run about \$135.00 (new).

**** HEAD LICE. IT'S BA-AAACK...**

Head lice usually make an annual resurgence during back-to-school months. There are many options parents, teachers and school administrators should be aware of in dealing with this problem. In addition to past issues of the pest press (http://cals.arizona.edu/urbanipm/pest_press/index.html), we also recommend the US Centers for Disease Control webpages: <http://www.cdc.gov/lice/head/index.html>. You'll get comprehensive information on head lice broken down into easy-to-read fact sheets and FAQs on treatment.

**** THOSE BIG, GREEN WORMS...**

Due to higher-than-average amounts of moisture resulting in significant plant growth, we're seeing a bumper crop of certain monsoon period insects. One of these is the larvae of white-lined sphinx moths. These large, yellow-green moths bathe roadways in large numbers in their search of food after exhausting a variety of desert and roadside plants. It appears the current generation of larvae is declining as their lifecycle progresses to pupation. Adults emerge in spring and can be seen throughout the summer months feeding on Mexican Bird of Paradise and Four O'Clocks. These insects are among the most important pollinators in the Sonoran Desert. For more information, see text by Carl Olson posted to the Sept. 2008 monthly update on the UA Urban IPM monthly update page: <http://cals.arizona.edu/urbanipm/listserv/update/index.html>

**** WEST NILE VIRUS UPDATE...**

Information from Arizona Dept. Health Services...

ARIZONA:

- we have WNV cases reported in two new counties – Graham & Pima
- we have added 23 WNV+ mosquito pools since last week
- we have added 2 WNV+ chickens –(both in Santa Cruz Co.)

Human Cases – 9 (Graham-2, Maricopa-6, Pima-1)

Viremic Blood Donors – 2 (both in Maricopa Co.)

Mosquito Pools – 88 (Coconino-1, Maricopa-45, Pima-1, Pinal-19, Yuma-22)

Sentinel Chickens – 19 (Cochise-1, Graham-2, Greenlee-1, Pinal-6, Pima-3, S.Cruz-5, Yuma-1)

Dead Birds – 1 (Maricopa Co.)
Equines – 0

U.S. UPDATE: Human Cases – 236+ in 28 states
States reporting ≥ 10 cases:

- CA - 73
- MS – 33
- CO – 20
- SD – 14
- ND – 14
- TX – 14
- MN – 10

FYI: Year 2008 marks the 10th year of WNV presence in the Western Hemisphere.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) will be co-sponsoring a National West Nile Virus Meeting in 2009. This national meeting is tentatively set for February 19 - 20 in Savannah, Georgia. Exact location has not yet been determined. The purpose of the meeting will be to summarize the impact of WNV, recap what has been learned these last 10 years, and to prepare for future threats. Topic areas will include (1) epidemiology & surveillance, (2) clinical outcomes of WNV infection, (3) virology & diagnosis, (4) transmission & ecology, (5) prevention & control, and (6) global arbovirus threats. I will provide updates on this meeting as new information comes in.

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