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Entomology & Nematology

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## Online Training Available

<https://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/>  
<https://eces.ifas.ufl.edu/>

## Additional Resources

University of Florida  
Extension Publications  
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Pest Management in and  
Around Structures

<http://www.eXtension.org/>

## PMU Focus - Fire Ants

By [Michael Bentley](#)

With warmer weather already here, ant populations will be rebounding from winter in no time! The key to an effective ant control program is good preparation. In our last issue, we covered some general ant biology. Now we will focus on basic biology and control tips for red imported fire ants.

### Ant Review:

- Ants are social insects and live in colonies, so eliminating just a few will not take care of an infestation.
- Trailing [pheromones](#) are what ants use to locate and return to food. This makes them the key to successful baiting strategies!
- [Trophallaxis](#) is the act of regurgitating food to other ants. This is how bait is shared throughout a colony.

### Fire Ants:

- Common species in the southeast: Red imported fire ant (*Solenopsis invicta* Buren) (Fig 1)
- Produce characteristic mounds (Fig 2)
- Workers are [polymorphic](#), meaning they can be different sizes, and are able to sting
- Colonies can be [monogyne](#), containing only one queen, or polygyne, containing many queens
- Are efficient foragers; therefore, an effective management strategy includes broadcast bait applications in spring or early fall

For hands-on training in baiting and control of fire ants, come to PMU's May 29-31, GHP Foundations course. For additional information on fire ants and photos below, click [here](#).



Fig 1: Adult Fire Ant.



Fig 2: Fire Ant Mound.

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## Upcoming Training Opportunities:

### Summary

Click on highlighted course titles for more information or to register.

April 24-26; [Termite Foundations](#), **only 6 slots left**

May 29-31; [GHP Foundations](#)

May; "[Landscape IPM: Ornamentals and Turf](#)" toward LMA certification through UF

June 14; [Termite Basics](#)

Jun 28; [Bed Bug Management](#)

***Must advance through Foundations to qualify for these courses***

Oct 16-18; [GHP Masters](#)

Oct 18; 1 pm; GHP state exam (must also meet state requirement)

Nov 13-15; [Termite Masters](#)

Nov 15; Termite and WDO exam (must also meet state requirement)

***Must advance through Foundations and Masters for qualify for this course***

Dec 4-6; GHP Expert

### APRIL OFFERING

#### Foundations of Termite Management 101

Learn how termites exploit over 50 building construction elements and how to treat them in a hands-on environment in 2-days instead of 2 years.

- Practice doing a DACS vehicle inspection and spill drill with Paul Mitola from DACS before a crisis occurs.
- Hear about the top 10 reasons technicians get in trouble and how to avoid them from Mark Ruff, industry attorney.
- Get more in-depth information on termite biology and behavior as well as product label navigation. Class

duration: 2.5 days.

**Date: April 24-26, 2013; W-F**

**Registration deadline: April 19, Friday (or until full; only 6 slots left)**

**Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC**

**Time: 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)**

**Cost: \$350**

[Register here](#)

## **MAY OFFERINGS**

### **Foundations of General Household Pest Management 101**

Pest control matters. Cockroach allergen mitigation can be achieved with IPM. Class duration: 2.5 days.

- Study domestic and peridomestic cockroach species and how to control them as well as rodent, small fly, filth fly, fire ant and nuisance ant management.
- Review the labels of commonly used GHP products, practice pest inspections at PMU's house and develop treatment strategies focused on IPM.
- Do a vehicle inspection and spill drill with Paul Mitola from DACS.

**Date: May 29-31, 2013; W-F**

**Registration Deadline: May 24, Friday**

**Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC**

**Time: 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)**

**Cost: \$350**

[Register here](#)

## **New Course Offered Through UF!**

### **Landscape IPM: Ornamentals and Turf**

Starting May 2013, take your first steps toward getting a certificate or becoming LMA certified! A new three credit course will be offered starting May 2013 at the University of Florida (UF). The course is called "[Landscape IPM: Ornamentals and Turf](#)" and is course number IPM 4254. This course will be offered for UF credit and will be available for students that are enrolled at UF or for people outside UF that are interested in the material. UF will offer the course this summer (2013) and it

will be available 100% online. You must have computer and internet access to take this class. This course is for UF juniors and seniors and landscape and pest management supervisors and owners.

This course will be used as a measure for LMA Certification. The LMA will offer students who pass this class (with an A or a B) the opportunity to become LMA Certified without additional testing since they will be tested as part of the course. This course will also count towards a UF Certificate in Landscape Pest Management. Learn more about the UF distance program, including costs and how to register-

<http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/academics/distance/>

To register for this course please complete a Non-degree Registration Request at the following website:

<http://www.isis.ufl.edu/cgi-bin/eaqlec?MDASTRAN=nda-intro>

You will need to fill out some personal information on the form and the following course information:

- Select Year and Term of Registration: 2013 Summer A/C (May)
- College: THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES – Entomology Undergrad Distance Courses
- Course Information: Prefix- IPM, number - 4254

If you have trouble filling out this form and registering for the course please contact Ms. Ruth Brumbaugh, Entomology and Nematology Department Student Services Coordinator. Phone: 352-273-3912 Email: [brumbaug@ufl.edu](mailto:brumbaug@ufl.edu) .

If you would like more information about the course please contact the course instructor Dr. Jennifer L. Gillett-Kaufman Phone: (352)273-3950 Email: [gillett@ufl.edu](mailto:gillett@ufl.edu) . She cannot help you with registration and will forward all registration requests to Ms. Brumbaugh.

## **JUNE OFFERING**

### **Bed Bug Management 102**

This intensive course in bed bug management covers non-chemical and chemical methods of control, including a brief overview of fumigation. Learn about bed bug biology and behavior in relation to resistance management. Practice inspection techniques at PMU's house and observe a canine inspection.

**Date: June 28, 2013; Friday**

**Registration Deadline: June 21, Friday**

**Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC**

**Time: 8 AM-5 PM**

**Cost: \$150**

[Register here](#)

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## Employment Opportunity

### Job Description for EnSec Pest Control Service Technician

We are a local, family-owned pest control company based in Florida, providing service to Southern Alabama and Northwest Florida. We are expanding and looking to hire highly professional pest control technicians in both the Fort Walton Beach and Panama City Florida areas.

We look for solid hard working individuals to become Professional Pest Control Service Technicians. This position offers the satisfaction of offering great customer service without being tied to a desk.

Experience is preferred, but for the right candidate we do include a fully paid comprehensive training program. Your skills development will include company supported career advancement and state licensing. Qualified candidates must be self-organized; have good communication and computer skills; excellent observation and documentation skills; and be able to work cooperatively with customers at all levels including top management.

#### Your work will include:

- Visually inspecting and treating for pest, pest harborage, and pest entries
- Building and maintaining good customer relations
- Taking personal initiative and responsibility for correcting pest problems
- Participation in group meetings and account reviews
- Completion of independent and group on-going training and willingness to work flexible hours
- Being an interactive member in team work environment
- Be responsible for the day to day operation of a pest control route

#### We require technicians to:

- Possess a valid driving record that meets Company

standards

- Show a stable work history
- Work independently and in teams
- Be comfortable working with insects and various small animals in a variety of environmental conditions and confined spaces.
- Satisfactorily complete initial technical training, State Licensing requirements
- Pass a pre-employment drug screen, motor vehicle, and criminal background check

We offer excellent pay, and benefits including medical, dental, life and disability plans.

We ask that all interested candidates email a resume to [corp@pest.com](mailto:corp@pest.com) or call Clint at 850-474-4000. We are proudly an Equal Opportunity Employer!

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## Learn more from IFAS



- UF/IFAS has Extension Offices in each Florida's sixty-seven counties. We also have twelve Research and Education Centers and Research and Demonstration Sites (RDSs).
- If you need help a great place to start is your local County Extension Office. With an office located in every county it has never been easier to partner with the University of Florida and your local County Government. To find the office near you please visit: <http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/ma>