PMU Focus

Happy New Year! We have an exciting year planned including the introduction of Carmen Nazario who will be housed at our home base at UF/IFAS Apopka MREC. Carmen comes to us from a very large consumer products company in New York where she worked in the customer service and marketing division. She has been working with us for over a year, and along with Diane Mealo make our PMU classes run smoothly, including ensuring the facility is in good repair and that lunch arrives on time. Carmen will assist with registration and marketing of PMU. She can be reached at 407-884-2034, X167 or cnazario@ufl.edu.

As we expand our program, Pest Management University has worked closely with DACS to align our classes with the State Certified Operator Examinations. This year, we will deliver a pilot program as a way to prepare for the state examination, but you must come through at least the Foundations and Masters level of GHP or Termite (WDO) to qualify. Here’s how it will work:

• Sign up for and attend any Foundations and Masters class within a category (Termite/WDO or GHP) before September 2012.
• Indicate on your registration form that you would like to take the state exam after the Master’s class.
• In order to lock in at 2011 prices, send a check for $650 for both classes. This price will include a free review session after the Master’s level class on Friday afternoon with DACS.
• Take the certified operator examination after the DACS review on Saturday at Apopka MREC.

Make sure that you are in compliance with DACS requirements for taking the state examination, including work experience requirements. You will still have to fill out the application for examination. For additional information, please see the DACS website: http://www.flaes.org/aes-ent/examinfo.html.

Foundations of Termite Management

Date: January 18-20, 2012; Wednesday-Friday
Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC
Time: 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH), 8 AM-Noon (F)
Registration will close on Jan 16, 2012; Monday.

Registration Form

Want to 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. How about learning over 50 building construction elements, hands-on, in 2-days
instead of 2 years? We discuss how termites exploit the building construction elements and how to treat them. Get more in-depth information on termite biology and behavior as well as product label navigation.

Fig. 1. Regulators going through the spill drill using pesticide label at PMU

Basics of Termite Management
Date: February 2, 2012; Thursday
Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC
Time: 8 AM-5 PM
Registration will close on Jan 27, 2012; Friday.

Registration Form

This one-day class is geared for the new technician, sales or office staff. We cover the general Florida Statute 482 requirements for technicians and sales staff. Learn the basic termite biology and behavior in the context of structural infestations. We also go outside to determine slab types and common ways termites enter structures as well as methods for treatment.

Basics of GHP
Date: February 3, 2012; Friday
Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC
Time: 8 AM-5 PM
Registration will close on Jan 27, 2012; Friday.

Registration Form

This one-day class is geared for the new technician, sales or office staff. We cover the general Florida Statute 482 requirements for technicians and sales. Learn the basics concepts around “green” and Integrated Pest Management. Learn how to monitor and make decisions on treatment. We cover how food sources, harborage, and water sources play a role in infestation and management using ants and cockroaches as examples.

Foundations of GHP
Date: February 22-24, 2012; Wednesday-Friday
Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC
Time: 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH), 8 AM-Noon (F)
Registration will close on Feb 17, 2012; Friday.

Registration Form

Want to know why pest control matters from the newest cockroach research on allergen mitigation? Want to know the details on how these allergens were decreased below asthma thresholds using IPM? This is the class for you! We will be covering the domestic and peridomestic species and cockroaches and how to control them. How about rodent control issues? Do your technicians know how to properly trap for rodents? This is one pest that can shut down a food handling facility. We will also cover some important flies, ranging from fruit flies to house flies. Did you know that the white-footed ant is not the white-footed ant in Florida—it's actually a different species! Is there anything new going on with fire ants? What about those crazy ants...We will discuss this and much more in the context of IPM and “green”. And of course, we wouldn’t hold a class without DACS' take on GHP!

Learn more from IFAS

- UF/IFAS has Extension Offices in each of Florida’s sixty-seven counties. We also have twelve Research and Education Centers (RECs) 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 an office near you please visit: http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/map/