

In This Issue

- Florida School IPM Focus
- Know the Facts
- Emphasis on clutter
- Post Your School IPM News!

Past Issues

Online Training Available:

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

Pest Management in and Around Structures:

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

Contact Us:

<http://schoolipm.ifas.ufl.edu/>

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Florida School IPM Focus- Cockroaches

It has been awhile since I've (Faith) done an article on cockroaches. I anecdotally perceive there is an "up-tick" in cockroach problems, based on the inspections I have done, calls received and requests for training. Generally, German cockroach problems persist because of poor sanitation, and poor monitoring and poor product rotation which leads to resistance.

As always for more information on other pests or on developing an IPM program please visit our [website](#).

Know the Facts: 90 years of tight spaces



- The association between tight spaces as cockroach harborage has been known for over 90 years.
- In 1975, Walter Ebeling, the father of urban entomology, wrote a textbook where he referenced a 1920 publication by Wille.
- Ebeling credits Wille with determining that adult German cockroaches can "move about in space only 1.6 mm in width or depth."
- **How much is 1.6 mm?**
 - About 0.06 inches, which is virtually meaningless to me.
 - However, my UF credit card is almost 1 mm thick.
 - So 1.6 mm would be just shy of the thickness of two credit cards.

Emphasis on clutter and sanitation

Why de-clutter? The virtues of de-cluttering are endless: eliminate breeding sites, increase ability to treat and most importantly, de-cluttering will help with all-important inspections and monitoring programs!

Does sanitation really improve treatment results? We have a number of excellent cockroach products, particularly baits, but their efficacy can be compromised because of poor sanitation. Sanitation includes de-cluttering and the removal of competing food sources which will improve your treatment results. Additionally, cleaning surfaces appropriately (soapy water with water rinse) will help remove grease that can compromise the effectiveness of some products as well as remove allergens deposited by cockroaches which are known triggers for asthma.

Finally, cleaning surfaces of fecal spots will also remove pheromones will are responsible for cockroach aggregations. The gregarious behavior of German cockroaches in association with pheromones has been recorded as early as 1945 by Ledoux.

End of the year news!

If you have time in your busy schedule in the spring our new Pest Management University **Schedule of Courses** has been released. We would love to see you at PMU!

We would like to wish you and yours a safe and happy holiday season!



Be sure to pack you your school so you can get 2012 off to a good start.

Faith & Jennifer

News!



We hope you will submit news items and would be happy to help you write a story if you have an idea but don't have the time to write up the information. This newsletter will be published as content arrives, please keep the information flowing! Please send news items to **Jennifer Gillett-Kaufman**.

Visit our website for back issues of **Florida School IPM News**. You can scan the QR code on the right with your smart phone or tablet to get there faster. You will need a QR code reader!