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

Pest Management in and Around Structures:

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School IPM Focus- New Year more roaches!

It has been awhile since I've (Faith) done an article on cockroaches (an entire 4 weeks if you remember the last issue). We want you to start the New Year thinking about two old issues, one that German cockroach problems persist because of poor sanitation and two that poor product rotation leads to resistance.

Why worry about cockroach control? There has been much attention given to the bed bugs over the last few years. However, cockroaches remain a pest of major importance because it is a known trigger for asthma. Like the bed bugs, there is not clear experimental data indicating that cockroaches are major disease vectors, but many pathogens have been recovered from them.

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

Know the Facts: Hungry bug history lesson



- In 1966, Ebeling placed baited trap-jars along baseboards and in the center of a kitchen.
- Without removing competing food sources, an average of 2.4 cockroaches was caught in the traps in the jars along the baseboard, but no cockroaches were caught in the jars in the center of the room.
- When all competing food was removed, the average cockroach trap catch increased to 13.5 in jars along the baseboard and 1.2 cockroaches were trapped in jars that were placed in the center of the room.
- Hunger not only increased the number of cockroaches trapped in baited jars, but it also increased the foraging range of German cockroaches as it searched for food because competing food sources were removed.
- **Take home message: remove food sources that might compete with baits and traps!**

Emphasis on bait

Resistance Management. Are you using the same bait over and over because it seems to be working so well for you? There can be too much of a good thing. Product rotation is key to staving off and possibly avoiding insecticide resistance.

- According to the Insecticide Resistance Action Committee (IRAC), Insecticide resistance has defined as "a heritable change

in the sensitivity of a pest population that is reflected in the repeated failure of a product to achieve the expected level of control when used according to the label recommendation for that pest species." <http://www.irc-online.org/about/resistance/>

Using baits that contain active ingredients from different chemical classes on a monthly basis will help avoid cockroach populations from becoming resistant to your favorite baits. The principles of insecticide rotation were also true when the industry used primarily liquids for cockroach control.

Some researchers believe that resistance management is a misnomer and resistance is inevitable, (not futile, like the Borg ala Star Trek) but we can certainly delay its onset by proper product rotation.

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!