

In This Issue

- School IPM Focus
- Pantry Pest Prevention
- Pantry Pest ID: Indianmeal Moth
- "Like" us!
- Upcoming Training Opportunities
- Post Your School IPM News!

Past Issues

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Online Training Available:

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

Pest Management in and Around Structures:

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

School IPM Focus- Resolutions

Message from Faith: It's hard to believe, January 2014 is half over and I feel like I am still finishing 2013! Last year, we launched the "**Fix the Building Envelope**" campaign. Will you join me this year and **make a resolution to fix door sweeps** on outer building doors as an effort toward sustainable IPM in schools? Pest prevention via exclusion is IPM, and almost all building maintenance budgets can afford to fix door sweeps as they only cost a few dollars a door. Fixing door sweeps and ensuring that windows and doors close properly (i.e., no gaps) will not only exclude pests, but improve energy efficiency and maybe improve indoor air quality by preventing moisture from accumulating. Excess moisture can lead to mold. Weigh the cost of preventing a problem versus fixing it after it occurs!



If you are a school district (or school) willing to make a New Year's resolution to fix the door sweeps on external doors, please let me (foi@ufl.edu) know so we can highlight your commitment.

On to this month's topic! It is time to put away the holiday macaroni-art masterpieces, if you have not done so already. Store holiday treasures in plastic containers (not cardboard boxes) as part of your pest prevention strategy! In this issue, Mike Bentley has put together some helpful tips on identification and control of pantry pests with a focus on the Indianmeal Moth.

Pantry Pest Prevention

The name "pantry pest" is a generalized term used to reference any number of pests that we find in dried foods or stored products. The most common pantry pests tend to be moths or beetles. We find them in dried goods such as grains (cereal, oatmeal), pastas (macaroni, spaghetti, rice), and spices (dried oregano, parsley). Following a few simple prevention tips can reduce the likelihood of having to worry about them as pests.

Keep Clean: Keeping food spills such as left-over crumbs and disposed perishables cleaned up is a great way to make our living spaces less desirable to bugs.

Storing left-overs: Ensuring dried foods are stored properly allow you to reuse those supplies pest free for years to come. Any unused or extra food items should always be kept in sealable storage containers. Air-tight containers or zip-top bags work well to keep bugs out, and keep

supplies fresh until you're ready to use them again.

Have bugs in your dried foods already? No problem! First, make sure the source of the infestation is located. A helpful inspection tip for locating the source of the infestation: it is usually a package with small holes or one with bugs in it already. After properly sealing your items, toss them in a freezer for four to five days. This usually wipes out all the insects, leaving you with perfectly usable dried-food craft supplies!

Pantry Pest ID: Indianmeal Moth

The Indianmeal moth is the most common food-infesting moth found in schools, homes, and grocery stores. Infestations often start when larvae are unknowingly brought in on contaminated foods including whole grains, dried cereals, and nuts. Adult moths are about ½-inch long with a distinct grey and red pattern on the forewings (Fig 1). Mature larvae (Fig 2) appear as creamy white caterpillars measuring about ½-inch long. Infestations are commonly confirmed after adults are seen flying, or finding larval silk webbing on contaminated foods. Control measures include those mentioned above. For more information on identification and control of Indianmeal Moths, click [here](#). For additional information on identification and control of other pantry pests, click [here](#).



Fig 1. Indianmeal moth adult.



Fig 2. Indianmeal moth larvae.

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Want to hear short updates from us in between newsletters? “Like” us on Facebook and “follow” us on Twitter!



Upcoming Training Opportunities

2014 Termite, GHP and L&O training available! Register before price increase, Feb 1.

Click on links for course descriptions or go to <https://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/>

WDO category

Mar 13-14, 2014, [WDO Inspections and Form 13645](#)

April 23-25, 2014, [Termite Foundations](#)

July 30, 2014, [Termite Basics](#)

GHP Category

Feb 26-28, GHP Foundations, **FULL, CLOSED.**

May 28-30 2014, [GHP Foundations](#). This is a must have course for IPM implementers.

July 31, 2014, [GHP Basics](#). Anyone in purchasing interested in the basics of why certain services should be purchased? This is the course for you.

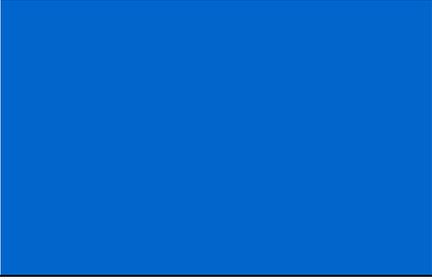
L&O Category

Feb 29-21, 2014, [Turf Foundations](#), doing turf work? This is a must have course.

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. We like to share news and video when it happens using our social media outlets- **Twitter, Facebook** and **YouTube**. When you send news we will post it on one or more of these sites and again in the monthly newsletter. Feel free to send news or announcements as soon as they happen and we will post them. We



hope this will get you more visibility. Please send news items to **Michael Bentley**.

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!