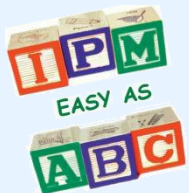




# Assess Your Situation

Nebraska Extension



# Assess – A Definition

❖ *Webster's says –*

4 : to determine the  
importance, size or  
value of

❖ Assessment is a vital  
step in IPM



# Assessment

- ❖ Inspect turf and landscape plantings
- ❖ Inspect buildings inside and out
- ❖ Identify and eliminate conditions conducive to pests
- ❖ Monitor key areas

And ...

- ❖ Record observations, draw maps
- ❖ Work with Pest Management Professionals and Lawn Care Professionals



# Inspect lawn, turf, and landscape

## ❖ Inspect

- Lawn vs. Sports turf
- Landscape plantings
- Greenhouses
- Demonstration and teaching gardens

## ❖ Assess

- Importance, size, and value



# Inspect buildings inside and out

## ❖ Inspect

- Kitchens, lunch rooms, and break rooms
- Utility rooms, storage closets, warehouses
- Classrooms, resident or hospital rooms, and offices
- Chronically moist areas, outside grade
- Windows, doors, and vents
- Roof, HVAC

## ❖ Assess

- Importance, size, and value



Photo: Iowa State University



# Identify and Correct Conducive Conditions

- ❖ Moisture prone areas
  - in and out
- ❖ Dehumidify, lower humidity
- ❖ Plumbing and gutter/downspout leaks
- ❖ Adjust grade from buildings



# Identify and Correct Conducive Conditions

- ❖ Seals/screens - pipes, vents, windows, and doors
- ❖ Door sweeps
- ❖ Clean/move dumpster
- ❖ Thorough cleaning
- ❖ Eliminate clutter
- ❖ Assess

➤ Importance, size, and value



# Monitor key areas

- ❖ Sticky traps
- ❖ Pheromones
- ❖ On-going visual inspections
- ❖ Assess
  - Importance, size, and value



Photos: Whitmire Micro-Gen





# Record

- ❖ ALL pest sightings
- ❖ Inspection results
- ❖ Trap results
- ❖ Any evidence of pests

**Pest Sighting Log Sheet**

Date	Time	Place pest seen	Pest seen	Number of pests seen	Person observing pests	Acknowledgement of pest sighting	
						Date	Person

Graphic: University of Nebraska–Lincoln



# Map

- ❖ Trap locations
- ❖ Key plantings
- ❖ Pest-prone plants
- ❖ Active pest infestations



Precision targeting map shows several concentrations of roaches in a Navy ship's galley area. The red areas and those with contour lines close together indicate the highest infestations. Infestations were determined by trapping.



# Working with Professionals

- ❖ Pest Management and Lawn Care Professionals (PMPs and LCPs)
- ❖ Must be certified in NE
- ❖ Dozens of companies to choose from
- ❖ Very high "Turn Over" rate
- ❖ Some PMPs in industry have reputation as "Spray Jockey"
- ❖ Don't make decision based on \$\$\$ alone



# Working with PMP/LCP

- ❖ IPM plan or protocol in place?
- ❖ Responsibilities detailed?
- ❖ How will they monitor for pests?
- ❖ What IPM components and control tactics will be used?
- ❖ Least disruptive and least toxic methods in use?
- ❖ Where are infestations located?
- ❖ Efforts evaluated periodically?
- ❖ Don't forget prevention!



# Working with PMP/LCP

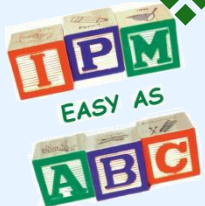
- ❖ Written report every visit including:
  - *Date and time*
  - *Inspection results*
  - *New trap placements*
  - *What was done - exactly: place, %, amount, type, etc.*
  - *Recommendations*
  - *Results of previous recommendations*



# Benefits of IPM



- ❖ Reduces pesticide use
- ❖ Limits human exposure to pesticides
- ❖ Protects the environment
- ❖ Protects human health
- ❖ Helps create healthier environments for staff, children, the elderly, and the infirm
- ❖ Prevents pests and provides better long-term control of pests
- ❖ Reduced liability of facilities
- ❖ Reduces long-term cost of control



# Credits

## ❖ Content Specialist

- Clyde Ogg, Nebraska Extension

## ❖ Content Editor

- Erin Bauer, Nebraska Extension

## ❖ Photos

- Clyde Ogg, Nebraska Extension
- Iowa State University
- Whitmire Micro-Gen Research Laboratories, Inc.

## ❖ Artwork/Graphics

- Nebraska Extension
- U. S. Department of Defense
- U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

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