

PRESS INFORMATION

Pest-Ventures turns its attention to 'bread & butter' pests

Rodent control, including new research into anticoagulant resistance in mice and an in-depth look at block control for the 21st century with, in particular, its role in combating resurgent pests like bed bugs, dominate the Pest-Ventures 2012 programme.

"In the BASF/*Pest* magazine National UK Pest Management survey 2011, which assessed the mood and future direction of the UK pest management industry, rats and mice accounted for around half of all pest controllers time," says Pest-Ventures' Adrian Meyer, who put together the programme for the 2012 event. "With rodent control such an important part of the industry, rats and mice can be described as 'bread & butter' pests so we make no excuses for devoting a large part of the 2012 event to these two," he adds.

Billed as more participative but still tackling the key technical pest control issues at a strategic as well as tactical level, this popular event returns on 26 April in a new one-day format. It is again being held at the Best Western Premier Yew Lodge Hotel in Kegworth Nottinghamshire, near to East Midlands airport and three PROMPT CPD points have been awarded by BASIS.

The programme includes an update on rodenticide resistance in rats and new research showing anticoagulant resistance now being found in mice. There is also a paper on a new initiative by the National Pest Advisory Panel (NPAP) to develop a national strategy for sewer rats; something which many in the industry might argue is well overdue."

Break-out sessions will tackle the future of permanent baiting against rodents and take a fresh look at the old technique of block control, including its role in tackling the resurgent bed bug problem.

The technical core of the programme is preceded by two scene setting sessions. Killgerm Group's Jonathan Peck representing NPAP will outline the future of pest control legislation. This will be followed by a double act, with BASF's David Marris and *Pest* magazine's Helen Riby, who will unveil the results from the second National UK Pest Management Survey. This should provide a fascinating insight into the mood of the industry at the sharp end among pest control companies, self-employed pest controllers and local authority pest control units. Importantly it will also show how things have changed since the first survey 12 months ago.

Customer expectations remain high in both the commercial and domestic sectors but, at the same time, there are many challenges to overcome. Public sector cuts are

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threatening local authority services and recession hit customers, especially in the domestic market are increasingly reluctant to spend on pest control.

Against this backdrop, meeting the challenge of providing an effective, value for money pest management service has never been tougher and that applies to everyone in the industry – pest control technicians in the public and private sector and their managers, those responsible for pest control in water and food companies and the facilities management sector. Keeping up to date with current research, legal developments and best practice has never been more important.

For the past 13 years Pest-Ventures has provided a platform for independent research and technical expertise avoiding commercial sponsorship and bias. This year's seminar continues to offer great value for money at just £165 + VAT, including three course lunch and unlimited tea and coffee. To book your place contact Moira Hart on 01664 822678 or email: moira@dewpointmarketing.co.uk

The full 2012 Pest-Ventures programme can be downloaded from the **Pest** magazine website at www.pestmagazine.co.uk/content/NewsItem.aspx?id=740.

Ends
589 words
25 January 2012

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