



## OCTOBER ISSUE 2012

**Website:** <http://www.faopma.com>  
**President:** David Gay - ([davidg@pest-control.com.au](mailto:davidg@pest-control.com.au))  
**Administrator:** Catherine Yan - ([info@faopma.com](mailto:info@faopma.com))  
**Editor:** Doug Howick - ([doug@tpaa.com.au](mailto:doug@tpaa.com.au))

- (g) **To plan and sponsor** international conference, convention, exhibition of the pest management industry.
- (h) **To promote** the official recognition of the Federation by government authorities as the representative body for the general practices of the pest management industry in Asia and Oceania.
- (i) **To provide** a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest, provided that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by members.
- (j) **Any other objectives as determined by the majority of members in the General Meeting.**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Now that the activities of our last Convention are behind us, **we can now look ahead to our next gathering in Korea next year** – an event that is sure to set new standards and will truly be worth the effort in attending the event and in exploring this inspiring and beautiful country. (*See Page 8*)

As an outcome from our last EXCO meeting in Adelaide, I posed the question: **‘What is FAOPMA’s purpose as an organisation and what is our role in the pest management industry both globally and locally - currently and into the future?’**

From our website we proclaim **“Established in 1988 for the common interest of the pest management industry”** and extracted from our Constitution are some specific objectives;

- (a) **To promote** a broader understanding and acceptance of the pest management industry.
- (b) **To ensure** public awareness for the critical contributions made by the pest management industry to the comfort, health, safety, convenience and general welfare of the citizens of Asia and Oceania.
- (c) **To bring together**, for common benefit, the professional pest management organizations existing in different countries and regions within Asia and Oceania into the federation.
- (d) **To promote** the creation of pest management organizations in countries and regions within Asia and Oceania where such organization has not yet been established.
- (e) **To foster** an exchange of knowledge, information and ideas among pest management professionals.
- (f) **To study** product and promote the professional interests of members.

Over the past decade, we have been fairly true to these objectives as an organisation, and although not obvious in significant breakthroughs or shifts in specific areas, simply our existence is proof that we can, and are adding value to the pest management industry within our region by facilitating the exchange of information and experience between member (and non-member) countries and associations.

**One of the great opportunities FAOPMA has, is to contribute to the growth of the industry by promoting professional pest management and the use of professional products, equipment, technologies and ‘best practice’.**

To maintain and grow this momentum, it is important that we all play our role in continuously promoting our industry to the various policy makers and organisations of influence within our own countries, and to be familiar with FAOPMA’s objectives to identify when an opportunity to contribute arises.

**Over the next few months we will be working on a new FAOPMA website** that will have more new and relevant content and some new features that hopefully will be both easier to use and to share information and current issues, that in turn will be of significant value to members or industry professionals. **I have a great deal of confidence that our Executive Administration in Hong Kong will deliver us exactly what we need.**

**Until next time. David Gay, President**

## **Rob Lederer Resigns as Executive Vice President of NPMA**

PCT MAGAZINE | September 21, 2012

FAIRFAX, Va. — Rob Lederer has left his position as executive vice president of the National Pest Management Association, effective immediately.

The announcement was made by NPMA President Laura Simpson during an NPMA Board of Directors conference call this morning. **Lederer will remain with NPMA for six months in a consulting role.**

In an NPMA press release, Lederer stated, "I treasure my NPMA experiences, particularly the many people I've had the opportunity to meet and what I've learned over the years. But, many of us who travel intense career paths reach a point where it is time to pursue new challenges, and, now, that time has come."



He added, "With the quality and caliber of our leadership and staff team, I have full confidence that NPMA is poised to achieve even greater successes in the coming years."

Simpson praised Lederer's contributions to the association and the industry, saying he is largely responsible for building NPMA into a powerhouse organization. **"Rob leaves behind an incredibly solid association made up of individual building blocks he stacked with precision and intent.** From the strength of partnerships with our state associations to the creation of Quality Pro and the Professional Pest Management Alliance, from the fostering of new industry leaders at Academy and Leadership Development Group to our widely respected government affairs program, the industry owes Rob a resounding thanks for his far reaching efforts that will outlive his time with the association."

Simpson noted NPMA's executive committee has begun diligent work on a transition plan and that members can be assured the association's activities will continue to operate fully during the search for and transition to a new executive vice president. "The great work of NPMA staff, our board and the existing programs established during Rob's tenure as our leader will continue unvarnished while we undergo a comprehensive, national search for the right candidate," Simpson expressed. "We don't enter into this search lightly and won't make decisions without careful, consideration for the day-to-day operations and long-term strategic goals of the organization."

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## **\$15,000 beagle earns keep as termite hunter**

Biscuit the beagle wins by a nose when it comes to sniffing out unwanted guests who can eat you out of house and home. She is a \$15,000 termite hunter owned by Wollongong pest controller Paul Hosey who runs Billy Lane Pest Control Services.

While it was a lot to pay for an edge in the market, Mr Hosey did the research before he went ahead.

"Dogs are said to be 98 per cent accurate but I still back her up with electronic tracking machines," he said. "A dog will go through a whole house in about three minutes."

Mr Hosey said it was reasonably simple to detect termites by an inspection under the house but they could easily be missed if, for example, the entry points were covered by obstructions, particularly on concrete slab houses.

"That's where a dog is a real advantage because they are trained to work off odour and not sight. The worst-affected home I've worked on was in Coniston because by the time I got to it the damage bill was up to about \$50,000," he said.

Mr Hosey, who is the only Illawarra pest controller to use a canine, said termite-detecting dogs like Biscuit underwent rigorous training. "Most home owners find it fascinating just to watch Biscuit work," he said.



*Biscuit the termite-detecting beagle with owner Paul Hosey. She cost him \$15,000. Picture: GREG TOTMAN*

Mr Hosey teamed up with Biscuit two years ago and said she had paid for herself in the first six months through quarantine work that involved sniffing out drywood termites on boats that came into port.

One of the challenges in working with dogs was the animal could try to trick the handler to get food rewards.

"That's why you must constantly work your dog and understand its behaviour to ensure that doesn't happen," Mr Hosey said.

Biscuit works about one day a week in winter but with summer coming on, that will increase to about three days.

MICHELE TYDD 15 Aug. 2012 04:00 AM



## Pest control companies get almost 500 bed bug jobs in 2011

SINGAPORE: A recent survey showed that pest control companies received close to 500 bed bug related jobs in 2011 - an increase of almost 60 per cent compared to five years ago.

According to the National Environment Agency (NEA), the type of households most affected by bed bugs is one to three-bedroom HDB flats; four-and-five-room flats and executive flats ranked second and workers quarters ranked third.



MP of Tanjong Pagar GRC Dr Lily Neo said she is planning an extensive extermination project to help residents in the Kim Seng area, particularly those from Chin Swee Road, who have complained about the parasites.

"We have covered more than 10 blocks so far and we intend to continue for the rest of the 20 blocks of rental flats. Maybe what we need now is the aftercare - after cleaning the place we must also see how we can continually keep the places clean.

"It is a challenge for us, because this is the first time we're doing it on such an extensive scale in trying to really eradicate the bed-bugs problem permanently," she explained.

Bed bugs are notoriously difficult to eliminate. They are adept at squeezing into tight spaces, multiply quickly and can survive for up to one year without food.

17 September 2012 2107 hrs (SST)



## Deadly desert snake spotted in parking lot in Dubai

Asma Ali Zain / 9 September 2012

Residents of newly developed residential communities on the outskirts of Dubai have urged authorities to take stronger pest control measures after deadly reptiles are reported to be appearing at their doorsteps.

In a recent incident, residents of a newly developed residential community, located behind Dubai Motor City, saw a deadly desert snake in the parking lot during the daytime.

In July, a pet Chihuahua was killed after being bitten by a poisonous snake in another residential area next to a proposed wildlife conservation park in Dubai. Despite the death of the pet dog and amidst fear of threat to life of residents, authorities have taken no action to control the deadly pests, said residents.

"We have just moved into this new area and it is one of the most scary places," said S.B, a resident while speaking to *Khaleej Times* on Sunday. "It is completely isolated."



"A security guard spotted the brown-coloured, medium-length snake in the parking area and threw it away with the help of a stick," explained S.B. "We are afraid there might a snake colony nearby since the area has been unoccupied for a long time," he added. The area is still under development hence a large part of the open desert is linked to the residential buildings.

According to S.B, at least 14 families were now residing in the group of buildings. "I have a small child and we are very scared," he added.

The resident also said that this was the second such incident in a short time. "The first snake of a similar kind had managed to crawl up to the elevators before it was killed." Though the residents have notified the property group management and the maintenance company, no action has been taken so far.

Dr Reza Khan, Wildlife and Zoo Specialist and former Director of Dubai Zoo, commenting on the picture of the snake, sent by the resident, said that the snake appeared to be a Saw-Scaled Viper, which is a venomous snake. It is known for its venom so strong that it causes systematic symptoms including haemorrhage, acute renal failure and disseminated intravascular coagulation.

The community members have, as a warning, put out details of the snake on their Facebook page asking residents to be careful.

**Khaleej Times**



## PestWorld 2012

October 17-20 Sheraton Boston Hotel  
John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center

With targeted information on the latest products, services, technologies, and business applications, PestWorld promises to offer the pest management industry a mix of education, networking, and research designed to complement your individual business model.

**BE THERE!**

**after all...We all know it'll be just great!!**

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### Termites blamed after 20m tree topples on parked cars

Published on Aug 24, 2012

Three cars have been damaged after a 20m tree fell on them - with the owners reportedly blaming termites.

The trunk came crashing down at about 2pm on Wednesday at a Housing Board block near the old Tanjong Pagar railway station.

Police confirmed that no one was hurt.

The owners of the cars, which were parked at Block 102 on Spottiswoode Park Road, suspect termites caused the tree to fall, Shin Min Daily News reported.



The 20m tree which fell and damaged three cars that were parked at Block 102 on Spottiswoode Park Road on Wednesday. The owners of the cars suspect termites were the reason for the tree falling. -- PHOTO: SHIN MIN



Breaking NewsSingapore

## Roaches to the Rescue

Live remote-controlled cockroaches may one day be used to seek out Earthquake victims buried in debris.



Scientists from North Carolina State University are developing methods of controlling the direction a cockroach travels in the hope of harnessing their survival skills to benefit humanity. Alper Bozkurt, an assistant professor at the University's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, worked with doctoral candidate Tahmid Latif to create small insect "backpacks" that are attached to Madagascan hissing cockroaches. These backpacks contain a circuit board with a tiny computer, a wireless receiver, plugs for electron stimulators, and a battery that can be used to generate a small electrical charge on either the left or right side of the cockroach.

"What we do is similar to riding a horse," Bozkurt told [Scientific American](#). "[The] cockroach walks naturally, and we simulate barriers by sending pulses to its antenna. They use their antenna as touch sensors, so stimulation on one side directs these insects towards the opposite direction."

The research, presented last month at the 4th Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine & Biology Society in San Diego, California, could prove useful in search-and-rescue missions. According to Bozkurt, these remote controlled insects are a viable alternative to small scale search robots. He argues that their ability to navigate difficult terrain and survive incredibly hostile environments make them ideally suited to search for disaster victims.

"They come with biological autonomy to help them survive," he told *SciAm*, "and this, if carefully controlled, helps them to respond to uncertain and dynamic conditions of certain scenarios such as searching for survivors after an earthquake."



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## Pest count worry

Torika Tokalau

September 06, 2012

POOR housekeeping and poor property maintenance is the major contributing factor to the existence of rodents and other pests in supermarkets, shops and other public areas.

These are the words of the **president of the Pest Control Association of Fiji (PCAF)**, Mohammed Tazim.

A workshop conducted by the Ministry of Health and the Nasinu Town Council last week revealed pesticide control used by supermarkets were not effective, causing the population of rodents and other pests to increase.

Mr Tazim, who is also the director of **Amalgamated Pest Control**, said the treatment of rodents and other pests could only be 100 per cent successful if owners of shops and supermarkets maintained their buildings properly, had proper sanitation and included rodent proofing in their buildings and proper housekeeping.

"The external environment also plays a large part in pest management," Mr Tazim said.

**He said the 15 companies and individuals that made up PCAF conducted regular meetings to ensure all pest control industry professionals were appropriately trained and certified.**

"Recently our association highlighted the issue of backyard operators," Mr Tazim said.

"They have poor knowledge of the products, usage, rodent and pest biology and treatment techniques. So usually it's not the pesticide but the knowledge of the application of the pesticide which is a factor in poor control."

Mr Tazim said the three common types of rodents that were of great concern in Fiji supermarkets and shops were the Norway rat, also referred to as the common, sewer, brown and water rat; the roof rat, also referred to as the black or ship rat and the house mouse, also referred to as the field mouse.

## **The Fiji Times ONLINE**



## China to make greater pest control efforts

Updated: 2012-08-20 21:11 ( Xinhua)

BEIJING - The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) on Monday urged local authorities to intensify efforts to control disease and pests in order to ensure a successful autumn harvest.

At a work conference on disease and pest control, the ministry said this year's autumn crops will deal with more disease and pests than in years past due to increased rainfall.

Local authorities should take necessary measures to secure grain output and ensure a good harvest, said Vice Minister of Agriculture Yu Xinrong.

The ministry urged greater efforts to monitor and issue warnings for disease and pests, purchase pesticides and form specialized pest control teams.



*A farmer sprays pesticide in a corn field in Wangdou county, North China's Hebei province, Aug 13, 2012. [Photo/Xinhua]*



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## **A citizen science project invites people to report sightings of flying ants across the United Kingdom to track patterns of outbreaks.**

By Hayley Dunning | August 16, 2012

As the summer rolls on in Britain, people enjoying the outdoors may be in for an unpleasant surprise. When the conditions are just right, thousands of black ants will erupt out of lawns, gardens, and cracks in the pavement to take flight in a festival of mating. The seemingly random outbreaks, scientists believe, are annual quests to found new ant colonies.



To find out more about exactly what those perfect conditions for flight are, the Society of Biology in the United Kingdom has teamed up with Adam Hart, an ecologist and insect expert at the University of Gloucestershire, to conduct a huge [citizen science experiment](#). The researchers put out a call in June for the public to report sightings of flying ant outbreaks, as well as the weather conditions at the site, and already have a phenomenal response.

“I was surprised to get quite so many responses from the public and quite so much press and media attention,” said Hart. “So far this has led to well over 4,000 responses, and this tally increases daily.”

Flying ant outbreaks occur only in the summer as males and potential new queens, called gynes, look to mate. Once the males have done their duty, they die soon after, but the females drop their wings and establish colonies as new queens. Fertilized only this once, the females will go on to produce eggs throughout their 10- to 15-year lifespan, producing between 5,000 and 15,000 workers for the colony.

This is the first year for the survey, which the Society of Biology hopes will become an annual event, capable of tracking the effect of weather patterns on the emergence of the ants. Since they only have one chance to fly and mate, the ants are vulnerable to wind, rain, and cold temperatures. Synchronizing flights between colonies would help increase the possibility for aspiring queens to find mates, but whether ants emerge at the same time across geographic regions is largely unknown. To get the answer, researchers need the public’s help. “These sorts of large scale data can only be collected if you have a large number of observers, and this means that a ‘citizen science’ approach is the ideal method,” Hart said.

Studying the flying ants can give insights into the population dynamics of the insects, which are important for soil fertility, serve as a food source for swifts and gulls, and even act as pest control, consuming crop-eating aphids. The data is pouring in, and although the analysis won’t be completed until October, Hart is already excited by the implications.

“It’s really too early to tell but even a casual glance at the data so far shows that flying ant emergence is a spatially and temporally complex event,” he said. “The data so far suggest that there certainly isn’t a single ‘flying ant day,’ even within the same small town.”

The flying ant survey is also an experiment in science outreach, citizen science, and the use of social media. As well as using traditional methods like direct emailing of Society members and a press release, the Society of Biology created a Twitter hash tag, [#flyingantsurvey](#), and encouraged people to submit pictures, by allowing photos tagged “flyingantsurvey” on Flickr to be uploaded to a [Flickr group](#). As the survey progresses, the Society are also maintaining a map of sightings across the country.

“As well as the ‘science,’ we will also be looking at the ‘citizens,’ hoping to find out more about how and why people fill in surveys, what mistakes they make, and how to use social networking and the media to increase take up,” said Hart.

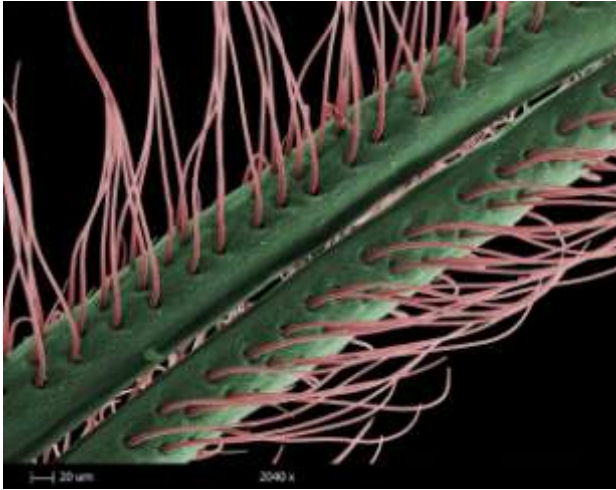
**TheScientist**  
MAGAZINE OF THE LIFE SCIENCES



*Pictorial creations by Andrey Pavlov*



**Luna Moth**



*Ted Kinsman / Photo Researchers, Inc.*

This scanning electron micrograph (SEM) of the antenna of the Luna Moth (*Actias luna*) was taken by scientific photographer and high school physics teacher Ted Kinsman. The antenna of *A. luna*, a moth native to North America, is one of the most sensitive chemical detectors known in the insect world.



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**A Message from the Editor**

Whenever there is a considerable effort to initiate a long awaited achievement, the people responsible are usually a little unsure as to what sort of reception that achievement will get. So it was with the first edition of the "FAOPMA Professional Pest Management News" (PPM News). **We should not have worried!**

As your Editor, I am delighted to report that the response to our first Issue two months ago has been most encouraging. It would seem that many people thought that this FAOPMA initiative was, not only long overdue but was also most welcome.

However, we had explained that we had hoped that Associations and individuals would email news items and photographs to the Editor ([doug@tpaa.com.au](mailto:doug@tpaa.com.au)) for inclusion in future issues. Now although we have received several emails of approval and congratulations, the pest management news items from you have been conspicuous by their absence.

The significant thing is that this newsletter is **YOURS!** **But I need your help please!** When you become aware of a local pest control matter in your country or area that you think would be interesting for your colleagues in other FAOPMA countries to learn about - **send me the details ([doug@tpaa.com.au](mailto:doug@tpaa.com.au)).**

**As a member of your Association, you are already a shareholder in this Newsletter, 'PPM News' "FAOPMA Professional Pest Management News"!**

**Help me make it a really good one!**

**[doug@tpaa.com.au](mailto:doug@tpaa.com.au)**

**Doug Howick,  
Honorary Advisor for FAOPMA,  
Editor, "FAOPMA PPM News"**

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***Get on your bike !!***

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Welcome to 25th **FAOPMA 2013 Korea**

“ Distinguished guests,  
**Thank you very much.** ”



Distinguished guests, On behalf of Korea Pest Control Association, it is my pleasure to extend my invitation to the 25th FAOPMA Convention and Exhibition in the city of Seoul, Korea from November 26-28, 2013.

As the president of KPCA as well as president-elect of FAOPMA, I will do my utmost to present you the best FAOPMA event where you will meet cutting edge knowledge, information, techniques and professionals in pest management industry from all over the world.

At the same time, you will enjoy Seoul city and Korean Culture with our Korean people's warmest hospitality!

I look forward to having you in Seoul, Korea.

Thank you very much.



With best wishes,  
President **Park Myeon Ha**



## Overview

Event	25th FAOPMA 2013 SEOUL
Theme	"Beyond PES+ech." – Comprehensive IPM technology on Combating Climate Change
Date	26th ~ 28th, November in 2013
Venue	COEX, Seoul, Korea
Organized by	FAOPMA / KPCA
Sponsors (to be confirmed)	Ministry of Health & Welfare, Korea Centers For Disease Control & Prevention, Seoul Metropolitan Government, Korea Tourism Organization, Seoul Tourism Organization
Official Language	English, Korean

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