



DEGESCH America, Inc. Newsletter

www.degeschamerica.com
info@degeschamerica.com
800-330-2525

Issue XVII

DAI Recertification School
MiScope® Handheld Digital Microscope

Choosing the Right Pyrethrum
Conventions & Tradeshows

2010 Degesch America, Inc. Recertification School
Thursday, April 22, 2010
Stonewall Jackson Hotel - Staunton, VA



Mark Your Calendars



The 2010 Edition of our annual training for pesticide applicators is scheduled for Thursday, April 22, 2010. We will be returning once again to the historic Stonewall Jackson Hotel in Staunton, VA. Recertification credits are currently available for the following states:

AL, AR, AZ, CA, DC, DE, FL, GA, ID, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NY, NJ, OH, OR, SC, TN, UT, VA, WA, WV

Pending: OK, PA, SD, TX

Here's a glimpse at part of the scheduled program:

Regulatory Update.....	Meredith Laws, EPA Office of Pesticide Programs
Profume® Update – What's new with ProFume Fumigants?.....	Joy Rogers Phillips, Dow AgroSciences
Methyl Bromide Update.....	Dan Ayers, Reddick Fumigants
Pesticide Safety, Monitoring & Storage.....	Robert Blachly, Industrial Fumigant Co.
Integrated Pest Management	Ed Hosoda, Cardinal Professional Products
Structural Fumigation.....	Ed Hosoda, Cardinal Professional Products
Pheromone Trapping and Trend Analysis.....	Mike Holcomb, President - Technical Directions
Insect Identification.....	Mike Holcomb, President - Technical Directions

MiScope® Handheld Digital Microscope

The digital microscope that fits in the palm of your hand!

The MiScope (pronounced My-Scope) combines a digital movie camera, precision optics and LED lighting in a microscope that fits in the palm of your hand. The MiScope has 40 - 140X magnification which lets you zoom in on the fine details of insects, textiles, electronics or anything else too small to see.

Place the MiScope over the object, and view the image on your computer screen, instead of looking in a small eyepiece. Capture images or movies, and easily add labels, make measurements and draw on the live image. The MiScope connects to your computer's USB port either laptop or desktop and comes with included Video ToolBox® imaging software. Video Toolbox® is the easiest way to display and capture video on your laptop or desktop computer. Save a single image, a movie, a time lapse sequence, or capture the image directly into your favorite image-editing software (like Photoshop®) for enhancement or annotation. Print or e-mail images without leaving the program.

Features:

- Completely portable with a laptop computer
- Save still images, movies and time lapse
- Labels, markers, time stamps, measurement
- Draw directly on the live image
- Includes Video ToolBox Software



The MiScope is the featured item at the **DEGESCH America, Inc. Web Store for the Month of March. Purchase a MiScope during March and receive free shipping on this item**

Visit our Web Store at: <http://www.degeschamerica.com> for all your Pest Management supplies.

Gas Detection

- Pumps
 - Dräger Bellows Pumps & Kits
 - MSA Pumps
- Tubes
 - Dräger Gas Detection Tubes
 - MSA Gas Detection Tubes
- Electronic Instruments
- Accessories

Respiratory Protection

- Gas Masks
 - Dräger Masks & Canisters
 - MSA Masks & Canisters
- Respirators & Dust Masks
- SCBA's
 - MSA Airhawk II
 - Draeger ProAir Evolution
 - SCBA Accessories

Application Supplies

- Placards
- Pellet Dispenser
- Fumi-Discs
- Sleeves & FumiCel Bags
- Poly Tubing
- Disposal Supplies
- Disposal Drum
- Disposal Basket

Literature

- Stored Product Pest Booklet
- Stored Product Pest Wall Chart

Insecticides

- Residuals
- Insect Growth Regulators
- Organic Products
- Fogging Compounds

Rodent Control

- Rodenticides
- Traps
- Glue Boards

Personal Protective Equipment

- Hard Hats
- Safety Glasses
- Ear Plugs
- First Aid Kits
- Flashlights

Foggers

- Hand Held
- Cart Mounted

Sealing Materials

- Tape
- Adhesive
- Polyethylene Sheeting

Choosing The Right Pyrethrum Insecticide Can Be Complicated!

All Pesticide Labels Are Not The Same by Mike Holcomb

Before applying any insecticide, make sure you read and understand the label. I recently encountered very different “use instructions” on two commonly used pyrethrum fogging materials that could have a major impact on how those chemicals are applied in food processing plants. I contacted the Federal EPA for an official explanation, but when I explained how the label interpretation could affect food safety they promised to “look into it further and would get back to me soon”. I don’t think I will hold my breath!

The Problem.

Here are just two commonly used pyrethrum products that illustrate the problem:

1. Whitmire’s “ ULD BP50” and Prentiss’ “Fogging Insecticide PF” are two common brands of pyrethrum fogging compounds labeled for use inside food processing plants.
2. Both the Whitmire and the Prentiss brands contain the same active ingredient (.5% Pyrethrum + 5% PBO). For the most part these fogging compounds are identical and interchangeable.

Label instructions on the BP-50 label read as follows:

“All food processing surfaces and equipment should be covered during treatment or washed with an effective cleaning compound followed by a potable water rinse”.

Instructions on the Prentiss label, on the other hand, read:

“All food processing surfaces should be covered during treatment or thoroughly cleaned before use.”

Both these pyrethrum labels are written with food safety in mind, but the post application cleaning methods described for these similar insecticides are radically different!

In “dry” food processing facilities such as petfood plants, bakeries, rice and flour mills etc. water use is limited in an attempt to minimize microbial development. A post fogging “wash down” of food contact surfaces (bucket elevators, screw conveyors, mixing vessels, finished product bins, belt conveyors etc.) with detergent and water could be disastrous!

The Prentiss “Fogging Insecticide PF” label prescribes “cleaning” while making no reference to the use of water. Such cleaning can be accomplished by flushing the system with clean product prior to start-up rather than introducing water to the system. Scrap product generated through equipment flushing must be disposed in a safe manner.

“Dry” cleaning in this manner is valid because natural pyrethrum has an oral LD50 of 375mg/kg (rat), and bears a Caution statement on its label. (For reference purposes, the oral LD50 for caffeine in rats is 192 mg/kg. Remember, the lower the number, the more toxic the material!) One 90-day feeding test on dogs conducted in 1995 found that pyrethrum had no effect on animal health at 600 ppm or less! When used according to label directions pyrethrum has one of the safest human health hazard records of all commonly used insecticides.

Natural pyrethrum (a botanical insecticide harvested from daisy-like flowers grown in Africa) belongs to a group of insecticides known as the “non residuals”. After application this natural material is broken

down (degraded) by heat and ultraviolet light. Its residual life is only about 4 hours under normal environmental conditions! Consequently, residues left on uncovered food contact surfaces are virtually nonexistent if you follow the 6-8 hour re-entry rule normally used when fogging food plants. Unfortunately, pyrethrum fog consists of .5% or less pyrethrum and nearly 90% or greater is oil carrier, so the potential of food-contact surface contamination from oil over-spray is the bigger risk! The oil “carrier”, however, is quite volatile and will evaporate rapidly unless the fogger malfunctions or improper fogging techniques were used. Flushing the system with in-process or finished product is designed to remove any visible oil residues (rather than non residue forming pyrethrum) accidentally left on food contact surfaces!

Because natural pyrethrum is an agricultural product, its availability and cost fluctuates like any other commodity. Synthetic pyrethroids are designed to overcome the “agricultural fluctuation” problems, but unfortunately none of these man-made fogging compounds has the combination of safety and effectiveness of the natural pyrethrum.

All other insecticide features being equal (cost, ease of use, flammability, storage, shelf life, odor etc. etc.), I highly recommend using a formulation whose label does not contribute to microbial development and mold risk. Both the natural pyrethrum fogging compounds listed above are highly effective insecticides and only serve as an example of this widespread labeling problem. Labeling inconsistencies like this occur when pesticide manufacturers and the EPA do not fully understand the environmental conditions and risks where these chemicals are to be used. Always read and understand the label of any pesticide used in your plant!

About the author: Mike Holcomb is the President of Technical Directions, Inc., a Sanitation and Pest Management consulting firm based in Decatur, AL. He may be contacted via his website, www.foodipm.com.



Conventions & Tradeshow

IAOM

114th Annual Conference & Expo

April 19-23, 2010

Join hundreds of milling professionals from across North America and around the world when they convene in Las Vegas, Nevada, in 2010 for IAOM’s Annual Conference & Expo to be held at the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel, and Las Vegas Convention Center from April 19-23.

The IAOM Annual Conference & Expo is the premier educational event for grain milling and seed processing professionals. The annual event gathers milling and allied trade professionals from around the world for three days of education, networking and fellowship. Educational and technical programs presented at the conference assist millers in improving yields, productivity, customer satisfaction and safety. The programs are presented by seasoned professionals in the field who have experienced the issues affecting millers first-hand. **Source- www.iaom.info**



DEGESCH America, Inc. will once again be exhibiting at this informative and educational event. Please stop by Booth 108 and visit with us during the show. Hope to see you there.

Emergency Contact Numbers

For Chemical Spills or Emergencies: Chemtrec - (800) 242-9300
For Human or Animal Medical Emergencies: Prosar - (800) 308-4856