

President's Message



Greetings & Salam Sejahtera,

Effective 1 January 2019, employers throughout Malaysia need to comply with the new rulings on the minimum wages which is RM1,050 per month or RM5.05 per hour. It is anticipated that gradual increase is expected for the next 5 years until it reaches the target minimum wage of RM1,500 per month.

If you are an employee, you will find that this increase is nominal where else if you are an employer with large pool of staffs, this translates to marginal high cost of doing business. Business owner needs to consider the multiplier effect on EPF, SOCSO amongst other things.

Since our industry is primarily labour intensive, the increment is inevitable to adapt to the social needs. The employer can only hope that the employee will reciprocate by giving a higher return in their productivity.

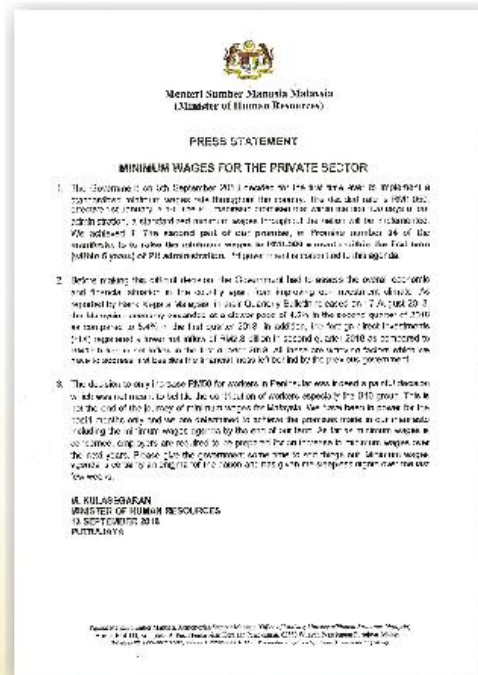
The PCAM understands the need of continuous training in order to elevate the standard and productivity - after all a mind is a terrible thing to waste. We plan to conduct FREE half-day training program on regional and monthly basis. This is our way of saying thank you to all the PCAM members that have supported us all these years.

We have organized a free training on termite management on 26 July, 2018 at Kompleks Dagangan Mahkota Kuantan in collaboration with Seksyen Perlesenan, Bahagian Kawalan Racun Perosak, Jabatan Pertanian and Bayer Environmental Science. The next upcoming event with topic on Food Safety would be at the Scientex Hotel Pasir Gudang on October 17, 2018. The PCO in Penang can expect to having event on November 15, 2018 on Public Health/Vector Control. We hope that other strategic partners and associate members will support this course throughout FY2019. We hope this initiative will attract more PCOs to be the PCAM members.

But for the PCAM to exceed the expectation, we need your input, feedbacks and comments. Please continue to contribute in any way possible. We are already at Q4 2018 and most of us have already set plan and budget for FY2019. We need to look positively on the macroeconomic perspectives; weighing issues on declining public spending after removal of GST, weakening of Ringgit and trade war between the US and China. Notwithstanding, we have gone through trouble times in 1997-1998, 2008-2009 and survived. Another bad economic cycle with not dampen our spirit. Brace for the future, folks!

"Respect, Understand, Serve...."

Nor Hisham Badri
 President (2017/2019)
 The Pest Control Association of Malaysia



Editor's Note VP-Communication Message

Dear fellow members of PCAM,

A growth in digital medium usage portrays the increasing value of digital magazine publishing.

In 2015, Digital Magazine Market Study showed that people read an average of 2.37 digital issues and an average of 2.91 print issues every month, which puts digital magazine consumption at 43% of print magazine consumption and climbing rapidly. (By - Don Nicholas, 09/29/2015)

Going digital means that you'll attract a larger audience and-in turn-engage a pool of that audience to become actual subscribers. Whether you fully convert to digital (or decide to use it in addition to printed publishing) you'll optimize and profit from a new audience.

Quick statistics that prove why digital magazine publishing is worthwhile. Do you have a strong opinion as to why digital magazine publishing has impacted print publishers? Share your thoughts in the comments!

Thank you.

Jeet Wen, Jee (Jason)

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PCAM's 24th Annual General Meeting, June 06, 2018

Date: June 06, 2018(Wednesday)

Time: 10.00 am - 03.00 pm

Venue: PCAM Secretariat Office, NO.8-1A Jalan Perdana 6/8B,
Pandan Perdana, 55300 Kuala Lumpur



A Brief introduction of Cigarette Beetle (*Lasioderma Serricorne*)

By *Sophia Liew*

Cigarette beetles (*Lasioderma serricorne*), also known as tobacco beetles, are a major pest in the stored product industry. Cigarette beetles are small, oval-shaped beetles that can be found in varying shades of reddish-brown. These 3-4 mm beetles are named as such because they can be found infesting cured tobacco leaves and processed tobacco products such as cigarettes and cigars. Despite their size, they are huge pests to the tobacco industry, causing losses through the consumption of tobacco leaves by the larvae, and through contamination of tobacco products by insect excrements and body parts. Cigarette beetles are also found infesting a wide range of food source as well such as grain products, dried spices and even non-food products such as furniture and books. These insects are capable of feeding on a single type of food, and they have no problem surviving with limited food choices.

Adult cigarette beetles can be easily mistaken for drugstore beetles (*Stegobium paniceum*) as they share the same size, shape and colour. However, they can be identified through observation of the antennas, where the cigarette beetle have saw-like antennas; while the drugstore beetle have three-segmented clubs at the end of their antennas. Adult cigarette beetles are strong and fast fliers, which they use to respond to light stimulus. The cigarette beetle's ability to fly well, avoid detection through its small size, and hardy nature allowed it to be distributed worldwide, except for cold regions where they do not grow well. These beetles were even a nuisance back in the times of the Pharaohs. They were found in dried resins in the tomb of Egyptian King Tutankhamun, and were thought to be a pest back then as well.



Cigarette beetles can be detected through a few methods. Visual inspection can be done for cigarette beetle presence near ordinary light source and food source. Cigarette beetles bore through their food, leaving distinctive round holes in the food. Light traps and pheromone traps were also proven effective in determining the presence of adult cigarette beetles, and they are most commonly used on a large scale in commercial warehouses. More sophisticated methods are required to detect the larvae of the beetles, which stays in or on the food source until it matures. Such methods such as acoustic detectors and x-ray photography requires scanning of the food for larvae presence. Acoustic detectors track the sounds made by the larvae when they feed on the food, whereas x-ray photography visualizes the food internally for the larvae.

There are many methods developed to control cigarette beetle infestation. Heating and freezing the food product to kill off eggs and larvae are highly effective, though not so practical on a large scale. Commercial warehouses use traps and insecticides to deal with cigarette beetles on a bigger scale. Traps involve the use of sticky traps that are laced with the female beetle sex pheromone to attract adult male beetles. Pheromone traps can be used to attract and detect adult male beetles, but they can also be used to control beetle population through mass trapping, where many traps are placed in strategic locations throughout the warehouse in a grid-like pattern. Mass trapping works on the concept that the traps will attract enough male adult beetles to reduce mating. However, mass trapping can also be used to detect cigarette beetle presence by analysing the amount of beetles caught in each trap in the warehouse, and pinpoint the source of infestation if one of the traps has a significantly higher beetle count. Aside from traps, insecticides are also used to control cigarette beetle population. Residual insecticide and insect growth regulators (IGR) are used as part of an integrated pest management programme for cigarette beetles. Methyl bromide and phosphine are used as fumigants to treat a large area of cigarette beetle infestation, but fumigation is usually done as a last resort.

There are a lot about the control of cigarette beetles yet to be discovered, as there is a need to find an efficient, yet sustainable control method for these insects.



Briefing on SME Grants & Quality Management System (QMS)



Inaugural Public Talk with students of Fakulti Senibina & Ukurbahan UiTM Shah Alam



Chemical Health Risk Assessment (CHRA), April 25, 2018



Food & Safety Course on 17 & 18, April 2018



Fumigation Course, 23 & 24 June 2018



Kursus Asas Penjualan dan Penyimpanan Racun Perosak

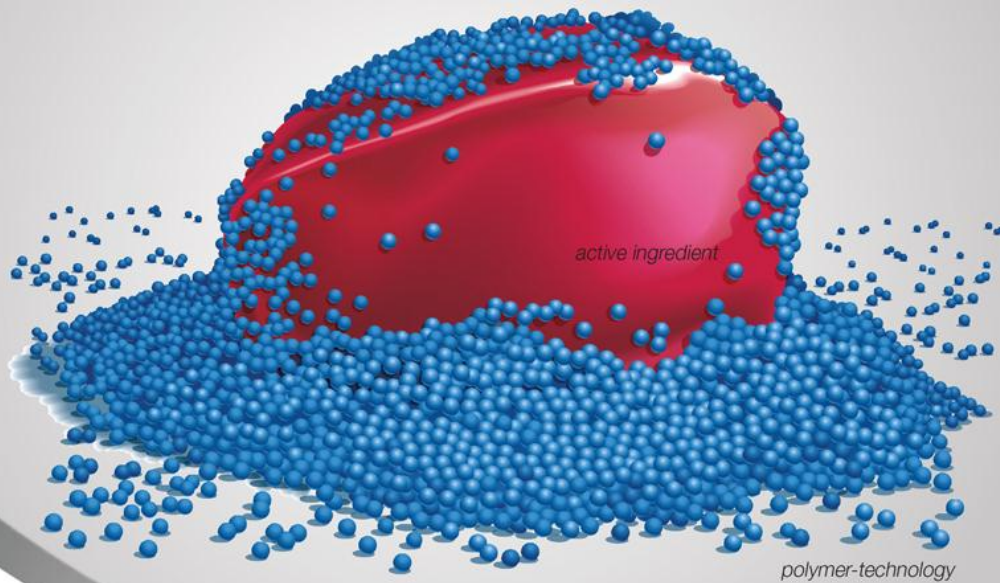
Date : 27 August 2018

Place : Perpustakaan Raja Tun Uda, Jalan Kelab Golf 13/6, Seksyen 13, 40100 Shah Alam.





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FAOPMA-Pest Summit 2018 (Shenzhen) China, hosted by CPCA



The Chinese Pest Control Association was established in 1992 with approval from the Chinese Ministry of Health, Ministry of Civil Affairs. It is a professional, national and non-profit organization engaged in pest control industry in China, it is the most authoritative state-level industry association in the field of pest control in China. In 1998, with the approval of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Health, the association joined the Federation of Asian and Oceania Pest Managers Associations (FAOPMA) and hosted two FAOPMA's annual meetings in 1999 and 2009.

FAOPMA-Pest Summit 2018 Speakers

 Claudia Riegel - Mosquito, m...	 Kang Le Professor of C...	 David Gay -former chairm...	 Xu Jianguo Academician of...	 Shawn Mullen -Global Market...	 Hyung Wook Kwon -Professor Dir...	 Liu Qiyang Doctor & Resea...
 Ron Harrison -Serving as Te...	 Erik Meurling -Head of Comm...	 Steve Broadbent -Certificate L...	 Stephen L. Doggett -The Director ...	 Dave Poling -Currently man...	 Bill Simos -Managing Dire...	 Zeng Xiaopeng Secretary -gen...
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 David Lilly -Principal Ent...	 R.Sundar Raj -Business Deve...			 Feng Xiangyang Senior Techno...	 Xiao Zhike General Manage...	 Wang Ying Deputy Directa...
 Catherine Melvede -Beases -Acting as Loc...	 Jiang Hong Professor of W...	 Wen Xin General Manage...	 Gu Xiang General Manage...			

FAOPMA-Pest Summit 2018 (Shenzhen) China, hosted by CPCA

Program Schedule for FAOPMA-Pest Summit 2018 (28th - 30th September 2018)

26 September (Wednesday)				
Time	Period	Meeting (Activities)	Host	Location
Location	8:00-22:00	Registration and Enrollment		Central Hall of 5 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
	14:00-15:30	Board of Directors of FAOPMA	Bessie Lo	President Hall of 40 th floor of Shangri-La Hotel
	15:30-18:00	Member Meeting of FAOPMA	Bessie Lo	President Hall of 40 th floor of Shangri-La Hotel
Afternoon	14:00-15:30	Open Class	Vice President of CPCA Specialist	Osmanthus Hall of 6 th Floor Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
	15:30-16:00	Opening Ceremony of International Medical Instrument Exchange Activities	Representative of FAOPMA	Central Hall of 5 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
	15:00-17:30	Open Class	Vice President of CPCA Specialist	Osmanthus Hall of 6 th Floor Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
	15:00-18:00	The Opening of International Medical Instrument		5 th & 6 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
	18:00-20:00	Reception Dinner of FAOPMA Members		President Hall of 40 th floor of Shangri-La Hotel
Evening	20:00-22:00	International Cocktail Party (Invitation Only)	Host of Company	President Hall of 40 th floor of Shangri-La Hotel

27 September (Thursday)				
Time	Period	Meeting (Activities)	Host	Location
All Day	8:00-16:00	The Opening of International Medical Instrument		5 th & 6 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
Morning	9:00-10:00	Opening Ceremony	Host of Shenzhen Media Group	Plum Blossom Hall of 5 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
	10:00-10:45	Keynote Speech		
Afternoon	10:45-11:00	Tea Break		Exhibition Hall
	11:00-11:45	Keynote Speech	Host of Shenzhen Media Group	Plum Blossom Hall of 5 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
	11:45-12:00	Public Road		
Noon		Lunch		Food Plaza of 1 st Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
	12:00-13:30			
Afternoon	14:00-14:45	Keynote Speech	Host of Shenzhen Media Group	Plum Blossom Hall of 5 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
	14:45-15:00	Public Road		
	15:00-15:45	Keynote Speech		
	15:45-16:00	Afternoon Tea		Exhibition Hall
	16:00-16:30	Speech	Host of Shenzhen Media Group	Plum Blossom Hall of 5 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
	16:30-16:40	Speech		
	16:40-17:00	Speech		
	17:00-17:40	Speech		
Evening	17:40-18:00	Speech		
	19:00-21:00	Bayer's Night -- Welcome Party of FAOPMA-Pest Summit 2018 (Invitation Only)	Host of Shenzhen Media Group	Benquet Hall of 2 nd Floor of Shangri-La Hall

28 September (Friday)				
Time	Period	Meeting (Activities)	Host	Location
All Day	8:00-16:00	The Opening of International Medical Instrument		5 th & 6 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
Morning	9:00-12:00	International Pest Control Meeting (Venue 1)	Vice President of CPCA Specialist	Bougainvillea Hall of 5 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
		International Pest Control Meeting (Venue 2)	Vice President of CPCA Specialist	Osmanthus Hall of 6 th Floor Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
	8:30-12:00	On-site Activity (Venue 1): Ecological Greenleaf and Imagine the Future	Host of Company	Plum Blossom Hall of 5 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
Noon	12:00-13:30	Lunch		Food Plaza of 1 st Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
	12:00-13:30	Interaction Meeting of International and Domestic Specialists		
Afternoon	13:30-15:00	International Pest Control Meeting (Venue 3)	Vice President of CPCA Specialist	Bougainvillea Hall of 5 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
		International PCO Lecture	Vice President of CPCA Specialist	Osmanthus Hall of 6 th Floor Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
		On-site Activity: Live Interaction and Experience the Accurate Operation of the IIAV	Specialist	Plum Blossom Hall of 5 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
	16:00-18:00	City Visiting		
Evening	19:00-20:30	Reception of Gongcheng Bio-Tech Co., Ltd. and Night of Shenzhen Show (Invitation Only)	Host of Shenzhen Media Group	Overseas Chinese Town East
	20:30-21:00	Closing Ceremony of FAOPMA-Pest Summit 2018		

29 September (Saturday)				
Time	Period	Meeting (Activities)	Host	Location
Morning	9:00-12:00	AIB Training (Preliminary)	Specialist	Bougainvillea Hall of 5 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
		AIB Training (Intermediate)	Specialist	Osmanthus Hall of 6 th Floor Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
Noon	12:00-13:30	Lunch		Food Plaza of 1 st Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
Afternoon	14:00-15:00	AIB IPM Training (Preliminary)	Specialist	Bougainvillea Hall of 5 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
		AIB IPM Training (Intermediate)	Specialist	Osmanthus Hall of 6 th Floor Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
	15:00-16:00	On-site Examination (Preliminary)		Bougainvillea Hall of 5 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
Evening	16:30-18:00	On-site Examination (Intermediate)		Exhibition Center Osmanthus Hall of 6 th Floor Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center
		Certificates Issuing		Exhibition Center Central Hall of 5 th Floor of Shenzhen Convention and Exhibition Hall

30 September (Sunday)				
Time	Period	Content of Meeting	Host	Location
All Day	08:00-12:00	Representatives Returning		

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Urban Pest Control

A few questions for which you need the right understanding to be a successful pest control practitioner*.

Dr Partho Dhang, PhD, Consultant
2410 Belarmino Street, Makati City, Philippines

* This was previously published as a CABI Blog April 06, 2018.

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Q. Starting from the beginning, where do urban pests usually come from and how do the pests invade the household?

A. Pest encounters are becoming increasingly common to humans living in urban areas. More often their interactions are the leading cause of illness due transmission of diseases, allergens, bites, food contamination and phobia. They also harm humans by bringing significant damage to property and structure. These pests thrive in dark, warm and moist conditions in structures, particularly in places where there is food, warmth and place to hide. Moreover, a number of human activities and habits such as living in homes with insufficient ventilation, creating clutter, poor lighting, temperature control, poor recycling of rubbish, improper composting methods and poor water storage attract these pests from surrounding areas. In addition, community areas and public places in cities such as parks, recreation centres, waste lands, rivers, canals, sewer drains, storm-water drains, dump sites, flea markets and recycling plants are often an ideal breeding ground and harbourage of pests, often serving as a ready source. It is also notable that damaged structures or improper building design is also a reason for pest harbourage and consequent pest encounters. This aspect is often corrected by repairing and correcting structural designs, installation of exclusion devices such as screen, skirting, and changing type of lighting, direction of airflow, fitting air vents etc.

Q. Some people may not know that they need to seek professional help if the problem hasn't yet developed fully – but the problem may get worse without intervention. For example, when do bed bugs actually become a problem? Where should people go for pest help and guidance if they aren't sure whether to call in the professionals? Are the chemicals used indoors safe?

A. Pest prevention is always recommended over pest control. One way to do this is to buy pre-treated or inspected products. Professional help from a pest control practitioner is the best way to intervene on citing a pest or noticing a pest damage. Most pest live in large groups or colonies. A citing of a single cockroach, bed bug or a rat is an indication of many of the same type hidden elsewhere in the structure. A knowledge based intervention method has shown its effectiveness over simple conventional method (such as using a DIY method). Pest management professionals who understand the behaviour and biology of their target pest species are more efficient and effective in controlling the pest than those who lack this knowledge. The pesticides chemical used by them in these indoor operations go through complex risk assessment studies before they are put on the market by various regulatory authorities. Thus these chemicals do not pose any risk if applied by a trained professional. Even though pest control remains chemical dependent, the nature and mode of action of chemicals are now much safer and target-specific than before. A variety of non-toxic insect growth regulators and physical action products have taken over the toxic contact poisons. Spot treatments using a compressed air sprayer allow treatment of cracks and crevices. (Author's photo.)

Q. What are the most common ways to treat pests and how can we prevent the spread of pests? A house owner might be nervous about using pesticides, particularly if they have children or pets. What is the advice here?

A. Pest control always remains a challenging field. In spite of counter measures, professional pest control is becoming a necessity for humans as pests tend to overcome common protective measures. Humans, too, fail to stay within strict compliances all the time. Encounters with pests are on the rise. Such a sighting often triggers various types of negative behaviour, anger and disgust, so the choice to use a toxic chemical or a poison spray is almost involuntary. Often consumers head to the nearest supermarket and pick up a bug spray to eliminate the problem. However extensive studies have shown that such measures often provide temporary relief and at times causes unsuspecting contamination. Many of the DIY products may be marked as odourless and water based, also may incorrectly show pictures of a safe family, thus misguiding the buyer who assume they are safe to use. Also, storage of these pesticides remain a risk for householders, as they can accidentally poison children or contaminate the area of storage. This is the reason that a professional pest manager needs to be consulted who can carry the right type of training and understands pesticide usage under indoor conditions. Insect baiting is the best method with which most household pests can be controlled, rather than spray. Baits contain less chemicals which are safer and precise, used in tamper-proof containers to reduce unnecessary exposure to inmates. Globally harmonized pictograms for easy product categorization and classification. (Food and Agricultural Organization, 2015).

Q. Are we seeing pests in new areas due to climate change and other environmental factors? Does this cause new challenges (are we more vulnerable to disease carrying insects because our buildings aren't built/kitted out sufficiently to prevent them?) How can the pest control practitioner (or householder) address these challenges?

A. The newest factor contributing to the human-pest encounter is the changing dynamics of urban settings. Cities are changing in size, expanding constantly to the suburban areas, constructing newer buildings, undertaking continuous structural expansion, developing right-of-way areas and inviting new migrants to settle down. This causes enormous new niches for hosting pests. Imported materials also bring in pests which adds to the existing ones already present. In addition to all this, in the last decade enough evidence has been gathered to prove that human activity is the prime reason for changes in global weather pattern, particularly increase in temperature. Insects being cold-blooded organisms are unable to regulate their body temperature and it is believed that the effect of temperature on insects largely overwhelms the effects of other environmental factors. Emergence of diseases such as Zika, Chikungunia, West Nile and persistence of Dengue and Malaria aside from others are reminders that unsuspecting humans are now put to greater risks as vectors invade cities and enter newer territories much easier than before. It is concluded that the future of pests and their control is dependent on consumer awareness, availability of the right kind of information, innovative products and trained practitioners. Also needed are futuristic designs in building structures which will not play host to pests, use of the right type of lighting to repel pests, recycling wastes sooner than its presently done and employing professional practitioner's for maintaining vigilance.