US ERA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# Educating to Increase Successes in Bed Bug Control



## 2011 EPA Bed Bug Summit

Richard Cooper BedBug Central & Rutgers University

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# We have made significant progress in last four years!

- 1. Research community is beginning to provide information that is shaping management decisions and product development.
- 2. Effective tools and methods have been developed
- 3. Pest management industry has gained much needed field experience

# Not necessary to discard or treat beds with pesticides!





# Encasement of Mattresses & Box Springs





### Interceptor Devices on Legs of Beds, Sofas and Chairs



- 1. Intercepts bugs leaving cluttered areas for a blood meal
- 2. Prevents bugs from dispersing & laying eggs in unpredictable locations away from beds

## Vacuums can be used to quickly eliminate large numbers of bugs

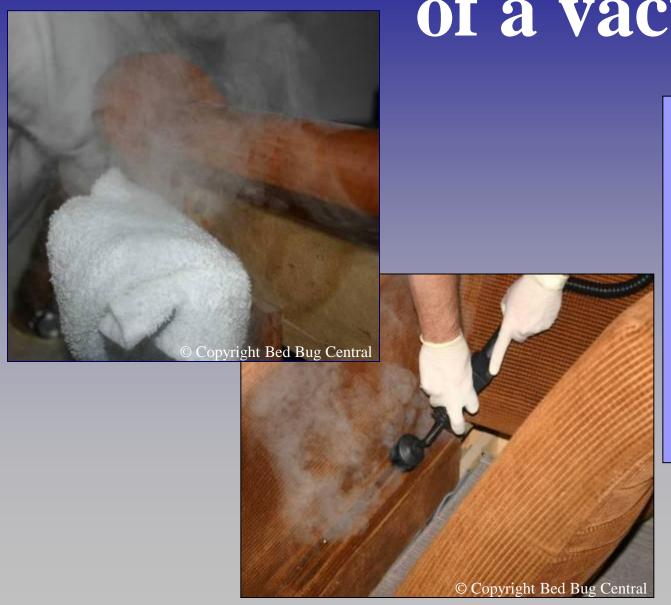








# Steam overcomes limitations of a vacuum



Destroys all stages including

## Hot Laundering an effective method for destroying bed bugs and their eggs!





# Relying on pesticides as the sole method of control is a big mistake



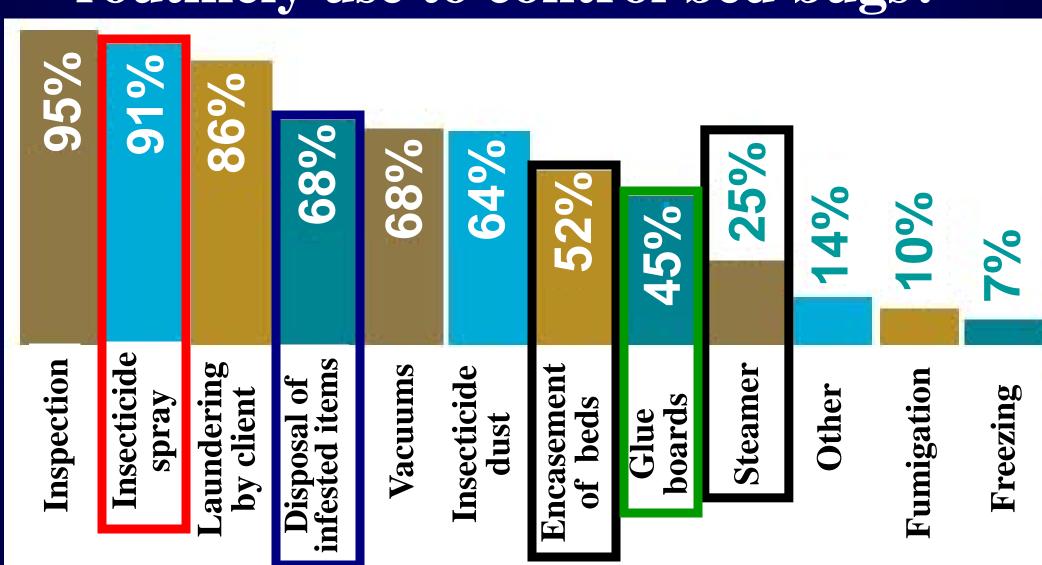






Select materials and methods that help address pesticide tolerance, resistance & offer residual effectiveness

## Which of the following methods do you routinely use to control bed bugs?



Source: PMP Magazine Jan 2008 Business of Bed Bugs



### bedbugFree Program

- Over 125 applicants from nearly every state in the US
- 50 approved companies in 33 different states



## BedBug Central

### **Most Companies**

- ✓ Rely on visual inspection alone for detection of bugs
- ✓ Limit treatments to rooms where bed bugs are seen
- ✓ Require excessive preps (one size fits all)
- ✓ Rely on pesticides as sole method or primary method
- ✓ Don't have a strategy for dealing with eggs
- ✓ Require discarding of infested beds/sofas etc.
- ✓ Have limited or pre-determined follow up program
- ✓ Lack a method for determining when infestations eliminated
- ✓ Little effort to get into surrounding units (no follow up)

# Bed Bug Central "Boot Camp" & "OJO"

### **Hands On Training**

- 120 individuals
- 83 different organizations
  - -PMPs
  - Univ. Housing Officials
  - Property Managers
  - Directors, Group Homes
- 37 States
- 3 Canadian Provinces
- Japan



#### BedBug University

BedBug University: Boot Camp

Boot Camp is a four-day course designed to short en the learning curve of companies that want to increase their bed bug revenues and enhance their bed bug business model. The success of our field program lies in the 3-to-1 student-teacher ratio where students receive the focused attention of our instructors.

#### BedBug University: On the Job Observation

On the Job Observation allows pest management companies to send their staff to New Jersey to attend an in-house presentation on the BedBug Central protocol and spend time in the field with a BedBug Central's team to observe the protocol in action.

## It's not about "The What" it's more about "The How"

# Classroom Coupled With "Hands On" Field Training







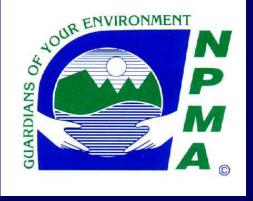












## NPMA

## Blue Ribbon Panel

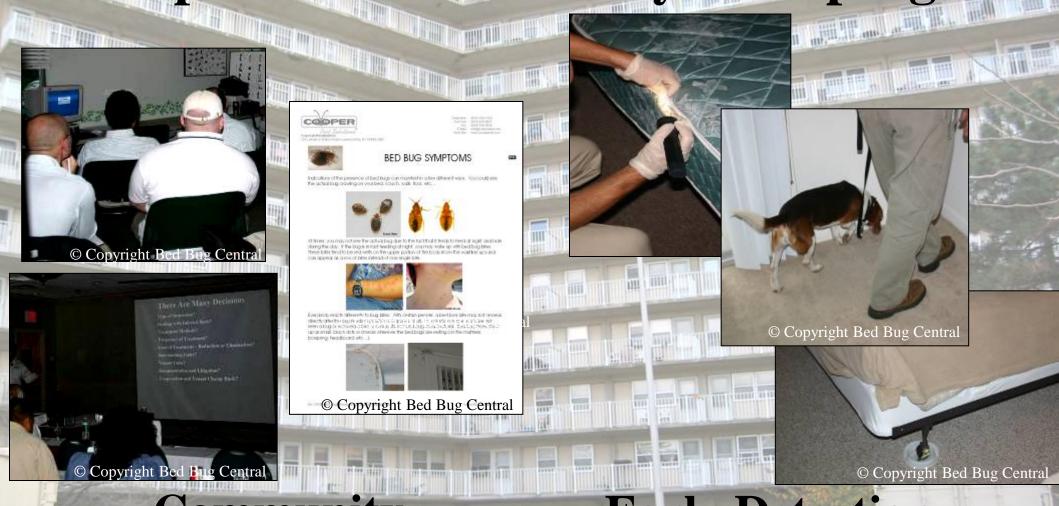
"Best Management

Practices"



## Need to do a better job at Stopping the Spread!

Property managers unwilling or unable to afford proactive community-wide programs



**Community Education** 

Early Detection
Efforts

## At Risk Communities: Implement Community-Wide "Early Detection Programs"

- 1. Interception devices on beds
- 2. Encasement of beds
- 3. Periodic inspections by facilities staff or pest management vendor









## Building Wide Inspection

#### 360-unit apartment building (section 8 for elderly)

- 19 infestations reported by residents
- 43 additional infestations identified through building wide inspection & installation of climbups (7-d)
  - -19% (8/43) identified through visual inspection
  - -81% (35/43) identified with climbups

85% (43/62) of the infestations were not reported by residents!

## We Need to Become More Realistic in our Education Efforts and Solutions to Problems!

### Avoid second hand or discarded items





If you are going to bringing used items into your home check them very carefully!

# Heat chambers to heat used furniture brought in by residents





# "1 of 15 New Yorkers dealing with bed bugs" - NYC Dept. of Health



## Suspected bedbug causes closure of CCAC campus in McCandless

Thursday, October 28, 2010 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

A student who showed up for class with what is believed to be a bedbug on his clothing prompted the closure of Community College of Allegheny County's North Campus in McCandless, sending 3,500 students as well as employees home for the rest of the week.

The decision to cancel classes until Monday was made "as a precaution." The unidentified student, whose apartment is being treated for the pest, entered the building Wednesday morning and the bug was spotted, CCAC spokesman David Hoovler said.

"He left campus and agreed not to return until his apartment is taken care of," Mr. Hoovler said.

Exterminators inspected the building Wednesday afternoon before the decision was made to cancel classes for the rest of the week.

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### Hazleton school treated for bed bugs

Published: November 13, 2009

By Kent Jackson

Staff Writer

Detective work began Tuesday when a girl at the Valley/Elementary Middle School showed an insect bite to the school nurse.

After the nurse recognized a bed bug bite, she referred the girl to a doctor, who concurred.

To investigate bed bugs, school administrators discovered that a sleepover helped spread the infestation to two homes and six students.

They found no bed bugs in any of the five schools that those students attend.

### Where Do Go From Here?

- 1. Continued education on newest tools and techniques
- 2. Shift education from "the what" to "the how"
- 3. Shift from reactionary approaches to pro-active approaches
  - Provide tools/resources for pest industry to educate clients (property managers, hospitality etc.)
- 4. Appropriate responses when bugs show up in non-residential settings

### Thank You



## **QUESTIONS?**