

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



# EPA's Website Transformation

May 14, 2015

# EPA Website Overview

- EPA Web pages – 500,000 average page views/document downloads/day
- Pesticide Web pages -- about 22,000 page views/downloads per day

# Why Transform? Why Now?

- Improve Web content and format to better serve audiences
  - Focus is on key audiences and their top tasks
  - Eliminate or archive pages/documents that do not serve those audiences/tasks, many of which are rarely used
- Provide a better Web experience for mobile users, a rapidly growing audience
- Process and schedule mandated by the Administrator
- Deadline: September 2015, when current Web servers will be decommissioned

# How We Approached the Project

- Started with list of possible sites based on content of current site
- Focus is on ensuring that current high priority content is transformed
- Evaluate content and develop draft structures
- Rewrite and update Web pages as needed
- Identify older and little-used content for archiving

# How the Website is Changing

- The format is different
- Much of the content is the same, though written more clearly where needed
- Some older documents are being archived
- Search should work better
- URLs are changing, so you will need to update bookmarks

# Project Status

- We have launched 19 transformed sites, for example:
  - Pesticide registration
  - Pesticide reevaluation
  - Bed bugs (often on the top ten list for the agency)
  - Pollinator protection
  - Pesticide advisory committees and regulatory partners
- See the Highlights section at [www.epa.gov/pesticides](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides) for the list and links to all the sites.

# Projects Underway

- We are working to complete the transformation of the pesticide Web content by sometime this summer
- Sites still to complete include, for example:
  - Pesticide labels
  - Pesticide tolerances
  - Endangered species
  - Worker safety





## Pesticides: Regulating Pesticides



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### Registering Pesticides

Pesticide registration is the process through which EPA examines the ingredients of a pesticide; the site or crop on which it is to be used; the amount, frequency and timing of its use; and storage and disposal practices. EPA evaluates the pesticide to ensure that it will not have unreasonable adverse effects on humans, the environment and non-target species. Pesticides must be registered or exempted by EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs before they may be sold or distributed in the U.S. Once registered, a pesticide may not legally be used unless the use is consistent with the approved directions for use on the pesticide's label or labeling.

On this page:

- [Conditional Registration](#)
- [Product Suspensions](#)
- [Resources for Registrants](#)
- [State Registration of Pesticides](#)

EPA has separate review processes for three categories of pesticides:

- [antimicrobials](#)
- [biopesticides](#)
- [conventional](#)

The three processes share the same application materials, but there are differing [data requirements](#) and [review policies](#) that registrants must take into account in their submittal.

The process of registering a pesticide begins with submission to EPA of an [application package](#). EPA's review of this application includes assessment of the hazards to human health and the environment that may be posed by the pesticide. Depending on the class of pesticide and the priority assigned to it, the review process can take several years. Biopesticides and [reduced-risk conventional pesticides](#) often can complete the process much faster, in as little as a year in some cases. Refer to the [Pesticide Registration Manual \(Blue Book\)](#) for more information about the pesticide registration process.

EPA publishes its annual [workplan](#) for conventional chemical pesticides. This workplan reflects the priority-setting ([Pesticide Registration Notices 97-2 \(PDF\)](#) and [98-7](#)) process for these pesticides, which focuses on reduced-risk pesticides and pesticides that can replace methyl bromide or the organophosphate pesticides.

### Conditional Registration

After EPA completes its review of an application for registration of a pesticide, EPA may register the pesticide. In some cases, the registration is "conditional," and issues must be resolved or monitoring must be implemented, for example, for the registration to continue.

An example of a [conditional registration](#) is [acetochlor](#). In March 1994, EPA approved a registration application proposed by the Acetochlor Registration Partnership (ARP) for the use of the herbicide acetochlor on corn. Because of potential risks to human health and the environment, the Agency required that for registration of this chemical to continue, the total use of U.S. corn herbicides of concern, including alachlor, metolachlor, atrazine, and 2,4-D must be significantly reduced. EPA also imposed several restrictions and conditions on the use of acetochlor.

An example of a [plant-incorporated protectant](#) (PIP) - which is a type of biopesticide - is MON 863 producing the Cry 3Bb1 protein to control corn rootworm. This product was conditionally registered in February 2003. The Agency required some additional non-target effects data, research on insect resistance management, and field degradation studies. Because this product is estimated to reduce chemical insecticides by 7.5 million acre treatments in the first three years, the Agency determined the benefits outweighed the risks.

#### Quick Resources

- [Regulating Pesticides that Use Nanotechnology](#)
- [Fee Determination Decision Tree](#)
- [Public Involvement of Pesticide Registration](#)
- [Pesticide Registration Manual \(Blue Book\)](#)
- [Templates for Use in Developing Pesticide Study Documents](#)
- [Registration Service Fees](#)
- [Conditional Registration](#)
- [Emergency Exemptions](#)
- [Registration Kit & Forms](#)
- [Reduced-Risk Pesticides](#)
- [Inert Ingredients](#)
- [Multi-year Workplan for Registration of Conventional Pesticides](#)
- [Determining If Insect Repellent Skin Patch Products Must Be Registered Under FIFRA](#)



## Pesticide Registration

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### Pesticide Registration Manual Helps Applicants

[Find application forms, guidance and more](#)



#### What's New

- [Documents Open for Comment](#)
- [Pesticide News](#)



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#### About Pesticide Registration

[Pesticide registration process](#)  
[Federal pesticide laws](#)



#### Fees and Fee Waivers

- [Overview of fees, waivers, and exemptions](#)



#### How To Register a Pesticide

- [Pesticide registration manual](#)
- [Electronic submissions](#)

#### Pesticide Databases

- [Pesticide Product Label System](#)
- [Pesticide Chemical Search](#)
- [Inert Ingredient Finder](#)
- [National Pesticide Information Retrieval System \(NPIRS\)](#) [Exit](#)



#### Types of Registrations



#### Registration



#### Requirements and

What are you looking for?

[Pesticide Registration](#)



## Bed Bug Information

The common bed bug (*Cimex lectularius*) has long been a pest – feeding on blood, causing itchy bites and generally irritating their human hosts. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) all consider bed bugs a public health pest. However, unlike most public health pests, bed bugs are not known to transmit or spread disease.

They can, however, cause other [public health problems](#), so it's important to pay close attention to preventing and controlling bed bugs.

Experts believe the recent increase in bed bugs in the United States may be due to more travel, lack of knowledge about preventing infestations, increased resistance of bed bugs to pesticides, and ineffective pest control practices.

The good news is that there are ways to control bed bugs. Getting good, solid information is the first step in both prevention and control. While there is no chemical quick fix, there are effective strategies to control bed bugs involving both non-chemical and chemical methods.

On this page:

- [Identifying Bed Bug Infestations](#)
- [Treating Bed Bug Infestations](#)
  - [Non-chemical Treatments](#)
  - [Chemical Treatments](#)
    - [Bed Bug Product Search tool](#)
- [Preventing Bed Bug Infestations](#)
- [Bed Bug Pesticide Alert - Important!](#)
- [Hiring Pest Management Professionals](#)
- [Bed Bug Biology](#)
- [Common Bed Bug Myths](#)
- [Questions and Answers](#)
- [For More Information](#)

### Resources

- [New Items in Bed Bug Information Clearinghouse](#)
- [Bed Bug Product Search tool](#)
- [Bed Bug Information Clearinghouse](#)
- [Top Ten Bed Bugs Tips \(Disponible en español\)](#)
- [Joint Statement on Bed Bug Control](#)
- [Development of Methods for Efficacy Testing of Bed Bug Pesticide Products](#)

### Identifying Bed Bug Infestations

Bites on the skin are a poor indicator of a bed bug infestation. Bed bug bites can be misidentified, which gives the bed bugs time to spread to other areas of the house. Bed bug bites can look like bites from other insects (such as mosquitoes or spiders), rashes (such as eczema or fungal infections), or even hives. Some people do not react to bed bug bites at all.

A far more accurate way to identify a possible infestation is to look for physical signs of bed bugs. For example, spots on bedding, as described below, are one of the earliest and most accurate methods.

When cleaning, changing bedding, or staying away from home, look for:

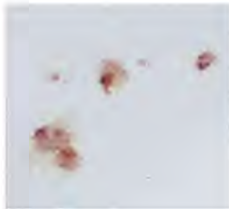
- Dark spots (about this size: •) which are bed bug excrement and may bleed on the fabric like a marker would
- Eggs and eggshells, which are tiny (about 1mm) and white
- Skins that nymphs shed as they grow larger
- Live bed bugs
- Rusty or reddish stains on bed sheets or mattresses caused by bed bugs being crushed

When not feeding, bed bugs hide in a variety of places. Around the bed, they can be found near the piping, seams and tags of the mattress and box spring, and in cracks on the bed frame and head board.

If the room is heavily infested, you may find bed bugs in the seams of chairs and couches, between cushions, in the folds of curtains, in drawer joints, in electrical receptacles and appliances, under loose wall paper and wall hangings -- even in the head of a screw. Since bed bugs are only about the width of a credit card, they can squeeze into really small hiding spots. If a crack will hold a credit card, it could hide a bed bug.



Canvas strap of old box spring covering that is housing adults, skin castings, feces, and eggs. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Louis Sorkin)



Close up of blood stains on pillow (L. Sorkin)



Close up of eggs on cardboard (H. Harlan)

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### Treating Bed Bug Infestations

Controlling bed bugs takes time and patience. There are a variety of non-chemical approaches that have been shown to be effective. In addition, pesticides are available to aid in the control process.

Combining chemical and non-chemical treatments in a unified approach often makes the most sense. This approach is called integrated pest management (IPM). IPM programs use current, comprehensive information on the life cycles of pests and their interaction with the environment combined with available pest control methods like pesticides. Together this information is used to manage pest damage based on what you can afford and what is most effective. It also provides a solution with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment.

Recommended steps:

- Inspect infested areas, plus surrounding living spaces

### Bed Bug Pesticide Alert

- Never use a pesticide indoors that is intended for outdoor use. It is very dangerous and won't solve your bed bug problem.
- Using the wrong pesticide or using it incorrectly to treat for bed bugs can make you sick, may not solve the problem, and could even make it worse by causing the bed bugs to hide where the pesticide won't reach them.
- Check if the product is effective against bedbugs -- if a pest isn't listed on the product label, the pesticide has not been tested on that pest and it may not be effective. Don't use a product or allow a pest control operator to treat your home unless bed bugs are named on the product label.
- Before using any pesticide product, READ THE LABEL FIRST, then follow the directions for use.
- Keep in mind that any pesticide product without an EPA registration number has not been reviewed by EPA, so we haven't determined how well the product works.

Before



## Bed Bugs: Get Them Out and Keep Them Out

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### Where are the bed bugs?

Find them, get rid of them: An introduction to bed bugs



### Bed bug tip of the month

#### Don't panic!

There is no need to throw out all of your things. With some effort, most items can be saved. **Read more about bed bug control options.**

[More tips](#)

### Learn About Bed Bugs



- [Introduction to bed bugs](#)
- [Characteristics of bed bugs](#)
- [How to find bed bugs](#)
- [Bed bug information clearinghouse](#)
- [What landlords need to know](#)

### Prevent Infestations



- [Protecting your home](#)
- [Protecting yourself at school or office](#)
- [Tips for travel](#)
- [Print an information card to carry with you](#)

### Get Rid of Bed Bugs



- [Using integrated pest management](#)
- [Pesticides for bed bug control](#)
- [Steps for "do-it-yourself"](#)
- [Safety issues in controlling bed bugs](#)
- [Find help with bed bug problems](#)

### Questions?

- [Qs and As about bed bugs](#)
- [Ask a question](#)
- [Bed bug myths](#)
- [Regional bed bug contacts](#)

### Popular Topics and Resources

- [Top ten tips to prevent or control bed bugs](#)
- [Public health issues](#)
- [Joint Statement on Bed Bug Control in the U.S. from CDC and EPA](#)
- [Bed bug summits](#)
- [Videos, webinars and blogs](#)



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# After

# How the Archive will Work

- EPA is establishing a separate archive
- Currently designating items for the archive
  - Older meeting summaries
  - Web pages/documents that may be older or outdated but may be useful for reference
- We won't be linking to specific documents in the archive
- Archive materials will be available by search

# How You Can Provide Input

- Email comments or concerns ([pesticidewebcomments@epa.gov](mailto:pesticidewebcomments@epa.gov))
  - Suggestions about sites that have been launched
  - Your priorities/concerns about information that is still in the transformation process
- Let us know if you are interested in helping test sites (could be before or after launch)