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LET THE EXPERTS GET RID OF PESTS

StarSpecial, Sunday 28 December, 2008

To many, the pest control industry is quite unheard of, especially to the younger generation who grew up assuming that it's not an important subject. Hence, the Exco of The Pest Control Association of Malaysia (PCAM) is striving to change that perception by informing the public that the art of controlling and dealing with pests require more that just utilizing chemicals.





Wahid Udin, deputy president of PCAM

Ana Tan Loona, president of PCAM

How the industry began

According to Ang Tan Loong, president of PCAM, the advent of pest control in Malaysia dates back to the late 1940s whereby a large shipment of wheat grains was detected to have severe weevils infestations. As there were no local or foreign pest control operator (PCO) in the country at that time, foreign experts were invited by the government to carry out to annihilate these pests by fumigating the whole vessel; ensuring that these pests, including the weevil eggs, are completely eradicated and rescue the wheat without any economical lasses

"From that juncture, these enterprising foreign PCOs realized the lucrative potential, hence branching out to Malaysia and began to employ locals to manage their operations. Many of our local PCOs now are the products and 'disciples' of these foreign companies. All in all, there are approximately 600 PCOs in the country, of which the majority are located in urban cities," said Ang.

Through the years since the inception of PCAM, the public is much aware of PCAM's existence. "The success of PCAM owes much to our president for his tireless efforts in strengthening and bringing about various radical changes to our industry," says Wahid Udin, deputy president of PCAM.

"PCAM is well known regionally too. The two ministries of Agriculture and health of which PCAM is under their purview, frequently hold dialogues with us to ensure that the industry is progressing to their expectations. In fact, the food safety department of the Health Ministry invited us on a few occasions to train their health

inspectors on Pest Management in HACCP and on good manufacturing practice or GMP. Our president was also invited by The Australian Quarantine Inspection Service of the Australian Government to deliver a working paper on MAFAS (Malaysian fumigation accreditation Scheme) standard of fumigation held in Jarkatar sometime last year," explained Wahid.

Ang has also been appointed as the honorary advisor to two regional associations, namely Thailand and Singapore Pest management Associations and requested PCAM to assist them in organizing their conventions.

The benefits that PCAM offers to the consumers of public health or pest control operators.

The benefits are variable ranging from updated information, members complying with the code of ethics, training courses in fumigation and pest control for the public if they wish to attend and arbitration in the event of disputes. For solving hardcore cases which may require scientific assistance, PCAM has Prof. Dr Lee Chow Yang as their honorary member who is a qualified scientist cum professor attached with University Sains Malaysia.

One of PCAM's Main objectives is to train the members to be competent in discharging their responsibilities, especially when applying pesticides as such applications demand a high level of safety standards / If not licenses may be suspended or even be terminated by the relevant authorities.

"Not all pest control companies are licensed

to perform fumigation works in Malaysia and not all PCOs are compliant to HACCP standarts. Thurs, consumers are advised to check the status of PCOs at www.pcam.com.my," said Ana.

PCAM hopes consumers will come to realize the benefits of engaging our member PCOs. While many may know the science of pest but the art of control and application varies.

According to Ang, all brands of pesticides must be registered with the pesticides Board of Malaysia before it can be marketed or applied here, even though they may share the same active ingredients. It is imperative that the consumers seek verifications from PCOs and consumers are advised to read the label as some unscrupulous PCOs may substitute the cheaper unregistered.

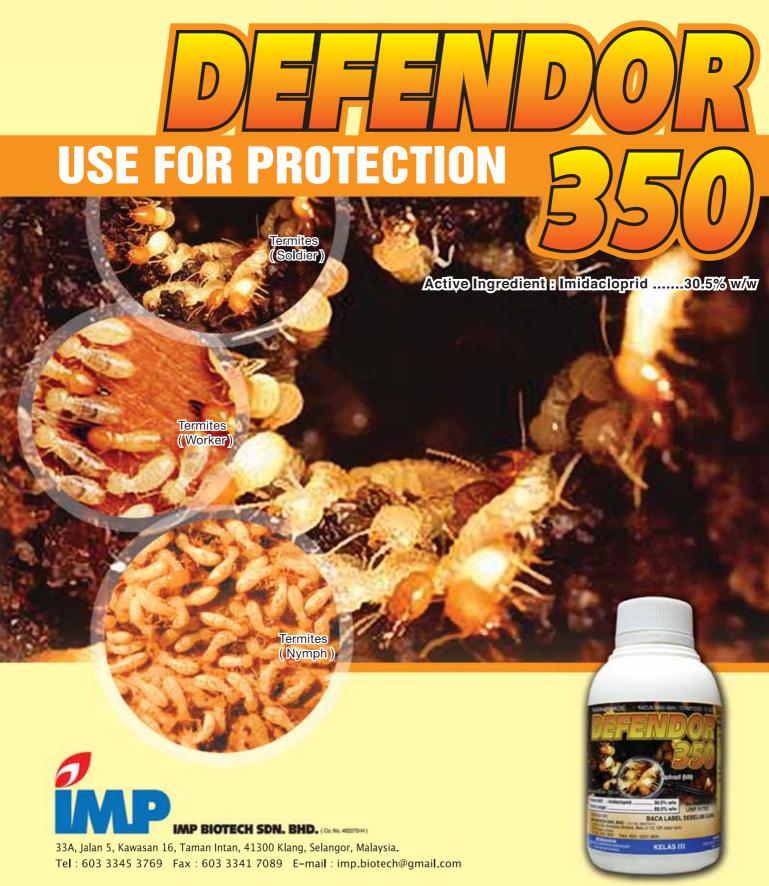
"Dealing with pests, which are living organisms, requires more than just chemicals. We need different strategies and methodologies to solve different pests issues," explained Ang.

PCAM will be conducting a I-day course on fumigation Jan 13, 2009 with Ang and Wahid as the trainers. Any personnel / technicians of fumigation operators, supervision and management in the premises of their respective clients in the fumigation industry are encouraged to attend (limited seats).

To register, call 03-92747288 or fax to 03-92740288 or email pcam@streamyx.com

StarSpecial, SUNDAY 28 December 2008





Fumigation busines

still very much in demand

EDITOR'S NOTE

ANDROO SUNG

androo@pcam.com.my

PCAM held a one day fumigation training program on 13 January, 2009 entitled "Fumigation Business & Pre-Audit MAFAS Scheme" at the PCAM training centre, Pandan Perdana, Kuala

Surprisingly, the response to participate came from members who were mainly outstation. Members from Brunei, Perlis, Kedah, Melaka, Penang, Seberang Prai, Johore, Sarawak, Selangor and Wilayah attended the training. And most of them are of very senior level like CEO, MDs, Senior Mgrs, Managers & Executives. This augured well for the Fumigation Industry as the outstation members and Senior Management staff appeared to be more keen in fumigation business than before.

Two licensed fumigators namely our President: Ang Tan Loong and our Deputy President: Wahid Udin were the trainers. All in all, they had 30 years of hands-on experiences between them combined. The President covered the first sessions consisting of the Hydrogen Cyanide Act 1953, theory and practice of proper fumigation as well as principles and procedures pertaining to fumigation. The Deputy President gave the 2nd part of training by covering Pre-audit MAFAS Scheme, Fumigation equipment and some safety & first aid aspects of fumigation.

Two suppliers of fumigation equipment were present to display and shared their products. Moon Trading presented their products and services to the participants in the first session. While Draegner came in the 2nd session to share their safety fumigation equipment like face masks & tubes etc.

Androo Sung, the convenor gave an introduction of the trainers's background and resume as well as the objective of the training program with some exams syllabus from the Kementerian Kesihatan, Putrajaya. He mentioned that PCAM after this course would continue to provide the 3 days advance level of training for those who are really keen to sit for the coming exams. The exam may be held in May or June, 2009 provided that there is sufficient numbers of candidates.

The 3 days training will cover in-depth topics of fumigation with one day practical training at a designated fumigation site. Exam questions shall be discussed to prepare the candidates mentally. It is suggested those who intend to take the exams to register with Kementerian Kesihatan, Putrajaya as soon as possible as the Kementerian has limited seats

You may register with PCAM for the 3 days training program now. We will notify you for the training date and program in due course. Just fax the particulars of yourself and your company to PCAM:03-9274 0288 or email: pcam@streamyx.com for our planning. You may get a copy of the exam application form when you register with us. PCAM looks forward in providing more quality training to our members. Cheers!

Please refer to our recently conducted Fumigation Training Program photos at pg5.

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Professor Dr Lee Chow Yang, an honorary member of the Pest Control Association of Malaysia was chosen as the Honouree for the Academic Leadership and Accomplishment at the recent Outstanding Young Malaysian Awards 2008 ceremony held on 1 November 2008 at Sunway Pyramid Convention Centre. Prof Lee, 39, is internationally recognised for his research on biology and management of urban pest cockroaches, ants and termites in South East Asia. As one of the pioneers in the field of urban entomology in Asia, Dr Lee's research has contributed to improving management strategies against insect pests of urban and public health importance, while at the same time, advocating the minimal use of pesticides in the human environment. He has authored and co-authored 101 peer-reviewed papers, 7 books and 36 other publications, and trained 14 graduate students and over 60 undergraduate students. He has also delivered more than 100 invited talks including as keynote, plenary and symposium speakers in numerous international conferences and seminars. Dr Lee received many accolades at international and national levels including Kyoto University Visiting Professorship (2007), HH Yap Award (2003), MSPTM Medal (2003), Fulbright Scholarship (2002) and the National Young Scientist Award (2000). In 1996, Dr Lee joined Universiti Sains Malaysia as a lecturer, and was appointed associate professor in 2002, and finally as Professor of Entomology in 2006.

The Outstanding Young Malaysian (TOYM) Program was originated from the Outstanding Young Persons of the World Program and was developed by Durwood Howes, the President of the US Junior Chamber International (also known as Jaycee) in the year 1930 and 1931. Junior Chamber International Malaysia started the program for Malaysia in the year 1985.

The objectives of the award are: (1) to recognize young Malaysians between the ages of 18 and 40, whose dedication to their profession or life undertakings has resulted in exceptional achievement, in the form of significant contributions to the progress or welfare of the community at large and to the advancement of their respective field of endeavor, (2) to create public awareness and to give proper recognition to the outstanding achievements of the honorees, thereby serving as inspirational examples and incentives to the young Malaysian to forge ahead to greater heights of achievements in the spirit of selfless dedication for the further development of the community.



The judges for TOYM 2008 were Prof Dato' Wira Ir Dr Mohammad Noor Hj Salleh (Chief, who is currently the President of Kuala Lumpur Infrastructure University College), Datuk Kisai Rahmat (formerly Executive Director of Proton Holdings Bhd), Dato' Thasleem Mohamed Ibrahim Al-Haj (Executive Chairman of TMI-Nusantara Consultants), Dato' Aric Ng Wai Sing (CEO, JC Academy Sdn Bhd) and Vivien Tai Hsiao Hua (President, Malaysian Chinese Cultural Association, as well as a famous book writer). A total of 16 outstanding Malaysians were shortlisted as finalists and was announced by Deputy Minister of Youth and Sports in early October. On 1 November 2008, 9 of them were awarded as honorees of the Outstanding Young Malaysians 2008 in their respective category, while the other 7 were given Certificate of Merit.

There are 10 categories where an honoree will be chosen from, namely:

- 1. Business, economic or entrepreneurial accomplishment.
- 2. Political, legal and governmental affairs.
- 3. Academic leadership and accomplishment.
- 4. Cultural achievements.
- 5. Moral or religious leadership.
- 6. Contribution to children, world peace or human rights.
- 7. Humanitarian and voluntary service.
- 3. Scientific and technological development.
- Personal improvement and accomplishment.
- 10. Medical innovation.



FUMIGATION BUSINESS & PRE-AUDIT MAFAS SCHEME

Date: 13 January, 2009 (Tuesday) **Duration:** One Day Training Place: PCAM Training Centre







Trainer: Mr Ang giving the Fumigation-finer points



Participants taken from anotherangle



Trainer Deputy Presidents
En.Wahid Udin



Moon Trading rep.
Mr Romeodoing ademo





Draegner Safety Asias MrTeh explained the safety equipment



Participants-focused and enthusiatic during the training

Pesticide Applicator License (PAL) & **Assistant Pesticide Applicator License** (APAL)

Training Program

Date: 17 & 18 March, 2009 (Tues & Wed) Duration: 2 full days Place: PCAM Lecture Room



Partidipants payingattention to the trainer



- 2 DAYS THEORY 1 DAY PRACTICAL
- Fumigation exam preparation

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