

Wheaton superintendent earns environmental specialist certificate

Robert K. Breen, Jr., golf course superintendent of Arrowhead Golf Club, Wheaton, IL, has earned an environmental specialist certificate in Integrated Plant Management (IPM).

The IPM specialization focuses on effective and safe alternatives to the regular use of chemicals in golf course management. The goal of IPM is to reduce reliance on pesticides and increase the use of biological, mechanical and cultural pest control techniques.

The IPM specialist recognition is part of the Environmental Management Program (EMP) offered through the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

GCSAA's EMP consists of six distinct specializations: IPM; Underground Storage Tanks; Golf Course Development; Employee Safety and Right-To-Know; Water Quality and Application; and Storage, Disposal and Recycling.

Golf course superintendents may choose to complete one or more of these specializations, each of which is composed of a series of relevant course work. Because environmental science and regulations evolve rapidly, the superintendent must renew the specialization certificate at the end of three years.

The superintendent who successfully completes the required course work in a specialization receives a certificate from GCSAA. In addition, the superintendent who earns this credential demonstrates his or her commitment to preserve and protect the environment and local resources.

GCSAA introduced the EMP in response to the complex training needs of today's superintendents. The program is open to all golf course management professionals seeking further environmental training and expertise.

Zimmerman Pine Moth

Treatments for Zimmerman pine moth should be applied around mid to late August. Adult female moths will begin emerging around the early to mid August, mate, and then begin laying eggs on the bark cracks and crevices. After egg hatch, the young larvae will wander around on the surface of the bark and eventually spin a cocoon-like structure in preparation for winter. The following spring (mid to late April), the larva will become active again, bore into the bark, and begin feeding. This feeding under the bark results in a girdling effect causing death of the branch and flagging later in the growing season. Larval feeding usually occurs in the branch crotch areas of the host tree. Preferred hosts include Scots and Austrian pines. The Zimmerman pine moth causes the greatest damage to young trees. There is one generation per year.

For control of the Zimmerman pine moth, apply Dursban (chlorpyrifos) or Cygon (dimethoate) to the main trunk and branches of the infested tree. Thorough coverage of the bark is important for effective control. One application should be adequate as both Dursban and Cygon have a residual of approximately one month.

Credit: Chicagoland Hort Newsletter, 8/93



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