

Pest Control and the Superintendent

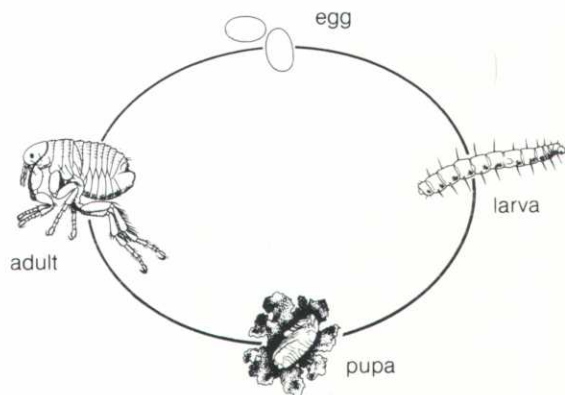
by **RUSS MITCHELL**
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IT has been brought to my attention, that as we are always discussing mole crickets and nematodes, that there are other things that can be helpful to superintendents in their never ending responsibilities around the golf course.

SPIDER CONTROL

How often are you required to do pest control in and around the clubhouse, restrooms or under the eaves of buildings where cobwebs are unsightly and a nuisance. Of the several good products on the market the wetttable powders are the formulation of choice. The reason is the residual will be much greater. You should get at least 30 days from these products. FICAM W will give excellent results. It is a carbamate with no odor and is easy to handle. Also the new pyrethroids like CYNOFF AND DEMON are excellent choices also. Their active ingredient is cypermethrin. They give long residual with quick knockdown. There is a new chemical available in this family also called TEMPO. Its active ingredient is cyfluthren. It should work equally as well. This product is interesting because it also has pending turf labeling for mole crickets and is currently labeled for ornamentals.

Always remember to clean out your sprayer before using WP formulations if EC solutions have been previously used. The oil in the EC will cause the WP to ball up in the tank causing you to spray mostly water or clog up your spray tips when the lumps of concentrate stick in the tip.



Fleas have a 4 stage life cycle which consists of the egg, larva, pupa and adult stages.

These products are also labeled for ants, roaches, etc. and give excellent results. They are labeled for both inside and outdoor use.

FLEAS

Whether in the superintendents office or in the clubhouse fleas can be a real problem. One point to make is that I recommend that you use a professional pest control company to do the clubhouse because of their experience and also to protect you from liability due to a carpet stain. Having said this I also realize that this matter falls within the responsibility of a number of supers. If so here is the way to get good indoor control. First remember that if we are talking about an office and there is a dog that comes and goes you will never get 100% control. Having said this there are products that work well. The two products of choice by professionals are Safrotin and Dursban L.O.

Also Ficam W is labeled. It has one drawback as being a wetttable powder, the residual is greatly reduced if the carpet is vacuumed because the product will be sucked up. The other products are EC formulations so vacuuming is not a problem. Safrotin is a restricted use pesticide. This should be no problem since all golf courses use some restricted products now such as NEMECUR. Both Safrotin and L.O. are effective if properly applied. This sounds simple but with flea treatments it is crucial that the proper amount of chemical contacts the carpet. For example if the chemical to be applied has been diluted properly then the important thing is to see how many square feet one gallon is to cover. If it states one gallon per 1500 square feet then one gallon will not treat a 5000 square foot clubhouse. You may make it go that far but do not blame the chemical for lack of control. A B&G sprayer is the best choice for application to carpets. Its fan tip is perfect for the proper spray pattern. If your office is where the problem is and you do not wish to invest \$132.00 for a sprayer there are also excellent total release aerosols available. These can be purchased with a growth regulator in them which will give quick kill due to their dual mixture of a contact killing chemical and hormone. The most available of these is the Precor Plus fogger. This is a professional product. One can covers 6000 cubic feet and gives 120 day control.

Precor can also be purchased in liquid



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form to be mixed with Safrotin or L.O. This is the ideal way to manage your flea problem. After your first application of both residual and growth regulator you can follow up every 90 days with just Precor alone and never have a problem again because proper control of the adults with your initial spray application will allow the growth regulator to prevent new eggs from completing their life cycle.

ROACH CONTROL

Roaches can be a problem in your maintenance buildings, locker rooms, and of course in the clubhouse kitchen. Once again I recommend that you hire a professional pest control company for the clubhouse and kitchen area but I realize that some of you have this responsibility. Demon, Safrotin, Cynoff, Tempo, Ficam Plus, Baygon, and Dursban all give good control. Here again placement and type of formulation are the key factors in gaining good control. If you can get away with a powder residue the wettable powders will always give the longest residual. If large roaches are a problem coming in from outdoors you must treat the entry points. Doors, windows, and attics are the

main treatment sites. If your clubhouse has a dropped ceiling this is a key area to place a product like a Baygon or Dursban roachbait. This is very effective since the large roaches are coming in foraging for food. Also treat the mulched and landscaped areas around the clubhouse since this is the major breeding ground for these pests.

If your problem is with german roaches, the small types that are found in kitchens, you have to treat in a totally different manner. These roaches will be very close to their food and water source. They do not like direct light and prefer to feed in the dark. If you see many german roaches in the open and in the daytime you can rest assured that you have quite a severe problem as the roaches are so plentiful that they are competing with each other for food and the weaker roaches are having to feed in this unfriendly environment.

They prefer to stay in cracks at all times other than feeding. That is why most roach control attempts on germans are just that, attempts. Baseboard sprays will do nothing for german roach control. Placement of any of these chemicals in the

cracks and crevices will give good control. The synthetic pyrethoid insecticides will also give good flushing action and a quick knockdown. Reapply every 30 days or as necessary.

FLIES

Flies in the maintenance building can be a serious nuisance in the summer. The rains drive the flies inside and several species do inflict a nasty bite. Control is best achieved by using baits. The best are Flytek and Stimukil. Both contain a sex attractant (muscamone) and a toxicant. The attractant draws the fly to the bait and then the fly feeds on the sugar based granule. The bait contains the toxicant Methemyl. This is a very effective bait either wet or dry so do not throw it away when humidity makes it damp. Tests have shown that the bait works better when damp.

WITH ALL THE PRODUCTS LISTED PLEASE READ THE LABEL CAREFULLY AND FOLLOW IT TO THE LETTER. THIS IS FOR MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS AND YOUR SAFETY. ■

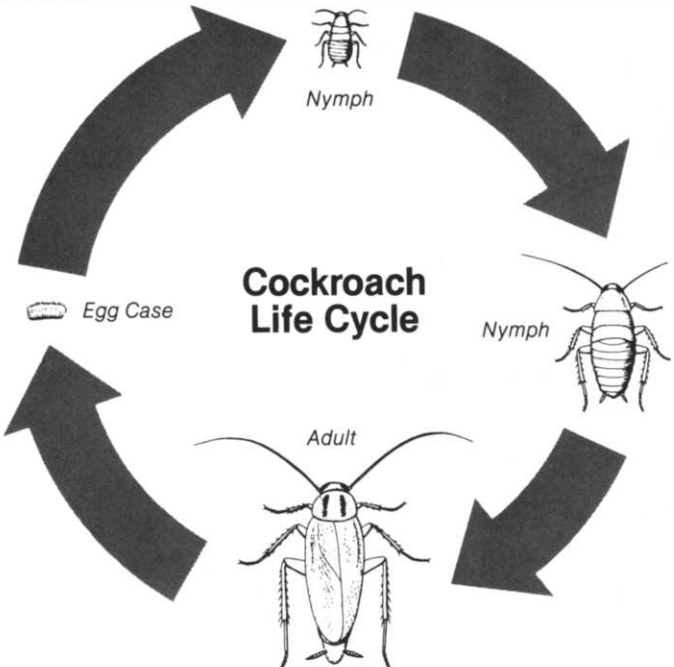
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Cockroach Life Cycle

The life cycle of cockroaches varies in detail from species to species and, even within the same species, environmental factors such as temperature, humidity and food supply affect the development time and adult life span.