

Integrated Pest Management/ Plant Health Care Council Update

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The Municipal IPM/PHC Working Group has developed *IPM (Integrated Pest Management): A Manual for Municipalities* which will soon be available through the Ontario Parks Association as a resource for municipalities seeking accreditation. The manual explains the benefits of Integrated Pest Management and outlines the steps involved as well as how Plant Health Care (PHC) fits into an integrated approach. This resource also provides information on establishing IPM policies and procedures which should be useful for municipalities and includes some suggestions on designing an IPM/PHC program.



The examination for the Municipal IPM/PHC Accreditation has been completed and once details have been finalized regarding the audit process for municipalities, the program will be handed over to Ridgetown College to administer in conjunction with the existing Lawn Care Industry IPM/PHC Accreditation Program. It is hoped that the Municipal Accreditation process will be up and running this year by early summer.

Turfgrass Producers Survey

The 2002 Turfgrass Producers International (TPI) Membership Farm Profile Questionnaire was sent to 841 TPI producer members located throughout the world. The 14 page, 352 question survey is the fifth study undertaken since 1984. Results report steady growth and resilience for turf producers. Survey results in the marketing area show that the 3 factors most influential to sales are quality, price and service. Turf producers reach out to customers through referrals, followed by "Yellow Pages," with a new reliance on internet marketing (30% increase since 1997). For more information, contact TPI at 1-800-405-8873 or visit their website at www.TurfGrassSod.org. The table below is part of the 2002 TPI survey results.

Sites of Turf Installation	2002	1997	1993
Private Residences	54.37%	45.84%	54.27%
Commercial Areas	13.2	19.10	18.5
Golf Courses	10.07	10.80	*
Multi-family Residences	8.25	8.22	8.91
Sports Fields	6.32	6.51	*
Parks & Cemeteries	2.73	3.09	11.13
Roadsides	2.65	3.88	13.22

* included in Parks & Cemeteries



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