

Grant awarded to implement professional development program on Pheromones

By Gadi V.P. Reddy, Montana State University,
Western Triangle Ag Research Center, Conrad, Montana

Dr. Gadi V.P. Reddy, Professor of Entomology/Insect Ecology received \$73,510 to provide a training program for Agricultural professionals in the area of pheromones. The funded two year project titled "Pheromones as Tools for Monitoring the Insect Pests in the Northern Plains - Instructive Tools for Agricultural Professionals" and will be implemented in October 2018 and end September 2020.

The overall goal of this project is to enhance agriculture professionals' knowledge and understanding on the role of pheromone-based pest monitoring programs and to assist them in transferring their gained knowledge or skills to agriculture farming communities. The project includes the development of a new regional pheromone based monitoring methods manual. Program members will participate in class lectures, demonstrations and field visits. The course will conclude with members assisting with hosting a field day for growers and the public. Two months after this program participants will meet and provide feed-back on the effectiveness of the project and discuss long term gains in their knowledge and utilization of this subject. A user-friendly chart will also be created containing local crops and their pests, based on the most current local and global information available.

Agricultural professionals are a foremost source of information for farmers, ranchers and the general public. These point of contact professionals have the ability to effect broad changes through their understanding of sustainable approaches to pest control. The Entomology/Insect Ecology program at The Western Triangle Agricultural Research Center, Conrad, MT is perfectly

suited to train regional agricultural professionals in pheromone-based pest monitoring practices. Agricultural professionals will learn effective pheromone-based pest monitoring practices through this training program. Participants will be provided with the tools and materials to spread this knowledge to the broader public through the print, web based materials, and infield experiences. Extension bulletins and videos on the use of pheromone-based pest monitoring programs will be prepared. Mr. Jim Freeburn, Regional PDF Coordinator for Western Regional SARE mentioned, in his grant award letter, that this is an excellent proposal and showed a lot of work, is innovative and very specific. For more information on this upcoming Professional Development course contact Dr. Reddy at 406-278-7707 or reddy@montana.edu. Program details and additional information about the research center are located by visiting this link, <http://agresearch.montana.edu/wtarc/>

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Cleaning your garbage disposal is as easy as throwing a few ice cubes down your drain. Run the disposal until you no longer hear grinding, and your job is done! The cold cubes will congeal any grease in the drain, allowing your disposal to break it up. Add a peel from any citrus fruit to give it a fresh scent!

Dust is mostly composed of biological matter, the largest percentage of which are mold spores. To keep mold from forming, clean your home regularly and keep dampness from setting in.

The easiest way to clean blinds is to wrap a kitchen spatula in an old cloth and secure it with a rubber band, then dip it in rubbing alcohol or your favorite cleaner, close the blinds, and go to it!

Keep thy eyes wide open before marriage, and half shut afterwards.

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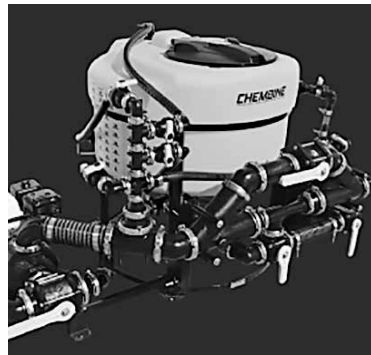
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