

Ms. Beth Patrino, Committee Administrator
House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE, Room 347
Salem, Oregon 97301

March 27, 2013
Re: HB 3364, Relating to integrated pest management.

Dear Chair Witt and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony concerning House Bill 3364, the state agency coordination plan for integrated pest management. I support this bill because having worked in this industry for 38 years I find that Integrated Pest Management is simply a better way to manage pest problems.

Traditional pest management relies heavily on chemical applications to control pest infestation. In most cases this is a short term solution and must be done on a regular basis. Timed sprays done on a regular cycle are performed even when target pests are not present as a preventive measure.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) does not rely on timed sprays, but looks to address the cause or causes of pest problems. These problems can then be addressed by such means as sealing pest entry points, recommendations for improvement in sanitation and the elimination of pest harborages, use of mechanical devices to trap or remove pests, and limited use of chemicals to the source of infestation problems. It relies on inspection and investigation and results in long term solutions to pest management issues.

In many cases IPM can be more expensive than traditional pest management programs in the beginning, but over time they save money, greatly reduce the introduction of pesticides into structures, limit the possibility of human exposure to pesticides, and in my experience are more successful.

Based on my experience in the commercial world of pest management, I believe the State of Oregon would be well served by adopting IPM as the standard for pest treatment because of the realized efficiencies, cost effectiveness, and risk reductions. When Eden Pest Control contracts with state and local governments, we use IPM for best management practices.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Danielson
Technical Services Manager, Eden Advanced Pest Technologies