

# APPENDIX B

## GLOSSARY

### Glossary of Terms for General Pest Management

**ABSORPTION**—The movement of a chemical into plants, animals (including humans), and/or microorganisms.

**ACARICIDE**—A pesticide used to control mites and ticks. A miticide is an acaricide.

**ACTIVE INGREDIENT**—The chemical or chemicals in a pesticide responsible for killing, poisoning, or repelling the pest. Listed separately in the ingredient statement.

**ACUTE TOXICITY**—The capacity of a pesticide to cause injury within 24 hours following exposure. LD<sub>50</sub> and LC<sub>50</sub> are common indicators of the degree of acute toxicity. (See also chronic toxicity).

**ADJUVANT**—A substance added to a pesticide to improve its effectiveness or safety. Same as additive. Examples: penetrants, spreader-stickers, and wetting agents.

**ADSORPTION**—The process by which chemicals are held or bound to a surface by physical or chemical attraction. Clay and high organic soils tend to adsorb pesticides.

**AGGREGATION PHEROMONE**—See pheromone.

**AEROSOL**—A material stored in a container under pressure. Fine droplets are produced when the material dissolved in a liquid carrier is released into the air from the pressurized container.

**ALGAE**—Relatively simple plants that contain chlorophyll and are photosynthetic.

**ALGICIDE**—A pesticide used to kill or inhibit algae.

**ANTI-SIPHONING DEVICE**—A device attached to the filling hose that prevents backflow or back-siphoning from a spray tank into a water source.

**ANTICOAGULANT**—A chemical that prevents normal blood clotting—the active ingredient in some rodenticides.

**ANTIDOTE**—A treatment used to counteract the effects of pesticide poisoning or some other poison in the body.

**ARACHNID**—A wingless arthropod with two body regions and four pairs of jointed legs. Spiders, ticks, and mites are in the class Arachnida.

**ARTHROPOD**—An invertebrate animal characterized by a jointed body and limbs and usually a hard body covering that is molted at intervals. For example, insects, mites, and crayfish are in the phylum Arthropoda.

**ATTRACTANT**—A substance or device that will lure pests to a trap or poison bait.

**AVICIDE**—A pesticide used to kill or repel birds. Birds are in the class Aves.

**BACTERIA**—Microscopic organisms, some of which are capable of producing diseases in plants and animals. Others are beneficial.

**BACTERICIDE**—Chemical used to control bacteria.

**BAIT**—A food or other substance used to attract a pest to a pesticide or to a trap.

**BARRIER APPLICATION**—Application of a pesticide in a strip alongside or around a structure, a portion of a structure, or any object.

**BENEFICIAL INSECT**—An insect that is useful or helpful to humans; usually insect parasites, predators, pollinators, etc.

**BIOLOGICAL CONTROL**—Control of pests using predators, parasites, and disease-causing organisms. May be naturally occurring or introduced.

**BIOMAGNIFICATION**—The process whereby one organism accumulates chemical residues in higher concentrations from organisms it consumes.

**BOTANICAL PESTICIDE**—A pesticide produced from chemicals found in plants. Examples are nicotine, pyrethrins, and strychnine.

**BRAND NAME**—The name or designation of a specific pesticide product or device made by a manufacturer or formulator; a marketing name.

**CALIBRATE, CALIBRATION OF EQUIPMENT, OR APPLICATION METHOD**—The measurement of dispersal or output and adjustments made to control the rate of dispersal of pesticides.

**CARBAMATES (N-methyl carbamates)**—A group of pesticides containing nitrogen, formulated as insecticides, fungicides and herbicides. The N-methyl carbamates are insecticides and inhibit *cholinesterase* in animals.

**CARCINOGENIC**—The ability of a substance or agent to induce malignant tumors (cancer).

**CARRIER**—An inert liquid, solid, or gas added to an active ingredient to make a pesticide dispense effectively. A carrier is also the material, usually water or oil, used to dilute the formulated product for application.

**CEPHALOTHORAX**—Combination of the head and *thorax* in a spider; eight legs are attached to the cephalothorax.

**CERCI**—Short appendages emerging from the abdominal segment of an insect (may help to identify an insect species).

**CERTIFIED APPLICATORS**—Individuals who are certified to use or supervise the use of any restricted-use pesticide covered by their certification.

**CHELICERAE**—Two short, needle-tipped appendages that are part of a spider's mouthparts.

**CHEMICAL NAME**—The scientific name of the active ingredient(s) found in the formulated product. This complex name is derived from the chemical structure of the active ingredient.

**CHEMICAL CONTROL**—Pesticide application to kill pests.

**CHEMOSTERILANT**—A chemical compound capable of preventing animal reproduction.

**CHEMTREC**—The Chemical Transportation Emergency Center has a toll-free number (800-424-9300) that provides 24-hour information for chemical emergencies such as a spill, leak, fire, or accident.

**CHLORINATED HYDROCARBON**—A pesticide containing chlorine, carbon, and hydrogen. Many are persistent in the environment. Examples: chlordane, DDT, methoxychlor. Few are used in structural pest management operations today.

**CHOLINESTERASE, ACETYLCHOLINESTERASE**—An enzyme in animals that helps regulate nerve impulses. This enzyme is depressed by N-methyl carbamate and organophosphate pesticides.

**CHRONIC TOXICITY**—The ability of a material to cause injury or illness (beyond 24 hours following exposure) from repeated, prolonged exposure to small amounts. (See also *acute toxicity*.)

**COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR**—A certified applicator who uses or supervises the use of any pesticide classified for restricted use for any purpose or on any property other than that producing an agricultural commodity.

**COMMON NAME**—A name given to a pesticide's active ingredient by a recognized committee on pesticide nomenclature. Many pesticides are known by a number of trade or brand names, but each active ingredient has only one recognized common name.

**COMMUNITY**—The various populations of animal species (or plants) that exist together in an ecosystem. (See also *population* and *ecosystem*).

**CONCENTRATION**—Refers to the amount of active ingredient in a given volume or weight of formulated product.

**CONTACT PESTICIDE**—A compound that causes death or injury to insects when it contacts them. It does not have to be ingested. Often used in reference to a spray applied directly on a pest.

**CONTAMINATION**—The presence of an unwanted substance (sometimes pesticides) in or on plants, animals, soil, water, air, or structures.

**CRACK AND CREVICE TREATMENT**—The application of small amounts of insecticides into cracks and crevices in which insects hide or through which they may enter a building or travel in it.

**CRAWLSPACE**—A shallow space below the living quarters of at least a partially basementless house, normally enclosed by the foundation wall.

**CULTURAL CONTROL**—A pest control method that includes changing human habits—e.g., sanitation, work practices, cleaning and garbage pickup schedules, etc.

**DECONTAMINATE**—To remove or break down a pesticidal chemical from a surface or substance.

**DEFECT ACTION LEVELS**—The maximum levels for defects such as the presence of insect fragments, mold, or rodent hairs in food products allowed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

**DEGRADATION**—The process by which a chemical compound or pesticide is reduced to simpler compounds by the action of microorganisms, water, air, sunlight, or other agents. Degradation products are usually, but not always, less toxic than the original compound.

**DEPOSIT**—The amount of pesticide on treated surfaces after application.

**DERMAL TOXICITY**—The ability of a pesticide to cause acute illness or injury to a human or animal when absorbed through the skin. (See *exposure route*.)

**DESICCANT**—A type of pesticide that draws moisture or fluids from a pest, causing it to die. Certain desiccant dusts destroy the waxy outer coating that holds moisture within an insect's body.

**DETOXIFY**—To render a pesticide's active ingredient or other poisonous chemical harmless.

**DIAGNOSIS**—The positive identification of a problem and its cause.

**DILUENT**—Any liquid, gas, or solid material used to dilute or weaken a concentrated pesticide.

**DISINFECTANT**—A chemical or other agent that kills or inactivates disease-producing microorganisms. Chemicals used to clean or surface-sterilize inanimate objects.

**DOSE, DOSAGE**—Quantity, amount, or rate of pesticide applied to a given area or target.

**DRIFT**—The airborne movement of a pesticide spray or dust beyond the intended target area.

**DUST**—A finely ground, dry pesticide formulation containing a small amount of active ingredient and a large amount of inert carrier or diluent such as clay or talc.

**ECOSYSTEM**—The pest management unit. It includes a community (of *populations*) with the necessary physical (*harborage*, moisture, temperature), and biotic (food, hosts) supporting factors that allow an infestation of pests to persist.

**EMULSIFIABLE CONCENTRATE**—A pesticide formulation produced by mixing or suspending the active ingredient (the concentrate) and an emulsifying agent in a suitable carrier. When added to water, a milky emulsion is formed.

**EMULSIFYING AGENT (EMULSIFIER)**—A chemical that aids in the suspension of one liquid in another that normally would not mix together.

**EMULSION**—A mixture of two liquids that are not soluble in each other. One is suspended as very small droplets in the other with the aid of an emulsifying agent.

**ENCAPSULATED FORMULATION**—A pesticide formulation with the active ingredient enclosed in capsules of polyvinyl or other materials; principally used for slow release.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES**—A plant or animal species whose population is reduced to the extent that it is near extinction and that a federal agency has designated as being in danger of becoming extinct.

**ENTRY INTERVAL**—See *re-entry interval*.

**ENVIRONMENT**—All of our physical, chemical, and biological surroundings, such as climate, soil, water, and air, and all species of plants, animals, and microorganisms.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OR EPA**—The federal agency responsible for ensuring the protection of humans and the environment from potentially adverse effects of pesticides.

**EPA ESTABLISHMENT NUMBER**—A number assigned to each pesticide production plant by the EPA. The number indicates the plant at which the pesticide product was produced and must appear on all labels of that product.

**EPA REGISTRATION NUMBER**—An identification number assigned to a pesticide product when the product is registered by the EPA for use. The number must appear on all labels for a particular product.

**ERADICATION**—The complete elimination of a (pest) population from a designated area.

**EXOSKELETON**—The external hardened covering or skeleton of an insect to which muscles are attached internally; periodically shed.

**EXPOSURE ROUTE OR COMMON EXPOSURE ROUTE**—The manner (dermal, oral, or inhalation/respiratory) by which a pesticide may enter an organism.

**FIFRA**—The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act; a federal law and its amendments that control pesticide registration and use.

**FLASHING**—Strips of aluminum, lead, tin, or copper that are worked into the slates or shingles around dormers, chimneys, and other rising parts to prevent leaking.

**FLOWABLE**—A pesticide formulation in which a very finely ground solid particle is suspended (not dissolved) in a liquid carrier.

**FLUSHING AGENT**—An inspection tool used to force insects from their hiding spots. Only by using a flushing agent can you determine if insects are hiding in areas physically impossible to see. Flushing agents can be applied with hand-held sprayers.

**FOG TREATMENT**—A fine mist of pesticide in aerosol-sized droplets (under 40 microns). Not a mist or gas. After propulsion, fog droplets fall to horizontal surfaces.

**FORMULATION**—The pesticide product as purchased, containing a mixture of one or more active ingredients, carriers (inert ingredients), and other additives making it easy to store, dilute, and apply.

**FUMIGANT**—A pesticide formulation that volatilizes, forming a toxic vapor or gas that kills in the gaseous state. Usually, it penetrates voids to kill pests.

**FUNGICIDE**—A chemical used to control fungi.

**FUNGUS** (plural, fungi)—A group of small, often microscopic, organisms in the plant kingdom that cause rot, mold and disease. Fungi need moisture or a damp environment (wood rots require at least 19 percent moisture). Fungi are extremely important in the diet of many insects.

**GENERAL-USE (UNCLASSIFIED) PESTICIDE**—A pesticide that can be purchased and used by the general public. (See also *restricted-use pesticide*.)

**GENERAL TREATMENT**—Application of a pesticide (either general-use or restricted-use) to broad expanses of surfaces such as walls, floors, and ceilings, or as an outside treatment.

**GRANULE**—A dry pesticide formulation. The active ingredient is either mixed with or coated onto an inert carrier to form a small, ready-to-use, low-concentrate particle that normally does not present a drift hazard. Pellets differ from granules only in their precise uniformity, larger size, and shape.

**GROUNDWATER**—Water sources located beneath the soil surface from which spring water, well water, etc., are obtained. (See also *surface water*.)

**HARBORAGE**—Any place or site that shelters and provides other elements (i.e., food, water) required for survival of a particular organism.

**HAZARD**—see *risk*.

**HERBICIDE**—A pesticide used to kill plants or inhibit plant growth.

**HOLDFAST**—Recurved teeth or ridges on the central mouthparts of ticks used to hold them in place while feeding on a host.

**HOST**—Any animal or plant on or in which another lives for nourishment, development, or protection.

**IGR, INSECT GROWTH REGULATOR JUVENOID**—A pesticide constructed to mimic insect hormones that control molting and the development of some insect systems affecting the change from immature to adult. (See *juvenile hormone*.)

**INERT INGREDIENT**—In a pesticide formulation, an inactive material without pesticidal activity.

**INGREDIENT STATEMENT**—The portion of the label on a pesticide container that gives the name and amount of each active ingredient and the total amount of inert ingredients in the formulation.

**INHALATION**—Taking a substance in through the lungs; breathing in. (See *exposure route*.)

**INSECT GROWTH REGULATOR**—see **IGR**.

**INSECTICIDE**—A pesticide used to manage or prevent damage caused by insects. Sometimes generalized to be synonymous with pesticide.

**INSECTS, INSECTA**—A class in the phylum Arthropoda characterized by a body composed of three segments (head, *thorax*, and abdomen) and three pairs of legs.

**INSPECTION**—To examine for pests, pest damage, other pest evidence, etc. (See *monitoring*.)

**INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT**—see **IPM**.

**IPM**—Integrated pest management. A planned pest control program in which methods are integrated and used to keep pests from causing economic, health-related, or aesthetic injury. IPM includes reducing pests to a tolerable level. Pesticide application is not the primary control method but is an element of IPM—as are cultural and structural alterations. IPM programs emphasize communication, monitoring, inspection, and evaluation (keeping and using records).

**JOIST**—One of a series of parallel beams, usually 2 inches in thickness, used to support floor and ceiling loads, and supported in turn by larger beams, girders, bearing walls, or foundation.

**JUVENILE HORMONE**—A hormone produced by an insect that inhibits change or molting. As long as juvenile hormone is present, the insect does not develop into an adult but remains immature.

**LABEL**—All printed material attached to or on a pesticide container.

**LABELING**—The pesticide product label and other accompanying materials that contain directions that pesticide users are legally required to follow.

**LARVA** (plural larvae)—An early developmental stage of insects with complete metamorphosis. Insects hatch out of the egg as larvae before becoming *pupae* (resting stage), and then adults.

**LC<sub>50</sub>**—Lethal concentration. The concentration of a pesticide, usually in air or water, that kills 50 percent of a test population of animals. LC<sub>50</sub> is usually expressed in parts per million (ppm). The lower the LC<sub>50</sub> value, the more acutely toxic the chemical.

**LD<sub>50</sub>**—Lethal dose. The dose or amount of a pesticide that can kill 50 percent of the test animals when eaten or absorbed through the skin. LD<sub>50</sub> is expressed in milligrams of chemical per kilogram of body weight of the test animal (mg/kg). The lower the LD<sub>50</sub>, the more acutely toxic the pesticide.

**LEACHING**—The movement of a substance with water downward through soil.

**MESOTHORAX**—The second segment of an insect's *thorax*. One pair of legs and usually one pair of wings are attached.

**METAMORPHOSIS**—A change in the shape, or form, of an animal. Usually used when referring to insect development.

**METATHORAX**—The third segment of an insect's *thorax*. One pair of legs and often one pair of wings are attached.

**MICROBIAL DEGRADATION**—Breakdown of a chemical by microorganisms.

**MICROBIAL PESTICIDE**—Bacteria, viruses, fungi, and other microorganisms used to control pests. Also called biorationals.

**MICROORGANISM**—An organism so small it can be seen only with the aid of a microscope.

**MITICIDE**—A pesticide used to control mites. (See *acaricide*.)

**MODE OF ACTION**—The way in which a pesticide exerts a toxic effect on the target plant or animal.

**MOLLUSCICIDE**—A chemical used to control snails and slugs.

**MOLT**—Periodic shedding of the outer layer (e.g., an insect's *exoskeleton* is shed periodically).

**MONITORING**—On-going surveillance. Monitoring includes inspection and record keeping. Monitoring records allows technicians to evaluate pest population suppression, identify infested or non-infested sites, and manage the progress of the management or control program.

**NECROSIS**—Death of plant or animal tissues that results in the formation of discolored, sunken, or necrotic (dead) areas.

**NODE**—Nodes are swollen segments found at the narrow connection between the thorax and abdomen of ant species. The nodes may be helpful in identifying of ant species—most ant species have one node; others have two.

**NON-RESIDUAL PESTICIDE**—Pesticides applied to obtain effects only during the time of treatment.

**NON-TARGET ORGANISM**—Any plant or animal other than the intended target(s) of a pesticide application.

**NYMPH**—The developmental stage of insects with gradual metamorphosis that hatches from the egg. Nymphs become adults.

**ORAL TOXICITY**—The ability of a pesticide to cause injury or acute illness when taken by mouth. One of the common exposure routes.

**ORGANOPHOSPHATES**—A large group of pesticides that contain the element phosphorus and inhibit *cholinesterase* in animals.

**PARASITE**—A plant, animal, or microorganism living in, on, or with another living organism for the purpose of obtaining all or part of its food.

**PATHOGEN**—A disease-causing organism.

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)**—Devices and clothing intended to protect a person from exposure to pesticides. Includes such items as long-sleeved shirts, long trousers, coveralls, suitable hats, gloves, shoes, respirators, and other safety items as needed.

**PEST MANAGEMENT**—The reduction of pest populations to tolerable numbers by changing practices, making habitat or structural alterations, and carefully using pesticides to kill pests only when indicated.

**PEST**—An undesirable organism (plant, animal, bacterium, etc.); any organism that competes with people for food, feed, or fiber, causes structural damage, is a public health concern, reduces aesthetic qualities, or impedes industrial or recreational activities.

**PESTICIDE**—A chemical or other agent used to kill, repel, or otherwise control pests or to protect from a pest.

**pH**—A measure of the acidity/alkalinity of a liquid—acid below pH 7; basic or alkaline above pH 7 (up to 14).

**PHEROMONE**—A substance emitted by an animal to influence the behavior of other animals of the same species. Examples are sex pheromones (to attract mates) and aggregation pheromones (to keep members of the same species together in a group). Some pheromones are synthetically produced for use in insect traps.

**PHOTODEGRADATION**—Breakdown of chemicals by the action of light.

**PHYSICAL CONTROL**—Habitat alteration or changing the infested physical structure—e.g., caulking holes, cracks, tightening around doors, windows, moisture reduction, ventilation, etc.

**PHYTOTOXICITY**—Injury to plants caused by a chemical or other agent.

**POINT OF RUNOFF**—The point at which a spray starts to run or drip from the surface to which it is applied.

**POISON CONTROL CENTER**—A local agency, generally a hospital, which has current information on the proper first aid techniques and antidotes for poisoning emergencies. Centers are listed in telephone directories.

**POPULATION**—Individuals of the same species. The populations in an area make up a community. (See *ecosystem*.)

**PRECIPITATE**—A solid substance that forms in a liquid and settles to the bottom of a container; a material that no longer remains in suspension.

**PREDATOR**—An animal that attacks, kills, and feeds on other animals. Examples of predaceous animals are hawks, owls, snakes, many insects, etc.

**PROFESSIONAL**—One who is able to make judgments based on training, experience, and an available data base.

**PRONOTUM**—The area just behind an insect's head (i.e., the upper plate of the *prothorax*). In cockroaches it forms a shield that covers part of the head and *mesothorax*.

**PROPELLANT**—The inert ingredient in pressurized products that forces the active ingredient from the container.

**PROTHORAX**—The first segment of an insect's thorax. One pair of legs is attached.

**PUPA** (plural pupae)—The developmental (resting) stage of insects with complete metamorphosis where major changes from the larval to the adult form occur.

**RAFTER**—One of a series of structural members of a roof designed to support roof loads. The rafters of a flat roof are sometimes called roof joists.

**RATE OF APPLICATION**—The amount of pesticide applied to a plant, animal, unit area, or surface; usually measured as per acre, per 1,000 square feet, per linear foot, or per cubic foot.

**RE-ENTRY INTERVAL**—The length of time following an application of a pesticide when entry into the treated area is restricted.

**REGISTERED PESTICIDES**—Pesticide products that have been registered by the Environmental Protection Agency for the uses listed on the label.

**REPELLENT**—A compound that keeps insects, rodents, birds, or other pests away from humans, plants, domestic animals, buildings, or other treated areas.

**RESIDUAL PESTICIDE**—A pesticide that continues to remain effective on a treated surface or area for an extended period following application.

**RESIDUE**—The pesticide active ingredient or its breakdown product(s) that remain in or on the target after treatment.

**RESTRICTED-USE PESTICIDE**—A pesticide that can be purchased and used only by certified applicators or persons under their direct supervision. A pesticide classified for restricted use under FIFRA, Section 3(d)(1)(C).

**RISK**—A probability that a given pesticide will have an adverse effect on humans or the environment in a given situation.

**RODENTICIDE**—A pesticide used to control rodents.

**RUNOFF**—The movement of water and associated materials on the soil surface. Runoff usually proceeds to bodies of surface water.

**SCUTUM**—Shield-like structure located near the front part of the *mesothorax* of an insect.

**SOFFIT**—The underside of an overhanging part or member (especially on the roof) of a building.

**SIGNAL WORDS**—Required word(s) that appear on every pesticide label to denote the relative toxicity of the product. Signal words are DANGER-POISON, DANGER, WARNING, and CAUTION.

**SILL PLATE**—A horizontal member anchored on top of a masonry wall.

**SITE**—Areas of pest infestation. Each site should be treated specifically or individually.

**SOIL INJECTION**—The placement of a pesticide below the surface of the soil; common application method for termiticides.

**SOIL DRENCH**—To soak or wet the ground surface with a pesticide. Large volumes of the pesticide mixture are usually needed to saturate the soil to any depth.

**SOIL INCORPORATION**—The mechanical mixing of a pesticide product with soil.

**SOLUTION**—A mixture of one or more substances in another substance (usually a liquid) in which all the ingredients are completely dissolved. Example: sugar in water.

**SOLVENT**—A liquid that will dissolve another substance (solid, liquid, or gas) to form a solution.

**SPACE SPRAY**—A pesticide that is applied as a fine spray or mist to a confined area.

**SPOT TREATMENT**—Application of a pesticide to limited areas where pests are likely to be found. A method used to avoid contact of pesticides with food, utensils, or people.

**SPINNERETS**—Short appendages near the anal opening of a spider from which spiders spin silk webbing.

**STOMACH POISON**—A pesticide that must be eaten by an animal to be effective; it will not kill on contact.

**STRUCTURAL PEST MANAGEMENT**—Management of pest infestations that are normally problems in buildings. Structural pest management involves reducing pest populations to tolerable numbers in and around homes, businesses, hospitals, and other structures. These include pests that make their habitat inside buildings and also those that invade buildings from outside habitats. These pests may cause aesthetic or economic/structural damage and/or be the source of health-related problems.

**SURFACE WATER**—Water on the earth's surface: rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, etc. (See also *groundwater*.)

**SUSPENSION**—Pesticide mixtures consisting of fine particles dispersed or floating in a liquid, usually water or oil. Example: wettable powders in water.

**TARGET**—The plants, animals, structures, areas, or pests at which the pesticide or other control method is directed.

**TECHNICAL MATERIAL**—The pesticide active ingredient in pure form as it is manufactured by a chemical company. It is combined with inert ingredients or additives in formulations such as wettable powders, dusts, emulsifiable concentrates, or granules.

**THORAX**—The middle part of an insect's body between the head and the abdomen. It is divided into three segments—the *prothorax*, *mesothorax*, and *metathorax*. A pair of legs is attached to each thoracic region.

**THRESHOLD**—A level of pest density. The number of pests observed, trapped, counted, etc., that could be tolerated without an economic loss or aesthetic injury. Pest thresholds in structural pest management may be site specific—for example, different numbers of cockroaches may be tolerated at different sites (e.g., hospitals and garbage rooms). A threshold may be set at zero (e.g., termites in a wooden structure, flies in an operatory).

**TOLERABLE LEVELS OF PESTS**—The presence of pests at certain levels is tolerable in many situations. Totally eliminating pests in certain areas is sometimes not achievable without major structural alterations, excessive control measures, unacceptable disruption, unacceptable cost, etc. Pest levels that depend on pest observations vary. The tolerable level in some situations will be zero (e.g., termites). Structural pest management programs usually have lower tolerable levels of pests than agricultural programs.

**TOXIC**—Poisonous to living organisms.

**TOXICANT**—A poisonous substance such as the active ingredient in a pesticide formulation.

**TOXICITY**—The ability of a pesticide to cause harmful, acute, delayed, or allergic effects. The degree or extent to which a chemical or substance is poisonous.

**TOXIN**—A naturally occurring poison produced by plants, animals, or microorganisms. Examples: the poison produced by the black widow spider, the venom produced by poisonous snakes, and the botulism toxin produced by bacteria.

**TRACKING PATCHES**—A non-toxic dust (clay, talc, or powdered limestone) placed in suspected rodent runways and used to detect rodent tracks and estimate the numbers of rodents present.

**TRACKING POWDER**—Diluted rodenticides in dust form. It is applied to areas where rodents live and travel and sticks to their feet and fur. The tracking powder kills rodents when they swallow it while grooming themselves.

**UNCLASSIFIED PESTICIDE**—See *general-use pesticide*.

**USE**—The performance of pesticide-related activities requiring certification include: application, mixing, loading, transport, storage, or handling after the manufacturing seal is broken; care and maintenance of application and handling equipment; and disposal of pesticides and their containers in accordance with label requirements. Uses not needing certification are: long-distance transport, long-term storage, and ultimate disposal.

**VAPOR PRESSURE**—The property that causes a chemical to evaporate. The higher the vapor pressure, the more volatile the chemical or the easier it will evaporate.

**VECTOR**—A carrier, an animal (e.g., insect, nematode, mite) that can carry and transmit a pathogen from one host to another.

**VERTEBRATE**—Animal characterized by a segmented backbone or spinal column.

**VIRUS**—Ultramicroscopic parasites composed of proteins. Viruses can multiply only in living tissues and cause many animal and plant diseases.

**VOLATILITY**—The degree to which a substance changes from a liquid or solid state to a gas at ordinary temperatures when exposed to air.

**WATER TABLE**—The upper level of the water-saturated zone in the ground.

**WETTABLE POWDER**—A dry pesticide formulation in powder form that forms a suspension when added to water.

**ZONE**—The management unit, an area of potential pest infestation made up of infested sites. Zones will contain pest *food, water, and harborage*. A kitchen-bathroom arrangement in adjoining apartments might make up a zone; a kitchen, storeroom, waiters' station, and loading dock at a restaurant may make up another. Zones may also be established by eliminating areas with little likelihood of infestation and treating the remainder as a zone. A zone will be an ecosystem.

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*For the further definition of terms consult:*

Pesticide Applicator Core Training Manual, E-2195, Michigan State University Extension.

The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act as amended. Public Law 92-516 October 21, 1972 as amended by Public Law 94-140 November 28, 1975, and Public Law 95-396 September 30, 1978.

Federal Register, November 7, 1990, Part II  
Environmental Protection Agency 40, CFR Part 171  
Certification of Pesticide Applicator; Proposed Rule.

Region V Office of the EPA, Chicago, Ill.

Michigan Department of Agriculture State Plan for  
Commercial and Private Applicators.

Federal Agency Secretary's Office (for federal employees using restricted pesticides in performance of official duties).

Local, state, and national pest control associations.