IPM decreased pesticide use in University of Florida housing

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A new study recently published in the *Journal of Integrated Pest Management* (JIPM) shows that from 2003 to 2008, the use of insecticide active ingredients was reduced by about 90% in University of Florida housing buildings after an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program was implemented.

IPM is a systematic approach to managing pests based on long-term prevention or suppression by a variety of methods that are cost effective and minimize risks to human health and the environment. The goal of urban IPM is to manage pests primarily by prevention and elimination of their access to food, water and harborages, along with changing human behavior. Low-risk insecticides are used only when necessary.

In their article "Advancement of Integrated Pest Management in University Housing," the JIPM authors found that the IPM program helped to virtually eliminate the use of hydramethylnon, borate, desiccants, organophosphates, fipronil, and pyrethroids, and they conclude that further IPM advancements can be made by increasing resident education, technician training, and the level of pest preventative inspection and maintenance.

More information: The full study is available at esa.publisher.ingentaconnect.c … 02/00000003/art00002

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