

Dear Survey Recipient:

Thank you for your willingness to participate in this survey of Texas school Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programs, conducted by Texas Cooperative Extension, part of the Texas A&M University System. The following survey is designed to help us learn more about how schools handle pest problems and the impact of the now 10-year-old school IPM laws and regulations.

All completed surveys will remain confidential. Specific responses will be used for research purposes only, and only general results will be made available to the public and to regulatory agencies. For this reason, we ask you to be frank and honest with your answers. If you are not sure that you can accurately answer a question, simply answer NOT SURE.

If this survey has reached you and you are unfamiliar with your school district's policies, your pest management contract or your in-house pest management operations, please pass the survey on to someone who is. Most schools should have an IPM coordinator who is knowledgeable on these topics. In case you do not currently have a person in charge of pest management, a director of maintenance operations may be the best recipient. Every completed survey is important to us. If you have questions about any aspect of this survey, please call us at 877-747-6872.

Please answer all questions to the best of your knowledge, and note whether questions require only one answer, or whether they request multiple answers (all that apply). Thank you again for your assistance.

MARKING INSTRUCTIONS

CORRECT: ● INCORRECT: ✗ ⊗ ☹️ 🚫

Texas School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Survey

1. Does your district have a designated IPM Coordinator? *(select one only)*

Yes

No

Not sure

2. Are you the school district IPM Coordinator? *(select only one)*

Yes

No

If no, please forward this survey to your district IPM coordinator or to the person best qualified to answer questions about your pest control program, if other than you.

3. How much time does the IPM Coordinator for your district typically spend on IPM program duties?
(please specify a percentage or indicate if your district has never had an IPM Coordinator)

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% time is spent on IPM duties each month

OR

We never had an IPM Coordinator

4. Which of the following are you responsible for in your district? *(select all that apply)*
- Pest management training
 - Pesticide safety training
 - Pest management policy
 - Pest threshold determination
 - Pest management treatment selection
 - Overseeing pest management contractor(s)
 - Developing bid specifications for pest management contractors
 - Handling pesticide complaints
 - Maintaining prioritized list of structural and landscape improvements
 - Pest management recordkeeping
 - None of the above
5. Texas school districts are regulated in their use of pesticides and required to follow a set of practices known as integrated pest management (IPM). How would you describe your familiarity with current Texas laws and regulations governing pest control practice and pesticide use in public schools? *(select one only)*
- Very familiar
 - Mostly familiar
 - Somewhat familiar
 - Slightly familiar
 - Not familiar
6. How would you describe your familiarity with the concept of integrated pest management? *(select one only)*
- Very familiar
 - Mostly familiar
 - Somewhat familiar
 - Slightly familiar
 - Not familiar
7. Which of the following statements best describes IPM? *(select one only)*
- Managing pests without pesticides
 - Managing pests without chemicals or, if necessary, with organic pesticides
 - Managing pests by rotating pesticides
 - Managing pests with multiple control tactics (including pesticides)
 - Managing pests by any means after they are detected

Your Program

8. Please indicate which of the following procedures your school district has adopted. Note that not all of these are required by Texas law. *(select one for each practice listed)*
- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A. Board approved IPM policy statement | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
| B. Scheduled monitoring of pest numbers | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
| C. Annual parent notification about school use of pesticides | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
| D. List of parents to be notified of pesticide applications | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
| E. 48-hour pre-notification of pesticide applications | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
| F. 12 hour waiting period after any pesticide use | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
9. How long does your district require that scheduled school activities be kept out of pesticide treated areas? *(select one only)*
- No restriction - Pesticides can be applied during activities
 - Less than one hour
 - 1-4 hours
 - 5-8 hours
 - 9-11 hours
 - 12 hours or longer
 - Not sure
10. A pest management plan is a detailed written description of the steps that should be taken for different specific pest problems (much like a fire escape plan details what to do in case of fire). Does your district maintain written management plans for specific pests? *(select one only)*
- Yes, for most common pest problems
 - Yes, for some pest problems
 - No, we do not have detailed written plans
 - We use whatever our pest control company recommends
 - Not sure
11. Does your district maintain a prioritized list of structural improvements needed to prevent or reduce pest problems? *(select one only)*
- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
12. Based on your district's office records, could you (if asked) provide a list of what pesticides were used in your school district for the past year? *(select one only)*
- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
13. Based on your district's office records, could you (if asked) provide an accurate estimate of pesticide use (weight, volume of product applied) in your school district for the past year? *(select one only)*
- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
14. Based on your district's office records, could you (if asked) provide a list of all pest-related complaints for the past 12 months? *(select one only)*
- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|

15. Please indicate how frequently your district used the following pest control measures, in the last 12 months

	Never	Seldom	Some- times	Often	Always	Not Sure
Green Products Under SPCB Regulations:						
1. Low toxicity inorganic (DE, disodium octoborate tetrahydrate, boric acid, etc.) .	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Botanical dusts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Botanical aerosols	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Microbe based insecticides (spinosid, abermectin)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Insect Growth Regulators (IGRS) including baits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Rodent baits in tamper resistant containers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Baits in tamper resistant containers or crack & crevice use	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Insecticidal soaps	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Horticultural oils	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Other, please write in <input style="width: 300px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Yellow Products Under SPCB Regulations (non-green products bearing a signal word of "Caution")						
11. Pyrethroids (Talstar, Tempo, DeltaDust, Demon, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. 2, 4-D herbicide	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13. Glyphosate (e.g., RoundUp)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14. Fire Ant (non-IGR) baits (TopChoice, Advion, Extinguish Plus, etc)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15. MSMA herbicide	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
16. Pre-emergent herbicide treatments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
17. Other, please write in <input style="width: 300px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Red Products Under SPCB Regulations (non-green products bearing a signal word of "Warning" or "Danger")						
18. Herbicides with a Warning or Danger Signal Word	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
19. Insecticides with a Warning or Danger Signal Word	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
20. Termiticides	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
21. Avicides	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
22. Fungicides	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Non-chemical control tactics:						
23. Expanding foam	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
24. Caulk/sealants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
25. Rodent snap traps	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
26. Rodent electronic traps	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
27. Rodent glue boards	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
28. Insect sticky traps	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
29. Insect light traps	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
30. Vacuuming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
31. Bird proofing (Wire, mesh, spikes, hot foot, etc)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
32. Heat for weeds (Flaming)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
33. Hand pulling weeds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
34. Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other treatment tactics:						
35. Baseboard spraying	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
36. Aerosol ULV fogging (indoors)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
37. Aerosol ULV fogging (outdoors for mosquitoes)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
38. Perimeter power spray (treating outside perimeter w/ truck based sprayer).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
39. Termite baiting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
40. Wildlife trapping	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

16. Who is authorized to apply pesticides in your school district? *(select all that apply)*

- IPM coordinator
- School pest control staff with pesticide license
- School pest control staff without pesticide license
- Custodial staff
- Teachers
- Pest control contractor
- Parents
- Other, please specify:

17. How many of your school district employees are licensed pesticide applicators for purposes of indoor or outdoor pest control?

- 0 (None)
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6 or more

18. Does your school district have employees who have received training in incidental pesticide use? *(select one only)*

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

PROGRAM'S IMPACT

19. In my school district the state's mandatory IPM law and regulations has? *(select one only)*

- Resulted in more effective pest management
- Made no difference in pest management effectiveness
- Resulted in less effective pest management
- We have no active IPM program
- Not sure

20. Overall, my IPM program has . . .

- Reduced the long-term cost of pest management
- Had no impact on the long-term cost of pest management
- Increased the long-term costs of pest management
- We have no active IPM program
- Not sure

21. Overall, how satisfied are you with your district's ability to manage indoor pest problems (e.g., ants, cockroaches, rodents, spiders etc.)? *(select one only)*

- Completely satisfied
- Mostly satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Slightly satisfied
- Not at all satisfied

22. Overall, how satisfied are you with your district's ability to manage outdoor insects (e.g., for fire ants and stinging insects, mosquitoes, plant and turf pests, etc.)? *(select one only)*
- Completely satisfied
 - Mostly satisfied
 - Somewhat satisfied
 - Slightly satisfied
 - Not at all satisfied
23. Overall, how satisfied are you with your district's ability to manage weeds? *(select one only)*
- Completely satisfied
 - Mostly satisfied
 - Somewhat satisfied
 - Slightly satisfied
 - Not at all satisfied
24. Overall, how satisfied are you with your district's ability to prevent pest problems before they occur (e.g., through pest proof doors, better building design, caulking, etc.)? *(select one only)*
- Completely satisfied
 - Mostly satisfied
 - Somewhat satisfied
 - Slightly satisfied
 - Not at all satisfied
25. Which of the following best describes your school district's use of outside contractors for pest management services? *(Select one only)*
- All pest management performed by contractors
 - Some pest management performed by contractors
 - Pest management performed only by district employees *(If "by district employees." skip to question 28)*
26. If some or all of your pest control activities are performed by outside contractors, what type(s) of pest control services are typically performed in your district by these contractors? *(select all that apply)*
- Termite control
 - Food service area pest control
 - General indoor pest control
 - Building perimeter (outside) pest control
 - Grounds insect control
 - Grounds weed control
 - Other (please explain):

27. If some or all of your pest control activities are performed by outside contractors, how satisfied are you with the IPM service you receive? *(select one only)*

- Completely satisfied
- Mostly satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Slightly satisfied
- Not at all satisfied

28. Approximately how much money is budgeted per year in your district for pest control including salaries, equipment, chemicals, and miscellaneous expenses or contracted services? *(select one only)*

- \$0 TO \$4,999
- \$5,000 TO \$9,999
- \$10,000 TO \$19,999
- \$20,000 TO \$29,999
- \$30, 000 TO \$39,999
- \$40,000 TO \$49,999
- \$50,000 or more

29. How has the cost of your district's pest control program changed over the past three years? *(select one only)*

- Increased
- Stayed about the same
- Decreased
- Not sure

30. Overall how effective do you consider your school district is in the following areas?

	Not Effective				Very Effective
A. Communication among district staff on IPM issues	0	1	2	3	4
B. Use of pest monitoring methods	0	1	2	3	4
C. Overall reduction of exposure to pesticides	0	1	2	3	4
D. Training opportunities for district staff in pest management	0	1	2	3	4
E. Contracting procedures for selecting pest control services	0	1	2	3	4

31. Please rate the following issues as to their importance in keeping your school district from having a more effective pest management (IPM) program.

	Not Important	1	2	3	Very Important
A. Limited budget for pest control	0	1	2	3	4
B. Limited budget for building maintenance	0	1	2	3	4
C. Inadequate staff training	0	1	2	3	4
D. Poor relations with contractor(s)	0	1	2	3	4
E. Lack of manpower	0	1	2	3	4
F. Lack of support from teachers	0	1	2	3	4
G. Lack of support from principals	0	1	2	3	4
H. Lack of support from district administration	0	1	2	3	4
I. Other, please specify: 	0	1	2	3	4

PESTICIDES

32. Since my district started using IPM we use . . . (select one only)

- Less pesticide
- About the same amount pesticide
- More pesticide
- We have no active IPM program
- Not sure

33. The label on a pesticide product should be considered: (select one only)

- General guidelines for use
- A detailed advertisement
- A legally binding document
- Safety and use recommendations
- Not sure

34. How often are pesticides (including insecticides, herbicides, etc.) applied in your school district? (select one only)

- Never
- As needed
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Annually
- Other, please specify:

35. To what locations were herbicides applied to your school district over the past twelve (12) months? *(select all that apply)*

- Athletic fields
- Playgrounds
- High visibility areas near school entrances
- High visibility areas near administrative buildings
- Fence lines
- Pavement cracks
- Other, please specify:

36. Please indicate which of the following practices concerning storage of pesticides is true for your school district?

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A. Pesticides may be stored on individual school campuses | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
| B. Teachers may store pesticides in their work areas | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
| C. Pesticides stored in dedicated chemical storage areas | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
| D. All pesticide storage areas are locked | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
| E. All pesticide storage areas have spill containment curbs | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
| F. All pesticide storage areas are vented | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |
| G. Spill cleanup kits available in all pesticide storage areas | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No | <input type="radio"/> Not sure |

37. In your experience, how frequently does your school district receive inquiries from the community concerning pesticide use or pest management issues? *(select one only)*

- Never
- Less than once a year
- Once or twice yearly
- Three to five times yearly
- Six or more times yearly

38. Are you aware of any cases of health problems or health complaints among students, teachers, visitors or other school district staff related to the use of pesticides at your school district, over the past year? *(select one only)*

- Yes
- No (if "No," go to question 42)

39. Please indicate what types of complaints you are aware of? *(select all that apply)*

- Spray drift from agricultural applications
- Odor complaints with no documented health problems
- Illness/complaint by student, teacher, visitor or staff
- Illness/complaint by pesticide applicator
- Trip(s) to emergency room
- Illness/ complaint after pesticide use by licensed applicator
- Illness/complaint after pesticide use by an unlicensed applicator
- Other complaints:

40. Were any of these complaints documented by a physician, nurse or other qualified medical professional? *(select one only)*
- Yes No Not sure
41. How many pesticide complaints are you aware of in the past year? *(select one only)*
- 1 2 3 4 5 6 or more

TRAINING

42. Where did you or your current IPM Coordinator first receive his/her state approved training? *(select one only)*
- Texas Association of School Boards (TASB)
- Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA)
- Texas Cooperative Extension
- CTN Educational
- B&G Chemical and Equipment Company
- Other provider:
- Have not yet received training
- Not sure
43. Have you or any of your district's current employees attended an IPM training course within the past three years? *(select one only)*
- Yes No Not sure
44. Have you or anyone in your district taken a course from Texas Cooperative Extension or the Southwest Technical Resource Center for School IPM
- Yes (continue with question 45)
- No (go to question 47)
- Not sure (go to question 47)
45. What course(s) have you taken? *(select all that apply)*
- Mandatory (state required) IPM coordinator training
- Advanced IPM coordinator training
- Continuing education (CEU) pesticide applicator courses
46. If you or someone from your district has taken an IPM Coordinator training from Texas Cooperative Extension, how helpful has it been to your school's IPM program?
- Very helpful
- Moderately helpful
- Slightly helpful
- Not helpful
- Not sure

