



## IBBRA Membership Qualifications & Policies

IBBRA's core philosophy includes managing bed bugs using Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management that relies on a combination of available pest control, and common-sense practices, used to manage pest damage by the most economical means, and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment. IPM is not a single pest control method but, rather, a series of pest management evaluations, decisions and controls.

Before taking any pest control action, IPM first sets an action threshold, a point at which pest populations or environmental conditions indicate that pest control action must be taken. Sighting a single pest does not always mean control is needed. The level at which pests will either become an economic threat is critical to guide future pest control decisions.

Not all insects, weeds, and other living organisms require control. Many organisms are innocuous, and some are even beneficial. IPM programs work to monitor for pests and identify them accurately, so that appropriate control decisions can be made in conjunction with action thresholds. This monitoring and identification removes the possibility that pesticides will be used when they are not really needed or that the wrong kind of pesticide will be used.

IPM programs work to manage the crop, lawn, or indoor space to prevent pests from becoming a threat. In an agricultural crop, this may mean using cultural methods, such as rotating between different crops, selecting pest-resistant varieties, and planting pest-free rootstock. These control methods can be very effective, cost-efficient, and present little to no risk to people or the environment.

Once monitoring, identification, and action thresholds indicate that pest control is required, and preventive methods are no longer effective or available, IPM programs then evaluate the proper control method for both effectiveness and risk. Effective, less risky pest controls are chosen first, including highly targeted chemicals, such as pheromones to disrupt pest mating, or mechanical control, such as trapping or weeding. If further monitoring, identifications and action thresholds indicate that less risky controls are not working, then additional pest control methods would be employed, such as targeted spraying of pesticides. Broadcast spraying of non-specific pesticides is a last resort.

IBBRA Members actively uses and agree to use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as described above, and also agree to promote IPM. Failure to uphold standards shall result in loss of membership.

**Initial where indicated below, where applicable, to acknowledge your agreement to uphold each standard listed below:**

### **Pest Management Companies and Operators Agree:**

- To apply pest control products and services in a safe and efficient manner with due consideration for all possible effects on consumer health and the environment.
- To set an example, uphold and protect the bylaws of IBBRA and pest industry.
- To respectfully serve and protect the pest industry and consumer's best interest by dealing fair and honest in all business transactions and advertisements.
- To share, demonstrate and cooperate in continuing education, treatment philosophy and consultations in order to help develop effective protocols for the bed bug industry.
- To help to engage in a public outreach program to promote bed bug awareness.



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- To help expose any unethical or illegal practices or products in the industry with accurate and concise verifiable reports
- Proudly display your IBBRA membership logo on web site or other advertising/media or in/on a door or window at the entrance of the building.

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### **Bed Bug Product Suppliers Agree:**

- To provide accurate, proven and tested efficacious products to the industry and consumer.
- To respectfully serve and protect the consumer against any fraud or deceptive business practices
- To respond to any/ all returns, warrantee or guarantee issues with immediate action and resolution.
- To perpetually strive for quality-controlled products and proficiency in customer service.
- To proudly display your IBBRA membership logo on web site or other advertising/media or in/on a door or window at the entrance of the building.

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### **Businesses Agree:**

- To educate all staff and employees in bed bug biology, characteristics, sleeping and hiding habits, reproduction, feeding habits and bites, health effects, current government guidelines, legal implications for property owners, social and financial implications, methods of treatment, inspection, detection, elimination and prevention.
- To initiate a standard operating procedure whereas staff and employees are pro-active in their prevention techniques
- To document all bed bug activity, prevention techniques and processes to avoid any legal ramifications for future
- To proudly display your IBBRA membership logo on web site or other advertising/media or in/on a door or window at the entrance of the building.

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As an extension of IBBRA, you agree to be guided by the principle that partnership programs complement the standards and decisions established by regulatory and registration actions. The informed actions of pesticide users can further reduce the risks from pests and pesticides by playing a major role in ensuring human health and environmental safety.

Documents will be customized for your company and delivered within two weeks of your membership. At this time, we ask that you provide appropriate information that pertains to your company on the application, sign and date, and return to: [contact@ibbra.org](mailto:contact@ibbra.org)

Thank you for your application and we look forward to have you as a part of the IBBRA community!