

## Effective, environmentally-friendly pest control

A study done by the Department of Entomology at the University of Louisiana found that only 0,1 percent pesticides reach the target pest, thus leaving a 99,9 percent chemical residue that is detrimental to the environment and all living creatures in it, including us. Most insects have built up a resistance against certain chemicals designed to control their population, which means that these chemical are ineffective and wasted. Furthermore, most Pest Control Officers (PCO's) in the field are unaware of the impact chemicals have on the environment. A new course offered by the Pest Control Service Industries Board (PCSIB) focuses on integrated pest management, equipping individuals with skills necessary for responsible and environmentally friendly pest control. In the interest of reducing reliance on chemicals, integrated pest control is more precise, relying on the process of inspection, identification and treatment to manage pest problems. It is designed to meet the needs of those both new to pest control and experienced individuals looking to update their skills. The 'Structural Pest Control' course certificate provides an understanding of pests in domestic, commercial and industrial environments and takes 3 days hands-on, followed by a monitoring process of six months.

Call Marizane Marais at the Pest Control Service Industries Board on 012 654-7708, email [admin@pcsib.org.za](mailto:admin@pcsib.org.za) or visit [www.pcsib.org.za](http://www.pcsib.org.za)

