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WORKING WITH PEST MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONALS FOR EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF
IPM IN SCHOOLS

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A recent survey of pest management practices in Ohio schools found that pest management professionals (PMPs) play an important role in many school districts pest management programs. 81% of the survey respondents reported that they relied on a PMP to apply pesticides in their district. When making the decision about when and which pesticides to apply 68% and 91% respectively, relied upon a PMP. Therefore the role of the PMP needs to be considered in any program promoting the effective implementation of IPM in Ohio schools. In order to better understand and incorporate this role, a survey of PMPs was conducted during the annual series of pesticide applicator re-certification schools held throughout Ohio. The survey was designed to gather information about current IPM practices and programs employed by Ohio PMPs and to learn what they perceive to be the barriers to implementing IPM in a school setting.