

DECENTRALIZED TRAINING IN

INSECT

AND

RODENT CONTROL



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The scope of insect and rodent control training activities is being extended through the presentation of courses in different sections of the United States. These programs are usually planned in cooperation with Public Health Service Regional Offices and State Health Departments for the training of State and local public health personnel. Where time and facilities permit, programs may also be arranged for other groups, such as schools of public health and pest control organizations.

Decentralized training programs are being offered in order to reach a greater number of people than can be accommodated through the courses given in Atlanta. There is also an advantage in that the subject matter may be arranged so that it will be most suitable for the particular geographical region being served.

Most of the courses given outside of Atlanta are intended for training for sanitarians and other public health workers who have little background in insect and rodent control. These courses are designed to give such personnel a basic understanding of the biology and importance of insect and rodent vectors of human disease, and to acquaint them with practical measures which can be recommended for the control

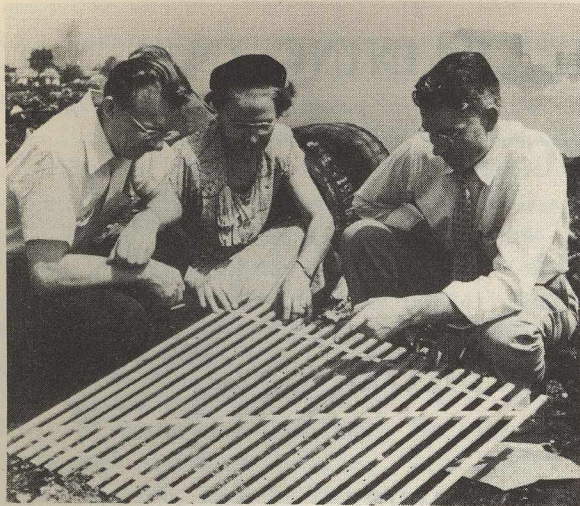
of such vectors.

Since July 1, 1947, the Communicable Disease Center has presented or assisted with 11 insect and rodent control schools in the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia. They have been attended by approximately 430 persons. A brief resume of these programs is given below under headings of the various States concerned.

LOUISIANA

A cooperative arrangement has been made with the Louisiana Public Health Training Center at New Orleans whereby the Training Division presents the insect and rodent control portion of their regular training courses for sanitarians. Four of these one-week programs were given on November 17-20, 1947; March 29-April 2, 1948; July 12-16, 1948; and November 15-19, 1948. They were attended by 49 persons.

These courses are arranged so that approximately half of each day is spent in the classroom and half in the field. Lectures and discussions are kept to a minimum and are supplemented by demonstrations, slides, and films. Field work is performed in cooperation with existing control programs of the Louisiana State Health Department and the New Orleans City Health De-



Instructor demonstrating use of fly grill.

partment. Thus, trainees have an opportunity to observe and practice most of the recommended methods of controlling insects and rodents of public health significance. Each course includes 2 days on mosquitoes and their control, 2 days on rat and rat ectoparasite control, and 1 day on flies, ticks, and miscellaneous household insects.

A more advanced insect and rodent control course was also given at the Louisiana Public Health Training Center on May 17-21 for graduate students in the Department of Public Health of Tulane University. This course covered in a somewhat more intensive manner about the same subjects as those listed above. It was attended by 16 students.

MISSISSIPPI

In cooperation with the Mississippi State Health Department, CDC conducted two short insect and rodent control schools at Greenwood, Miss., on July 29-31, 1947, and at Hattiesburg, Miss., on August 5-7, 1947. They were attended by approximately 100 sanitarians and other public health personnel from all parts of the State.

In each of these schools, two days were spent on mosquito and malaria control, one day on the control of flies and other household insects, and one day on rat



Trainees learn rat-trapping techniques.

control. The courses consisted principally of lectures and discussions supplemented by appropriate films. About one-half day of each course was occupied with field demonstrations on mosquito control, fly control, and rat control.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Two courses in insect and rodent control which were organized by the South Carolina State Health Department and U.S. Public Health Service District 2 were presented at Columbia, S.C., on April 19-21 and April 21-23, 1948. The Training Division cooperated by furnishing a training officer, who presented many of the lectures and participated in the discussions, and by furnishing slides and films. The courses were attended by about 150 men including sanitarians and other State and local health department personnel.

The two two-day courses were identical and covered mosquito and malaria control, fly control, tick control, household insect control, and rat and rat-ectoparasite control. Most of the work was presented through lectures and discussions which were accompanied by films and slides. Demonstrations of certain techniques used in evaluating murine typhus fever control were also included.

VIRGINIA

A 2-day insect and rodent control course was conducted at Norfolk, Va., on February 2-3, 1948, by the Virginia State Health Department, U. S. Public Health Service District 2, and CDC. It was attended by about 65 State and local public health personnel of Southeastern Virginia.

One day of this course was devoted to mosquito, fly, and tick control and 1 day to rat and rat-ectoparasite control. The program consisted principally of lectures and discussions supplemented by slides and films. Demonstrations of equipment used in insect and rodent control and of certain techniques used in evaluation of murine typhus fever control were also featured.

WEST VIRGINIA

The CDC assisted U. S. Public Health Service District 2 in presenting two two-day courses in insect and rodent control

at Clarksburg, W. Va., on October 15-17, 1947, and at Beckley, W. Va., on October 20-22, 1947. These schools covered rat control as well as fly, mosquito, and household insect control. They were attended by about 50 members of the State and local health departments.

It is expected that similar short courses of a somewhat general nature as described above will be given from time to time in accordance with the needs of the public health personnel of the several states. It is also expected that more intensive courses in specialized fields will be offered in strategic locations outside of Atlanta. For example, plans are now being made to conduct fly control training courses in certain cities where Communicable Disease Center fly control programs are under way. It is probable, however, that most of the advanced courses will continue to be given only in Atlanta where more adequate facilities are available.

Trainees inspecting artificial resting station for adult mosquitoes.

