

# Grain & Seed News

A Newsletter for the Grain & Seed Industry • Number 16

## Fumigation Training, Plan Now



by *Pete Mueller*,  
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Now is the time to plan for your continued education so your license doesn't expire. Many people wait until the

last month on their license and desperately search for a way to avoid taking their fumigation examination over again. Here are various opportunities to renew your licenses, learn more about this potentially risky business of fumigation, and meet some nice people.

**August 6**, Kentucky Feed & Grain Association, **Fumigation Continued Certification Program**, Bowling Green, Kentucky. Program organized by FSS

**December 10**, **Initial Fumigation Training and Examination**, Westfield, Indiana. Organized by FSS

**December 11-12**, **Hands-on Fumigation Workshop**, Westfield, Indiana. Organized by FSS

**December 13**, **Fumigation Scrubber Workshop**, Westfield, Indiana. Organized by FSS

**January 7, 2014**; **78th Purdue Pest Management Conference**, Continued Education Program. FSS invited speakers

**January 16, 2014**; **Georgia Pest Control Conference**, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, Fumigation Continued Education. FSS invited speaker

**March 26, 2014**, **GEAPS Education Program**, Auburn, Indiana. Fumigation training organized by FSS

**June 2-4, 2014**; Krakow, Poland, **the 11th Fumigants & Pheromones Conference**. Organized by Insects Limited and FSS

FSS offers custom training. This can be at your facility or ours. Call for details.

If you are interested in attending one of these Fumigation Training conferences, call FSS at 1.317.896.9300 or email: [D.Mueller@fumigationzone.com](mailto:D.Mueller@fumigationzone.com) or go to [www.fumigationzone.com](http://www.fumigationzone.com) for details.

*Supporting the Grain, Seed, Milling, and Popcorn Associations*



### Insects Limited

"Sharing through Education"

#### Mission Statement

In all, our aim is to offer quality service, provide the absolute best products available worldwide, to be a respected world-class organization, and maintain profitability with innovation, alternatives, and education.

# Farming Women



When somebody says “farmer,” do you automatically think “fella”? Well, think again. Almost one in three U.S. farmers is female — and that number is rising. “My belief is that the 2012 Agricultural Census will show robust growth in the number of women owning farms,” says Kathleen Merrihan, former deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of

Agriculture. “There aren’t the same type of gender barriers there once were. I’m heartened by it. More women are at the helm.”

The number of female farmers is rising, as a national ag census will confirm when USDA reports its findings next year from a tally taken at the end of ’12. In fact, even as male farmers are

becoming fewer, we expect a big increase for women since USDA’s ’07 census, when 306,000 women were listed as primary farm operators. Worldwide, nearly all women farmers work on small...often subsistence...farms. However, 2000 had over \$1 million in sales...eight times the count in ’82.

*(Source; Kiplinger Agriculture Letter- vol. 84, no.13)*

## Ladder Safety

by **Ryan Yutzy**,  
FSS Safety Coordinator and Compliance  
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Our jobs often include working on ladders. Fumigators spend many hours sealing buildings prior to releasing poisonous fumigants in a grain bin or seed warehouse. A ladder isn’t always the best way to work up high. Ask yourself these questions first:

1. Will I have to hold heavy equipment or other items while standing on the ladder?
2. Will I have to use a longer, more unstable ladder to reach the area?
3. Am I going to have to work from the ladder for a long period of time?
4. Will I have to lean away from the ladder to reach the spot that needs attention?

If you answer “yes”, consider using something other than a ladder to work at the site. A lift ladder, a boom lift, a scissor lift, or a ladder with a working platform would be a safer choice.

- Don’t use a ladder if it is bent, greasy, missing a step, or if the spreader bars do not have a locking mechanism.
  - Don’t use a free-standing ladder, like a stepladder, in its closed position.
  - Don’t use a stepladder on uneven ground, on ice, or on top of boxes or other objects.
  - Don’t carry tools or anything in your hands when climbing a ladder. Wear a tool belt or hoist items in a bucket after you reach the top.
- Face the ladder when climbing.
  - Maintain 3 points of contact with a ladder at all times. That means two hands and one foot when climbing.
  - Don’t lean away from a ladder when working or reaching. Keep your weight centered between the side rails.



Photo credit: Brock



**Never stand on the top 3 rungs of an extension ladder or on the top platform of the step ladder**

# Monitoring for Insects in Grain Bins and Seed Warehouses

by **David Mueller, BCE,**  
President of FSS & Insects Limited  
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Insects use certain chemical scents to communicate. These chemical cues were first discovered over one hundred years ago by entomologists who captured female moths in boxes and placed them near an open window only to find the male moths of the same species aggressively attracted to this box.

Early detection of stored product insects is important to offer a true pest management approach. You can determine when to fumigate by the weekly checking of a simple and inexpensive insect trap. Warehouses that contain millions of dollars of seed and stored products are attacked by pest insects. The reputation of the brand and company producing the seed depends on high levels of quality control



*It is important to properly place pheromone traps in grain bins and seed warehouses to get an early warning of increasing pest populations.*



*(above, left): Grain weevils wander the surface of the grain. A simple plastic probe trap containing only water can attract these destructive weevils and other grain pests. This grain and seed monitoring device can provide valuable information to make decisions. (above, center/right): Place these sensitive hanging pheromone traps eye level on support beams or in between grain bins on or near the ladder. Place the grain probe on the surface of the grain and secure.*

and diligence to ship only pest free products. Insects Limited of Westfield Indiana was the pioneer for these types of pheromone traps and provides technical sup-

port to understand what the trap results mean. For over thirty years pheromones have been used to protect food products around the world. For information

about how to establish a pheromone trapping program in your facility:

Visit [www.insectslimited.com](http://www.insectslimited.com)

Call 1-800-992-1991

## ProFume™ Fumigant for Seed Warehouse

### Fumigation monitoring for efficacy and safety

ProFume is a very different fumigant from phosphine. It is non-corrosive, faster, odorless, and harder to degas from stored products. It takes special skills and vigilance to perform a ProFume fumigation correctly.



*Jeff Waggoner, General Manager for FSS and Marty Morgan, ProFume Field Representative for Dow AgroSciences fine tuning a seed warehouse fumigation for efficacy and safety.*



*Jeff Moorhead, Regional Manager, working late to insure proper gas concentrations of ProFume in a large structure.*



**"It is easier and more economical to save a bushel of grain than it is to grow a bushel to replace it."**

*- Dave Mueller*



*Dave Mueller with his dog Abe*

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**FSS is dedicated to quality service, the best products available and a strong commitment to safety. Our fumigation crews have many years of experience along with a staff of entomologists for technical support that is second to none. We are proud to say that we have not had an onsite lost time accident for over 20 years (MOD rating 0.73). Call on FSS to help solve your pest problems.**

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**Call 1-800-992-1991 to receive more information about our products and services or go to our website: [www.FumigationZone.com](http://www.FumigationZone.com)**

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