

Oklahoma General Pest 7A Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. Why is technician training critical in pest management?**
 - A. To improve their sales skills**
 - B. To ensure they understand safe handling practices and effective control measures**
 - C. To familiarize them with office procedures**
 - D. To teach them how to manage customer relations**
- 2. Which characteristic describes the thorax of a flesh fly?**
 - A. Bright blue and reflective**
 - B. Gray with three distinct stripes**
 - C. Indistinct black and brown patterns**
 - D. Long and fuzzy**
- 3. Which of the following is NOT a way disease can be transmitted?**
 - A. Mechanical**
 - B. Biological**
 - C. Host-vector relationship**
 - D. Arthropod respiration**
- 4. What is a critical factor in assessing pest control effectiveness?**
 - A. Monitoring changes in pest numbers**
 - B. Evaluating worker safety during treatments**
 - C. Calculating the total cost of pest management**
 - D. Ensuring pesticides are stocked properly**
- 5. What is defined as a 'structural pest'?**
 - A. Pests that live in soil**
 - B. Pests that infest buildings or homes**
 - C. Pests that appear only in gardens**
 - D. Pests that are beneficial to agriculture**

- 6. What environmental condition is necessary for psocids and grain mites to thrive?**
- A. High temperature**
 - B. Dry conditions**
 - C. High humidity**
 - D. Freezing temperatures**
- 7. What factor is essential for the survival of cockroaches?**
- A. Sunlight**
 - B. Food**
 - C. Oxygen**
 - D. Salt**
- 8. What are systemic insecticides?**
- A. Insecticides applied on the surface**
 - B. Insecticides absorbed by plants providing internal protection**
 - C. Insecticides that work only in humid conditions**
 - D. Insecticides that do not affect plant life**
- 9. What are some environmental considerations when applying pesticides?**
- A. Increased pest resistance only**
 - B. Better yield in crops**
 - C. Contamination of water sources and soil health**
 - D. Application near urban areas**
- 10. Which statement is true about the female black widow spider?**
- A. It has a small brown body**
 - B. It has a large globose abdomen with a red hourglass**
 - C. It is harmless to humans**
 - D. It usually lives in dry environments**

Answers

SAMPLE

1. B
2. B
3. D
4. A
5. B
6. C
7. B
8. B
9. C
10. B

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Explanations

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1. Why is technician training critical in pest management?

- A. To improve their sales skills
- B. To ensure they understand safe handling practices and effective control measures**
- C. To familiarize them with office procedures
- D. To teach them how to manage customer relations

Technician training is critical in pest management primarily because it ensures that technicians understand safe handling practices and effective control measures. This knowledge is essential for several reasons. First, pest management often involves the use of various chemicals and equipment that can pose risks to both human health and the environment if not handled properly. Proper training provides technicians with the necessary skills to apply these substances safely and effectively, minimizing potential hazards. Second, effective control measures are crucial for successfully managing pest populations while also adhering to regulatory requirements and best practices. Trained technicians are better equipped to identify pest species, understand their behaviors, and implement the most suitable and environmentally responsible control strategies. Additionally, training fosters a greater awareness of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) principles, which prioritize prevention and non-chemical approaches alongside chemical interventions for a holistic pest management strategy. Knowledge in this area enables technicians to make informed decisions that lead to more sustainable pest control outcomes, ultimately benefiting both clients and the ecosystem.

2. Which characteristic describes the thorax of a flesh fly?

- A. Bright blue and reflective
- B. Gray with three distinct stripes**
- C. Indistinct black and brown patterns
- D. Long and fuzzy

The thorax of a flesh fly is characterized by its gray coloration and the presence of three distinct stripes running lengthwise along its back. This pattern is a key identifying feature of flesh flies, which belong to the family Sarcophagidae. The gray color and striped pattern help in distinguishing them from other similar fly species, such as house flies or blow flies, which may have different colorations or markings. This distinct striped appearance on the thorax is important for pest identification in both academic and practical pest control settings. Recognizing these physical traits can aid in the correct identification of the species, which is essential for determining appropriate control measures and understanding the ecological roles of these insects. In contrast, other options describe features that belong to different fly species or do not provide accurate descriptions of the thorax of a flesh fly. For instance, a bright blue reflective appearance better describes certain other fly species, and indistinct or fuzzy characteristics do not correspond with the well-defined features of flesh flies.

3. Which of the following is NOT a way disease can be transmitted?

- A. Mechanical**
- B. Biological**
- C. Host-vector relationship**
- D. Arthropod respiration**

The correct identification of "Arthropod respiration" as not a method of disease transmission is based on the understanding of how pathogens are spread. Diseases can be transmitted through various mechanisms, including mechanical and biological methods. Mechanical transmission occurs when a pathogen is carried on the outside of a vector, such as dirt or pests, and inadvertently transferred to a host. Biological transmission, on the other hand, involves a more complex interaction where the pathogen undergoes a part of its lifecycle within the vector before being transmitted to the host, often requiring specific interactions between the vector and the host. The host-vector relationship describes the interactions between the vector and the host that can facilitate transmission but does not directly involve a respiratory mechanism. In contrast, arthropod respiration involves the physiological process of breathing that does not contribute to the transmission of pathogens. While some arthropods, such as mosquitoes, play critical roles in disease spread, their respiration itself is not a mechanism of transmission. Understanding the various transmission pathways helps clarify how diseases propagate and the specific roles different organisms play in this process.

4. What is a critical factor in assessing pest control effectiveness?

- A. Monitoring changes in pest numbers**
- B. Evaluating worker safety during treatments**
- C. Calculating the total cost of pest management**
- D. Ensuring pesticides are stocked properly**

Monitoring changes in pest numbers is a critical factor in assessing pest control effectiveness because it provides direct evidence of whether the control measures implemented are yielding the desired results. By tracking the population dynamics of pests over time, pest control professionals can determine if their interventions are reducing pest populations to acceptable levels. This ongoing monitoring allows for adjustments to treatment plans based on real-time data, facilitating a more reactive and effective pest management strategy. For instance, if pest numbers remain unchanged or increase despite applied treatments, it signals that the current methods may not be working effectively, prompting a reevaluation of tactics or products used. In contrast, while evaluating worker safety during treatments is vital for operational integrity and regulatory compliance, it does not directly measure the effectiveness of pest control. Similarly, calculating the total cost of pest management is important for budgetary considerations but does not provide insight into whether the pest problem is being adequately addressed. Ensuring pesticides are stocked properly is also necessary for operational efficiency, but it does not influence how effective the pest control measures are in reducing pest populations. Thus, the monitoring of pest numbers stands out as a fundamental metric for evaluating the success of pest management strategies.

5. What is defined as a 'structural pest'?

- A. Pests that live in soil**
- B. Pests that infest buildings or homes**
- C. Pests that appear only in gardens**
- D. Pests that are beneficial to agriculture**

A 'structural pest' is defined as pests that infest buildings or homes. This term encompasses a wide variety of organisms that can cause damage to the physical structure of a property or negatively affect human health and safety. Common examples of structural pests include termites, roaches, rodents, and carpenter ants, all of which can undermine the integrity of buildings and create unsanitary conditions. The focus on infestations within buildings is key, as these pests can exploit the materials and spaces found within human-made structures, leading to significant economic impact due to repairs, pest control measures, and health risks. Understanding this definition is crucial for professionals dealing with pest management or structural integrity, as it underscores the importance of identifying and addressing these specific pests effectively to maintain safe and secure environments for occupants.

6. What environmental condition is necessary for psocids and grain mites to thrive?

- A. High temperature**
- B. Dry conditions**
- C. High humidity**
- D. Freezing temperatures**

Psocids and grain mites are both pests that thrive in environments with high humidity. These organisms require moisture for their survival and reproduction, which is why they are commonly found in areas that provide a damp atmosphere, such as stored grain facilities, basements, and other humid environments. High humidity creates ideal conditions for these pests, as it supports their physical needs and contributes to rapid population growth. In contrast, dry conditions would limit their ability to survive and reproduce, leading to a decline in their populations. High temperatures can also be detrimental as they might lead to dehydration. Freezing temperatures are generally inhospitable for both psocids and grain mites, as these organisms are not equipped to survive extreme cold. Thus, high humidity is fundamental for the optimal growth and development of psocids and grain mites, making it the correct choice.

7. What factor is essential for the survival of cockroaches?

- A. Sunlight
- B. Food**
- C. Oxygen
- D. Salt

The survival of cockroaches heavily depends on food availability. Cockroaches are omnivorous scavengers, meaning they consume a variety of organic materials, including food scraps, paper, and even non-food items like glue and soap. Their ability to eat a wide range of substances allows them to thrive in diverse environments, especially in urban areas where food sources are abundant. A steady supply of food enables them to grow, reproduce, and maintain their energy levels, making it a critical factor for their survival. While cockroaches do require oxygen to breathe, it is the availability of food that directly influences their population dynamics and overall health. Sunlight is not essential, as cockroaches typically prefer dark, humid environments, and salt does not play a significant role in their survival. Therefore, food is the primary necessity for cockroaches, as it supports their biological functions and contributes to their resilience as a pest.

8. What are systemic insecticides?

- A. Insecticides applied on the surface
- B. Insecticides absorbed by plants providing internal protection**
- C. Insecticides that work only in humid conditions
- D. Insecticides that do not affect plant life

Systemic insecticides are defined as those insecticides that are absorbed by plants and provide internal protection against pests. When these chemicals are applied to a plant, they are taken up through the roots or foliage and then distributed throughout the plant's tissues. This allows the plant to be protected from pests that may feed on it, as the insecticide is present in the plant's sap or tissues. This type of insecticide is particularly effective for managing pests that suck plant sap or chew on leaves, as it targets them more directly. Furthermore, because systemic insecticides work from within the plant, they can provide longer-lasting protection compared to surface-applied insecticides. Understanding the mode of action of systemic insecticides is important, as it highlights their advantages in managing pest populations while minimizing the risk of harming beneficial organisms and the environment.

9. What are some environmental considerations when applying pesticides?

- A. Increased pest resistance only**
- B. Better yield in crops**
- C. Contamination of water sources and soil health**
- D. Application near urban areas**

When applying pesticides, one of the critical environmental considerations is the potential contamination of water sources and the impact on soil health. Pesticides can run off into nearby water bodies during rain events or through irrigation practices, leading to water pollution that can affect aquatic ecosystems and drinking water supplies. Additionally, pesticide application can alter the microbial communities within the soil, which play a vital role in nutrient cycling and overall soil health. The importance of addressing such environmental factors cannot be overstated, as the implications extend beyond immediate pest control to long-term agricultural sustainability and ecosystem integrity. Effective pest management strategies should thus take into account the ecological consequences to prevent detrimental effects on the environment, ensuring that both pest populations and surrounding habitats can coexist in a balanced manner.

10. Which statement is true about the female black widow spider?

- A. It has a small brown body**
- B. It has a large globose abdomen with a red hourglass**
- C. It is harmless to humans**
- D. It usually lives in dry environments**

The statement about the female black widow spider having a large globose abdomen with a red hourglass marking is accurate. Female black widow spiders are known for their distinctive appearance, which includes a shiny, black body and a rounded abdomen that is typically much larger than that of the male. The red hourglass marking is a key identifying feature, often found on the underside of their abdomens, and serves as a warning signal to potential predators about their venomous nature. Recognizing this characteristic is important for distinguishing them from other spider species. The black widow's appearance not only makes it easily identifiable but also raises awareness regarding its potential danger, as its bite can be harmful, particularly to vulnerable populations such as children and the elderly. This can be crucial information for pest management professionals when assessing spider infestations and making safety recommendations.