

**REPORT TO THE
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
STATE OF HAWAII
2007**

**PURSUANT TO HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
NO. 36, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR
OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT A PREVENTION AND
EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ON THE INCREASING
INCIDENCE OF BEDBUGS**

**PREPARED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
STATE OF HAWAII**

December 2006

**BEDBUG PREVENTION AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGN
VECTOR CONTROL BRANCH ACTIVITIES DURING FY 2006**

The Vector Control Branch (Branch) of the Department of Health (department) accomplished the following specific items to respond to the legislative request to the department to assist in education, public outreach, and working with the professional pest control and tourism industries:

1. The Branch established contacts with experts in the field to obtain information, photos, specimens and do cooperative studies/research:
 - a. Dr. Harold J. Harlan, BCE, contract analyst for the Armed Forces Pest Management Board.
 - b. Dr. Michael F. Potter, Professor, Urban, Horticulture and Medical Entomology, University of Kentucky.
2. The Branch improved its public informational materials:
 - a. An updated informational “Fact Sheet” on bed bugs was developed and placed on the DOH webpage <http://www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/vector/bedbugsflyer.pdf>, which is available to the public. This was advertised in both newspaper and television interviews.
 - b. The Branch improved its website and placed links at www.hawaii.gov, including a link to Harvard University’s website with permission.
3. The Branch worked with the media to educate the public. The Branch:
 - a. Provided information to the Honolulu Advertiser for a front page newspaper article (reporter: Rod Ohira).
 - b. Provided an interview which was broadcast on KITV-Hawaii channel 4 (ABC affiliate) with Mahealani Richardson.
 - c. Provided an interview and information for a three page article published in the East-West Journal, a Japanese newspaper (reporter: Yurie Sakakibara, Senior Editor).
 - d. Provided an interview which was broadcast on KHON2 television with Andrew Pereira.
4. The Branch provided presentations which included information on the Bed Bug situation to various professional groups:
 - a. US Army Corps of Engineers, FT Shafter (31 August 2006)

- b. Hawaiian Entomological Society, University of Hawaii-Manoa. (11 September 2006)
 - c. 2006 Hawaii Pest Control Association (29 September 2006). The Branch entomologists set up an informational booth in the “trade show” area as part of the 24th Annual Learning Conference. This included: a slide show, handouts (Bed Bug key and informational “Fact Sheets”), live and preserved specimens, and a poster board with additional control information.
5. The Branch is working with the hotel/tourism industry.
- a. Even before the resolution, department staff met with hotels to discuss the situation and provide inspection service.
 - b. After the resolution the Branch met with Charles R. Kelley, MD of the Outrigger Enterprises to discuss his research.
 - c. The Branch will present a PowerPoint presentation on bedbugs to interested personnel in hotel/tourism industry, and is prepared to present additional presentations at other meetings of the hotel/tourism industry and the pest control industry.