



Idaho State Department of Agriculture
P.O. Box 7249 • Boise, Idaho 83707
P: 208.332.8500 • F: 208.334.2170
www.agri.idaho.gov

BRAD LITTLE, GOVERNOR
CELIA GOULD, DIRECTOR

TO: Idaho County Commissioners
Idaho County Extension Educators
Idaho Association of Weed Control Superintendents

FROM: Lloyd Knight, Administrator
Division of Plant Industries

DATE: May 4, 2021

SUBJECT: 2021 ISDA Grasshopper/Mormon Cricket Program

Introduction

Grasshoppers and Mormon crickets continue to be one of the most serious pest problems affecting Idaho rangelands and adjacent croplands. The management and the timely control of grasshopper and Mormon cricket populations are high priorities for the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) and our cooperators at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and Agricultural Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

Detailed information on the amount of insecticide (Carbaryl bait) distributed to landowners in 2020 can be found in the 2020 Grasshopper and Mormon cricket Suppression Program Summary at the ISDA Grasshopper and Mormon cricket website: <https://invasivespecies.idaho.gov/ghmc-information>

➤ **2021 Program Updates**

This winter, the ISDA grasshopper/Mormon cricket program wished a happy retirement to the long-time program specialist, Dan Safford. In mid-April, Kahla Montrose accepted the new role as the program specialist. Kahla is based out of the ISDA Headquarters office in Boise, ID and will serve as the primary ISDA contact for grasshopper and Mormon cricket control inquiries. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Kahla at any time with questions or concerns regarding the program.

2021 ISDA Program Policy

➤ **Bait Distribution**

Farmers and ranchers with infestations will have the option of receiving Carbaryl bait. The landowner will take full responsibility for labor costs, proper application, and storage of the bait. In order for a landowner to receive bait, the land to be treated must be used for agricultural purposes (i.e. grazing, haying, or other types of crop production) and be 5 acres or more in size. All private landowners wishing to receive bait must submit a completed “Grasshopper Mormon Cricket Complaint Form”. This fillable form is found at the ISDA website: <http://invasivespecies.idaho.gov/grasshopper-mormon-cricket-control-program/> (scroll to the bottom and click on the black box that says ‘ISDA Grasshopper and Mormon Cricket Complaint Form’). It will be used for all initial calls regarding infestations on private, state, or federal lands. Upon receipt of a Grasshopper Mormon Cricket Complaint Form, ISDA will inspect the private landowner’s property for the extent of infestation. ISDA field scouts will inspect the land in question to determine if bait is to be distributed to a particular landowner. Upon receipt of any bait, the landowner will be required to sign an ISDA Bait Distribution Record, taking full responsibility for the use and storage of the bait they receive.

- Landowners who receive bait will be required to comply with all label restrictions and requirements, as well as comply with the Idaho Pesticide and Chemigation Law, National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Pesticide General Permit (PGP), and any other applicable state, federal, or local laws. This responsibility also includes strictly following the insecticide label and proper calibration of application equipment, following all environmental precautions, and properly storing and disposing of the empty bait bags.
- ISDA has the responsibility and the authority to investigate any alleged pesticide misuse, particularly in regard to Carbaryl bait applications, and take enforcement action when appropriate.
- Adequate oversight of the pest suppression program is an expectation. Failure of participants and cooperators to submit the proper forms, such as Grasshopper and Mormon Cricket Complaint Form or Bait Distribution Record, as required by ISDA, may result in loss of eligibility to participate in the program or to receive financial assistance.

➤ **Landowner Reimbursement**

For some qualifying infestations, ISDA may approve reimbursement for pesticides for terrestrial or aerial application. In approved cases, ISDA will reimburse for the cost of pesticide purchased for grasshopper or Mormon cricket control, and any associated crop or paraffin-based crop oils that may be required by the pesticide label as a part of the application. ISDA will not reimburse for any application costs, whether terrestrial or aerial. Landowners will be responsible for application and pilot costs. ISDA may reimburse only for acres that have been verified by ISDA to exceed the economic threshold of eight (8) grasshoppers per square meter or three (3) Mormon crickets per square meter.

In order to qualify for reimbursement, the land to be treated must be used for agricultural purposes (i.e. grazing, haying, or other types of crop production) and be 5 acres or more in size, and the landowner must complete the following steps:

1. Contact ISDA to receive approval **PRIOR** to purchasing or applying any pesticide.
 - ❖ The approval process will require landowners to:
 - a. allow ISDA to evaluate and verify:
 - i. that the grasshopper or Mormon cricket population meets or exceeds the economic threshold
 - ii. the number of acres to be treated
2. Once ISDA has approved the property to qualify for reimbursement, the landowner must submit the following documents **PRIOR** to purchasing or applying any pesticide:
 - a. at least one estimate of the cost per acre of the chosen insecticides/adjuvants to be purchased

** To qualify, the chosen pesticide MUST include the crop(s) that will be treated on the label
3. Once ISDA has approved the estimate for the chosen insecticides/adjuvants, landowners may purchase and apply the pesticides per the label directions.
4. The landowner must submit (within 45 days of application) to ISDA:
 - a. a written request (email is OK) which includes:
 - i. name of insecticide and any adjuvants used for control of grasshoppers/Mormon crickets
 - ii. crop in which pesticide was applied to
 - iii. total acreage treated

**This acreage must match the acreage ISDA approved
 - iv. exact dollar amount being requesting for reimbursement

- b. an invoice showing the quantity and cost of product purchased; or
- c. an invoice from the professional applicator which specifically sets forth the cost of the pesticide and required crop oil, the actual acres treated, and a map of actual application site(s)
 - **The invoice must show that the amount has been paid in full
- d. if the invoice amount is different than the amount requested, an explanation is required
- e. a completed Form W-9 (<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>)

We will continue to work cooperatively with counties, extension educators, and our federal partners; USDA APHIS. The Idaho, Nez Perce, and Latah County Extension offices have agreed to be contact points for private landowners in northern Idaho. In addition, we will have field scouts assigned to northern Idaho to work with the counties, as needed, that are receiving calls from private landowners. We will be glad to send our staff to special grower/rancher informational meetings in the impacted counties, if requested, to report on the program procedures.

The Grasshopper Mormon Cricket Complaint Form is used for evaluation of need for suppression of grasshopper or Mormon crickets in Idaho. This fillable form is found on the ISDA website: <http://invasivespecies.idaho.gov/grasshopper-mormon-cricket-control-program/> (scroll to the bottom and click on the black box that says 'ISDA Grasshopper and Mormon Cricket Complaint Form'.) It will be used for all initial calls regarding infestations on federal, state, or private lands.

Our goal is to serve impacted landowners and encourage judicious use of effective insecticides, while protecting pollinators, non-target species, and sensitive environments.

For additional information, visit the ISDA Grasshopper/Mormon Cricket Program website: <http://invasivespecies.idaho.gov/grasshopper-mormon-cricket-control-program/>

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the 2021 program, please do not hesitate to contact Kahla Montrose at 208-332-8592.

cc: Brian Marschman, USDA APHIS PPQ
Brad Newbry, USDA APHIS PPQ
Daniel Obester, USDA APHIS PPQ
ISDA Program Staff

Infestations on all Federal Lands in Idaho

If your infestation is on BLM, USFS or other Federal Lands:

Western Idaho

USDA APHIS PPQ Office

Boise, Idaho

Voice: 208-373-1600

Fax: 208-378-5794

Email: Daniel.Obester@usda.gov

Eastern Idaho

USDA APHIS PPQ Office

Twin Falls, Idaho

Voice: 208-944-3751

Email: Bradley.A.Newbry@usda.gov

Infestations on State or Private Lands

If your infestation is in one of these regions or counties:

North Idaho

Bonner, Boundary, Benewah, Kootenai,
Latah, and Shoshone

Latah County Extension Office

Voice: 208-883-2267

Fax: 208-882-8505

Email: latah@uidaho.edu

Nez Perce and Lewis Counties

Nez Perce County Extension Office

Voice: 208-799-3096

Email: nezperce@uidaho.edu

Idaho and Clearwater Counties

Idaho County Extension Office

Voice: 208-983-2667

Fax: 208-983-0251

Email: idaho@uidaho.edu

South West Idaho

Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore,
Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley, and
Washington Counties

ISDA Headquarters, Boise

Voice: 208-332-8592

Fax: 208-334-2283

ISDA website:

[http://invasivespecies.idaho.gov/grasshop
per-mormon-cricket-control-program/](http://invasivespecies.idaho.gov/grasshop-per-mormon-cricket-control-program/)

South Central Idaho

Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Custer, Gooding,
Jerome, Lemhi, Lincoln, Minidoka, and
Twin Falls Counties

ISDA Headquarters, Boise

Voice: 208-332-8592

Fax: 208-334-2283

ISDA website:

[http://invasivespecies.idaho.gov/grasshop
per-mormon-cricket-control-program/](http://invasivespecies.idaho.gov/grasshop-per-mormon-cricket-control-program/)

Eastern Idaho

Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham,
Bonneville, Butte, Caribou, Clark,
Franklin, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison,
Oneida, Power, and Teton

ISDA Idaho Falls Field Office

Voice: 208-316-0578

Fax: 208-525-7206

ISDA website:

[http://invasivespecies.idaho.gov/grasshop
per-mormon-cricket-control-program/](http://invasivespecies.idaho.gov/grasshop-per-mormon-cricket-control-program/)