



How to Select a Professional Pest Manager

When most people discover a pest problem, they want the pest eliminated immediately so one must select a competent, reasonably-priced Professional Pest Manager (or Pest Control Service Provider).

When Selecting a Professional Pest Manager :

- Ask your friends and neighbours for references; can they recommend someone who has provided them effective and satisfactory service?
- Be wary of operators who come to your premises uninvited and offer to give your house a free inspection for pests. They may try to scare you into going in for immediate and costly treatments
- Don't be hasty in making a decision. Since you will be paying for professional knowledge & skill, look for someone who has the right attributes
- Ask questions about the pest problem, treatment to be done, products to be used, etc., that will help you getting a better understanding of the calibre and competence of the company's representative
- If the treatment requires a large amount of money to be paid, get offers from several pest management companies
- Before signing any contract, be sure you completely understand the nature of the pest problem, the extent of the infestation and the treatment required to solve the problem
- In case a warranty is given, understand what it covers, the duration, what you must do to keep it in force and what kind of continuing control, prevention and management are necessary

In addition to the above, ask the representative the following questions:

- "How many years have you been in business at your present location?"
- "Would you provide me with a list of references?"
- "Will the person implementing the services have undergone training in the effective use of the same?"
- "Does your company hold a membership of the Indian Pest Control Association?"
- "Would you provide me with a copy of your certificate from IPCA?"

Beware of Firms or Individuals that

- Offer you a "special price" if treatment is done immediately
- Do not have a listed or working telephone number
- Sell services door-to-door and where the operating firm's name is unheard of
- Claim to have a special "secret" formula. Secret formulas are illegal: all pesticide products must be registered by the Central Insecticides Board (CIB) for the specific purpose
- Claim to have excess material left from a previous job and offer a reduced price for immediate treatment

Buy Value, not Price. Sometimes, the least expensive price may not be your best bargain. Knowing when to call an expert is important. Modern pest professionals first identify the offending pest and then structure an effective program to control, monitor and manage the problem. Be sure the professional you hire can assure you that they can solve your problems without harming your health or the environment.