

Sample Indoor Pest Thresholds



(revise to your own levels)

Pest	Classrooms/ Public Areas	Storage/ Maintenance Areas	Infirmary	Kitchen/ Cafeteria	Grounds
Ants (common house)	5/room	5/100 ft ² in 2 successive periods	1/room	3/room	2 mounds/yard
Ants (carpenter)	3/room	3/room	1/room	2/room	1 nest within 25 ft.
Bees (honey)	1/room	3/room	1/room	1/room	If children threatened
Bees (bumble)	1/room	3/room	1/room	1/room	If children threatened
Bees (carpenter)	1/room	3/room	1/room	1/room	If children threatened; 1 carpenter bee/5 linear feet
Cockroaches	1/room	5/room	1/room	1/room	If noticeable or invading
Crickets	3/room	10/room	1/room	2/room	If nuisance
House Flies	3/room	5/room	1/room	1/room	5/trash can; 10/dumpster
Lice (head or body)	<i>Take no action, refer to nurse</i>				
Mice	1/room	1/room	1/room	1/room	Burrows or activity in any student area
Rats	1/room	1/room	1/room	1/room	Any burrows/activity
Silverfish	1/room	2/room	1/room	2/room	N/A
Centipede	1/room	2/room	1/room	2/room	N/A
Spiders (poisonous)	1/room	1/room	1/room	1/room	1/activity area
Spiders (others)	1/room	3/room	1/room	1/room	Only if nuisance
Wasps, Hornets, Yellowjackets	1/room	1/room	1/room	1/room	10/10 minutes at trash; 1 if threatening children

Source: Maryland Department of Agriculture Pesticide Regulation Section.
 “Action Thresholds in School IPM Programs” Supplemental Materials for
 Integrated Pest Management - IPM Training Manual. Printed May 2000.

Accessed 4/27/04 at <http://www.mda.state.md.us/plant/ipmacthr.pdf>.

Now posted @ <http://www.pestmanagement.rutgers.edu/IPM/SchoolIPM/ActionThresh.pdf>