

Glossary of Terms

Aerosol – A liquid contained under pressure that is released in the form of fine liquid particles, in a mist.

Arthropod – Any invertebrate belonging to the phylum Arthropoda, with a segmented body, jointed legs, a chitinous exoskeleton, and undergoing molts. This includes the insects, spiders and other arachnids, crustaceans, and others.

Crack and crevice treatment – the application of small quantities of pesticide in a building into small openings, such as those found around moldings, between floor boards, expansion joints, and beneath furniture or appliances.

Encasement – A completely sealed and zippered cover for a mattress or box spring, that may be constructed of plastic or breathable fabric.

Fogger – A device that spreads a liquid chemical in the form of fine liquid particles, like a mist.

Fumigation – To use a gas or vapors of a chemical to kill or repel pests.

HEPA – High-efficiency particulate arresting, or capturing fine particulates through filtration.

Instar – The developmental stage of an arthropod, between each molt until maturity.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) – A systematic approach to managing pests which focuses on long-term prevention or suppression with minimal impact on human health, the environment and non-target organisms. IPM incorporates all reasonable measures to prevent pest problems by properly identifying pests, monitoring population dynamics, and utilizing cultural, physical, biological or chemical pest population management methods to reduce pests to acceptable levels. (NY State DEC definition)

Pesticide – A pesticide is any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest. Pests can be insects, mice and other animals, unwanted plants (weeds), fungi, or microorganisms like bacteria and viruses. The term pesticide also applies to herbicides, fungicides, and various other substances used to control pests. Under United States law, a pesticide is also any substance or mixture of substances intended for use as a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant. Insecticide is the more specific term used for substances to control arthropod pests.

Pesticide resistance – The genetic change of pest species targeted by a pesticide resulting in decreased susceptibility to that chemical.