

ONLY MAKE USE OF QUALIFIED AND REGISTERED PEST CONTROL OPERATORS!

- Joubert Smith

Have you ever been approach by pest control operators who "insist" that you make use of their services because your neighbours have a specific pest problem that will definitely move over onto your premises?



Have you allowed pest control operators access to your premises only to be "bullied" into a pest control treatment that must be done immediately? Was there ever expected of you to pay huge amounts for a pest control treatment?

These are incidents where many people were confronted with, but what is even more disturbing is that in most of the cases the pest control operators were either not registered and/or not qualified.

Underneath follow a few points for your protection and which you can insist on:

- A copy of the pest control operator's ID and P-number registration certificate. (A training certificate is not sufficient) Only the Department of Agriculture can issue a P-number certificate.
- P-number certificates are issued for a specific qualification; a pest control operator cannot do

structural pest control with a weed control certificate.

- Ask for a written quotation with the pest control company logo, contact details and address on it.
- For peace of mind, you can insist only doing business with pest control companies that are active members of SAPCA (South African Pest Control Association). SAPCA members will ask you equitable prices, only make use of registered safe products and their pest control operators will be qualified and registered.
- Insist on detail of the specific products which the pest control operator will be using on your premises; trade name, active ingredient, chemical class and colour band. Also enquire about the time duration for safe return onto the premises. You can also ask to see the product label.

- A very important aspect with regard to pest control treatment is the legal requirement to issue a treatment or service report after chemicals were used. This report must be signed by the client and the PCO and the client must be supplied with a copy. Relevant information that must be noted on the report includes amongst others, which product was used, product quantities, active ingredient and recommendations to the client.

Pest control operators must adhere to all aspects of Act 36 of 1947, fertilizers, farm feeds, agricultural remedies and stock remedies.

There is a place and necessity for responsible pest control practices, even in a world where everybody wants to go green, feel free to make use of us.