2004

New Tools and Technology - Health / Safety

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HOME CLEAN HOME! CONSUMER TRENDS AND NEW INNOVATIONS

Nancy L. Bock*

ABSTRACT:
"Home Clean Home" is a new program designed by the Soap and Detergent Association (SDA) to update Extension Educators on the proper and safe use of household cleaning products and practices and the strong link between good hygiene and health. Today, consumer demand for improved performance, convenience and value has driven an unprecedented level of innovation resulting in new laundry and household cleaning products. As consumers are exposed to new products, new appliances, and new fabrics, Extension educators will need credible, non-brand-AUTHOR: information for workshops as well as consumer questions and can continue to turn to SDA for program support and information they can trust. The workshop and printed materials will provide an overview of new products, their use and benefits, and consumer trends. Camera-ready educational materials, a PowerPoint presentation with notes, frequently asked question reference sheet, and evaluation form have been developed for the "Home Clean Home" program. The program materials are appropriate for educational workshops for youth and adult audiences. In addition they are an excellent resource for answering consumer questions. SDA is a nonprofit association that is the home for the leaning products industry and has exhibited at the NEAFCS convention for the past 33 years.

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MORE ENGINEERING, LESS PROTECTIVE CLOTHING?

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ABSTRACT:
Mechanical devices known as engineering controls can reduce operator exposure to pesticides during handling and application tasks. Use of these devices can decrease the amount of required protective clothing. A survey of New York growers was conducted to ascertain which engineering controls are being adopted and what additional information is need by farmers on this topic. Although about 95% of the respondents used engineering controls, only 15% said that they used less protective gear as a result. This finding prompted the development of a brochure and exhibit, "Protect Yourself: Reducing the Risk of Operator Contamination from Pesticides," and additional fact sheets on personal protective equipment. This poster presentation features the educational exhibit and brochures, plus sample questionnaires and detailed results from the New York survey.

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ACTIVATE: A CHILDHOOD OVERWEIGHT PREVENTION INITIATIVE

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ABSTRACT:
Overweight/obesity is a major public health problem, particularly among children. Effective partnerships and communication programs are needed to develop childhood overweight prevention strategies that impact children at home, in school, and in the community. ACTIVATE, a unique partnership of the American Academy of Family Physicians, American College of Sports Medicine, American Dietetic Association, International Food Information Council Foundation, International Life Sciences Institute Center for Health Promotion, and National Recreation and Park Association developed an overweight prevention communications program, Kidnetic.com, targeted to children ages 9-12 and their parents. The two and a half years of unprecedented in-depth consumer research—focus group, ethnographic, in-home interviews and quantitative—was conducted to track consumer knowledge and perceptions of the overweight problem, define appropriate audiences for messages, and develop customized program elements in order to deliver actionable advice for healthy living to children and their families. Kidnetic.com is an interactive, innovative, educational Web site designed to help children ages 9-12 and their parents work together to begin the process of behavior change. The site provides fun, creative, credible tools to help both kids and parents move toward healthy eating and active living within the family, school, and community settings. Kidnetic.com was launched in June 2002. With over 560,000 visits since the launch, Kidnetic.com is effectively reaching kids and parents. Healthy lifestyle information can be successfully delivered to kids and families through a Website designed around their needs and interests. Kidnetic.com is a resource that can be useful for Extension professionals in the fight against childhood overweight.

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PORTABLE KITCHEN

Jan Scholl*

ABSTRACT:
The portable kitchen is a teaching and management tool for extension professionals, especially those who teach nutrition in remote areas or park programs. The 40+ kitchen tools fit in two dishpans that can easily be carried in a car or on the bus to the site. The kitchen also works well in offices, for tailgate picnics during harvest and has been used by extension to relocate homeless persons to new places of residence. In addition to the poster, the presenter will demonstrate the kitchen assembly and provide handouts.

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CONTROL DIABETES FOR LIFE

Debra E. Schroeder*, Carroll Welte and Rebecca Versch

ABSTRACT:
Diabetes is one of the most common chronic long-term diseases in the United States. At the present time, 15.7 million American currently have diabetes, which represents about 6 percent of the population. Control Your Diabetes for Life a programming venture beginning in 2001 to provide education for diabetics on techniques to manage diabetes. The successful program continues and is scheduled for the third year, each session featuring different topics. Utilizing two-way interactive distance education facilities in high schools, a series of three, two-hour programs were developed to give participants the latest information on self-care, food choices, carbohydrate counting, food safety, new medications and label reading. The series of programs are team taught by Debra Schroeder, Extension Educator; Mary Clare Stalp, R.D.; and Phyllis Heimann, R.N. and Certified Diabetic Educator. Over 300 participants in six sessions have made statistically significant changes in knowledge and behavior on 132 traits tested as a result of participating in the programs. The greatest changes have come in: being able to modify family recipes, counting carbohydrates in meals, scheduling meals, motivation to get a flu shot, testing blood sugars regularly with glucose meter, changing diets, taking charge of self-care program with written goals, and lowering blood sugar levels. The seminar will help participants learn how they can extend their expertise and educational programs using different forms of technology, how working as a team, program efforts can be extended into areas needing specialized programs without resources available and the use of computers to manage the program.

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