

Molly Stedfast, Program Director, Virginia Tech Bed Bug and Urban Pest Information Center

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Speaker Biography

Ms. Stedfast is uniquely qualified to direct this center because of her hands-on field experience working with bed bugs and other urban pests; her practical knowledge of the implementation of bed bug and urban integrated pest management strategies; and her proven ability to transfer technical information to those who need it most. As part of her Master's research, Ms. Stedfast developed her own extension training program focused on bed bug prevention in multi-unit housing. She has presented the results of her bed bug research and prevention program at regional and national scientific meetings (ESA, International IPM Symposium, International Conference on Urban Pests, National Conference on Urban Entomology) and numerous pest management conferences. She delivered over 32 extension and industry presentations during her degree program, which was unprecedented for a student at the Master's level. She has also served as the logistics manager and general administrator of Dr. Miller's statewide school IPM training program.