Getting the Pests Out Organically in Brazil

Case Study – Pest Elimination

INSIGHT
A global food manufacturing customer in Brazil was seeking organic certification for a new line of snack foods. Ecolab Pest Elimination had worked with the company for many years, administering pesticides three times a week. To produce organic snacks, the company needed to adjust its processes and find a solution that met organic certification requirements.

The existing pest treatment process required a 12-hour halt in production after each application for evaporation of the water used in the solution and a thorough cleaning. The plant saw opportunities to improve not only its offerings, but also its operational efficiency and profitability. The new solution accomplished all three and contributed to a 30 percent increase in profitability.

INNOVATION
An on-site service specialist from Ecolab Pest Elimination inspected the plant and recommended structural improvements and hygiene solutions.

Inside the facility, Ecolab:

• Increased inspections and the number of pheromone and floor glue board traps. This led to faster identification and capture of insects that had gotten into the plant.

• Switched to organic products. These included neem oil, a naturally occurring pesticide found in neem tree seeds, and diatomaceous earth, a fine powder made from tiny fossilized algae-like plants.

Ecolab also introduced the Global Large Fly Program. It uses an innovative outside-in approach, focused on finding the root cause of large fly activity and solving issues before flies reach the interior, reducing the food safety risks associated with large flies. The key element is the Stealth™ Fly Station, a reflective device that attracts flies before they can enter a facility.

The customer received organic certification for the new product line. Plus, without the required downtime after pesticide applications, the facility gained one day of production per month (24 hours), a productivity increase of 3.3 percent.

solutions

Global Large Fly Program and devices (without pesticides)

Pheromone traps and the Stored Product Pest Program

On-site expertise and personalized customer training

Worker safety increased due to new pesticide practices

Potential pesticide residue eliminated

30% boost in market value VIA ORGANIC CERTIFICATION

ANNUAL SAVINGS

5% REDUCTION in water use per cleaning

5% REDUCTION in energy use per cleaning

SAFETY

PRODUCTIVITY

3.3% productivity increase through a gain of one day of production per month (24 hours) due to the elimination of required downtime after pesticide applications