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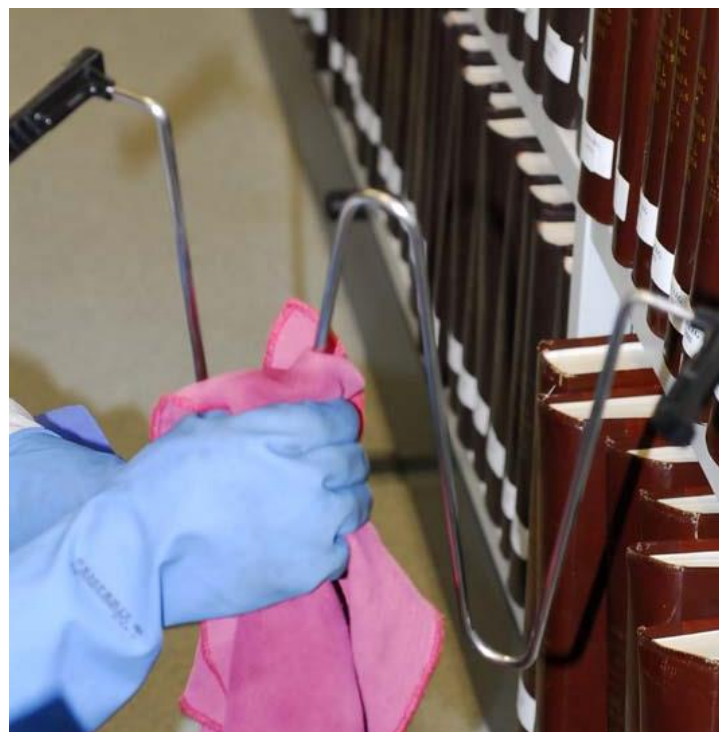
1. Archives and Libraries – Pest monitoring

Pests feed on paper and are the cause of collections destruction. For the preservation of documents, we recommend the implementation of a monitorization program. It is important to create a set of external and internal preventive measures, to control the appearance and proliferation of infesting colonies.

In this practical guide we will show as an example, some actions carried out in DRABM (Archive and Library of Madeira) Institution.

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2. How to control pests?



External preventive actions

- ▶ **Vegetation:** do not plant vegetation near the buildings
- ▶ **Security perimeter for vegetation:** 30 cm
- ▶ **Pavement:** ensure an efficient drainage
- ▶ **Structure of the building:** caulking the structure closing all possible pest entrances
- ▶ **Waste containers:** containers properly closed and away from the building
- ▶ **Illumination:** reduce as much as possible the illumination of the building's exterior, as ultraviolet light (UV) attract flying insects.

Internal preventive actions

- ▶ **Windows and doors:** closed and properly caulked
- ▶ **Shelves and remaining furniture:** in metal
- ▶ **Food zones:** away from areas intended for documents
- ▶ **Cleaning plan:** implement a regular cleaning program for the diverse areas
- ▶ **Cleaning documents:** avoids the development of microorganisms and helps to identify the existence of pests
- ▶ **Control of environmental conditions:** facilitates a more efficient control of the pests

Devices

Allows the identification of the existence of pests. preventing, in an initial phase, the infestation to take greater proportions. It also serves to define new preventive and treatment measures.

Basic procedures for monitoring (devices):

- ▶ Insect detectors (with food attraction or pheromones)
- ▶ Detectors/bait stations for rodents

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Understanding reality

For more information about this subject please check the preservation guide nº 6 – Pest Control, the web site “IMC Pest – Archives and Libraries” and the poster “Book insects - what to do” at: <http://abm.madeira.gov.pt>