

INSECT (OR DAMAGE) IDENTIFICATION FORM

REFER TO THE INSTRUCTIONS ON "SAMPLE SUBMISSION" FOR PREPARATION AND SHIPMENT OF MATERIAL FOR IDENTIFICATION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

MATERIAL SENT BY:

Name: _____
Business: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Date: _____
Phone: _____
E-Mail: _____

INFORMATION ON SPECIMENS:

Locality: _____ (City)
_____ (County)
Date Collected: _____
Collector: _____
Host or Habitat:
 Feeding on Plant
Kind: _____
Part: _____
 Feeding on Animal
Kind: _____
 Found in Structure
Where: _____
 Other: _____

INFORMATION DESIRED:

Family Genus Species
 Common Name
 Distribution
 Biology
 Control

DEGREE OF INFESTATION:

Light Moderate
 Heavy Unknown

DISTRIBUTION OF INFESTATION:

Local Unknown
 Widespread Over County

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Common Name Order Family Genus Species

Name of Insect: _____

Remarks on Biology, Distribution or Control: _____

Disposition of Specimens: _____

Entomologist Responding: _____ Date: _____

Return To:

Center for Urban & Structural Entomology
Department of Entomology
2143 TAMU
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843-2143

Sample Submission

When submitting samples (insect, spider, or other arthropod) for identification, it is important to send them in a container that will insure their arrival in a condition that allows for examination. Most samples can be placed in a container with rubbing alcohol, etc., and sealed tightly to make sure the container does not leak in shipping. This is especially true for soft-bodied insects like termites. Some specimens, like butterflies and moths, need to be sent dry for proper identification (alcohol tends to wash off wing scales and bleach color used in I.D.)

In all cases, the important factor to consider is whether the specimen arrives intact and not crushed. Placing a specimen in a dry envelope results in drying out to the point that the organism falls apart and hinders identification. Placing a specimen in a zip-lock bag with alcohol-moistened cotton balls will insure they stay moist, but this method of shipping, as well as the dry envelope, allows the specimen to be crushed under a pile of other mail. It is best to insert the sample into a protective tube or box, with packing material added to protect it.

Important Information

The more information provided with a specimen, the better! Important information includes the date the sample was taken and the location (urban or rural, address, site location information such as under rocks, on plants, and what type of plant, if known, bedroom or kitchen, etc.). This aids in the identification and in supplying appropriate biology or management information. It is important to provide your name, address, telephone number, email, or other information in order for us to send the identification of the specimen back to you.