

Pest Management Information for Consumers

Background

Nearly one-third of all pesticides manufactured in the United States are used by consumers in, and around, the home. Potential consequences of lack of information about pesticides among consumers include overuse and misuse, improper disposal and unsafe storage of pesticides.

In addition, consumers often lack balanced advice and information about the best ways to control pests. Entomologists at the Urban Solutions Center are committed to providing the public with the best information available about pests and their control.

Objectives

- Help provide county extension agents and volunteers with the information and training they need to answer pest-related questions for the public.
- Provide consumers with accurate and helpful information about insect, weed and disease pests via the Internet, personal contact and telephone.
- Provide consumers with accurate and helpful information about the uses and potential hazards of pesticides. Education should be designed to help consumers make wise choices about pesticides and the availability of low-impact pesticide alternatives.

Benefits

- Our office handles an average 1000 calls from the public each year, including hundreds of insect, weed and plant-disease identifications.
- Texas Cooperative Extension is frequently asked to provide balanced, accurate information on pests and pest management to local, state and national media, reaching tens of thousands of consumers monthly.
- The Two-step method for fire ant control, developed at the Urban Solutions Center, is used by millions of consumers and professionals in Texas and throughout the South.

Team Members

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For additional information visit our Web site <http://insectsinthecity.tamu.edu>