



INSECT IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL

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This nine-week course is designed to provide a fundamental understanding of the basics of entomology, an extensive overview of the major cool- and warm-season turfgrass insect pests, and integrated pest management strategies for their control. A major emphasis of this class will be on identification and behavior of key turfgrass pests. Chemical management will be covered in-depth and the latest findings from university led research will be covered.

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION TO INSECTS AND THEIR RELATIVES

Insect basics & identification: Discussion covering the insect identification process

WEEK 2: A LOOK UNDER THE HOOD

Inside insects & their behavior: Manipulation of insect behavior discussion

WEEK 3: INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) FOR TURF

Insect vs pest, scouting & decision-making: Insect control calendar discussion

WEEK 4: IPM CONTROL TACTICS

Chemical, biological, cultural & genetic control: IPM feasibility in turf discussion

WEEK 5: ABOVE-GROUND INSECT PEST ISSUES

Above-ground pests-feeders & social insect-nuisance pests: Discussion about ants

WEEK 6: STEM AND THATCH PESTS

Annual bluegrass weevil, billbugs & chinch bugs: Flea beetles in the Desert SW discussion

WEEK 7: BELOW-GROUND INSECT PESTS

White grubs, mole crickets & crane flies: Mole cricket management panel discussion

WEEK 8: NON-INSECT PESTS AND INSECT NON-PESTS

Earthworms & ticks: Discussion on the ethics of earthworm management

WEEK 9: UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF CHEMICAL CONTROL

Insecticide resistance & pollinator safety: Discussion around more sustainable IPM

GreenKeeper University courses generally consist of two recorded lectures that students can watch at their convenience and then one weekly ZOOM discussion.

THIS COURSE IS OFFERED FROM JAN 10 – March 11, 2022