

Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures Department County of Los Angeles

Specimen Submission Form Insect and Other Invertebrate Identification

Specimens of insects, snails, slugs, spiders, mites and other invertebrates should be submitted in crush proof containers to protect them from damage during mail handling. Non-glass, plastic vials, pill bottles, film canisters work well for this purpose.

Collect multiple specimens of all available life stages (larvae, pupae, adults). Make sure they are intact (do not send insect body parts). If the insects are attached to plant material, cut infested sections, wrap them in dry paper towels and seal them in a plastic zip-lock bag. **Please do not submit live specimens.**

Containers with samples should be sent in sturdy mailing boxes or padded envelopes. It is best to mail the sample early in the week so that it does not sit over the weekend.

The Entomology Laboratory **is not equipped to handle specimen material that might contain human pests and disease agents. Residents should submit such samples to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.**

For questions regarding packaging and submitting specimens, please contact the Entomology Laboratory at (562) 622-0431.

Please fill out the form below, print it, and mail the sample with the form to:

**Entomology Laboratory
Los Angeles County Department of
Agricultural Commissioner/Weights & Measures
11012 S. Garfield Ave., South Gate, CA 90280**

Owner or Collector (* Required)

Street Address, City, ZIP Code (* Required)

Daytime Phone Number (* Required)

Date Collected

Date Sent/Mailed

Host Plant Name (Landscape & Garden Pests) / or Food Product Name (Pantry, Food-storage Pests) / or Location on/in the Building (Structural Pests)

Damage Observed

For quick turnaround, identification results will be reported by phone.