The primary mission of the Entomology Laboratory is to safeguard the environment, residents, and growers by identifying exotic insects (and other invertebrates) entering Los Angeles County through truck, ship, airfreight, and parcel delivery operations.

For information on various local and exotic pests, please visit our website:

http://acwm.lacounty.gov/scripts/pestdf.htm

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Department of Agricultural Commissioner / Weights & Measures

acwm.lacounty.gov

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May 2014

Department of Agricultural Commissioner/ Weights & Measures

ENTOMOLOGY

LABORATORY SERVICES

Dr. Gevork Arakelian
Senior Biologist/Entomologist

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

ABOUT THE LABORATORY

The Entomology laboratory provides rapid and accurate identifications to support the department's Pest Detection and Pest Exclusion programs and offers identification and information services to Los Angeles County residents, schools, pest control operators, governmental agencies, growers, and nurseries. Services provided by the laboratory are free. Overall, the laboratory processeses over 6,000 pest specimens annually.

SCIENTIFIC RESOURCES

• A reference collection of over 80,000 invertebrate specimens, including about 55,000 pinned specimens, 35,000 samples preserved in alcohol vials, and 8,500 samples mounted on microscope slides.

• A library comprising over 10,000 reprints and books, as well as various insect identification software.

• Stereo and compound microscopes with high resolution digital cameras and image processing software.

• Archived pest image database of more than 8,000 photos.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Public outreach activities of the Entomology Laboratory encompass broad interactions with governmental and private entities through lectures, workshops, and participation in various exhibits and fairs.

The laboratory staff also seeks to increase public awareness of new invertebrate pest species by publishing various pest alert cards and bulletins and maintaining the "Entomology and Plant Pathology laboratories" page on the website of Los Angeles County Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures.