



INSECT / SPIDER SUBMISSION FORM: IDENTIFICATION

Send your insect, mite, or spider specimens with this completed form to:

UMaine Extension DRL
Insect ID Lab
17 Godfrey Drive
Orono, ME 04473-3692

Contact Information:
UMaine Extension Diagnostic & Research Laboratory
1-800-287-0279 (within Maine)
extension.InsectID@maine.edu

How to submit an insect specimen for proper identification:

- All insects (excluding butterflies and moths) can be placed in a small leak-proof container with just enough rubbing alcohol to cover the specimen for preservation. A plastic pill bottle inside a re-sealable sandwich bag—in case it leaks a little—works well; *they often leak at least a small amount!* If you are dropping off a sample, then it's totally fine—and even preferred—if the specimen is still alive, as long as there's no danger of it escaping (*bringing in 'live' bed bugs, for example, or bugs suspected of being bed bugs, is probably not a good idea, even if the container is escape-proof! Keep such specimens in a freezer for at least 12 hours prior to bringing them in, if placing them in alcohol isn't a favorable or feasible option*).
- Butterflies and moths should be packed in tissue or cotton for best possible preservation. Alcohol will sometimes alter or destroy certain patterning on a specimen, such as the scales on a moth, so it's better to keep those types of specimens dry.
- You can mail or drop off specimens at your local County Extension Office or at the Pest Management Unit's Insect ID Lab.
- **Important Note:** Please do not submit floor sweepings, vacuum cleaner contents or specimens from the body (although ticks, suspected nits and lice will be accepted). Due to potential health risks to our diagnosticians, we CANNOT accept bodily fluids or other human debris. We are happy to work with a physician to identify any arthropod pest, but submissions of that nature MUST come directly from a physician.

Please Provide:

Your Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
Mailing Address: _____ City/Town: _____ State+Zip: _____
Email Address (our preferred mode of contact): _____
Collection Date (approximate date is fine): _____ Submission Date: _____
Collection Location if known (town/township/territory): _____ State: _____

Please provide the following information about your specimen(s):

Location of specimen(s)? (forest, kitchen, bathroom, etc.) _____
What was the specimen(s) on or in, specifically? (white pine, rosebush, sink, bed, etc.) _____
Approximately how many specimens were found? _____
Describe damage, if any: _____
Additional Comments: _____

Treatment preferences? (if relevant or warranted) (e.g. organic-only, pet-safe, etc) _____

Do you have children or pets in the home? (*can leave blank if not relevant to your case*): _____

Submitted By County Educator? _____ County: _____

Please 'cc' identification report to: _____

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