# What's bugging your garden And what to do about it



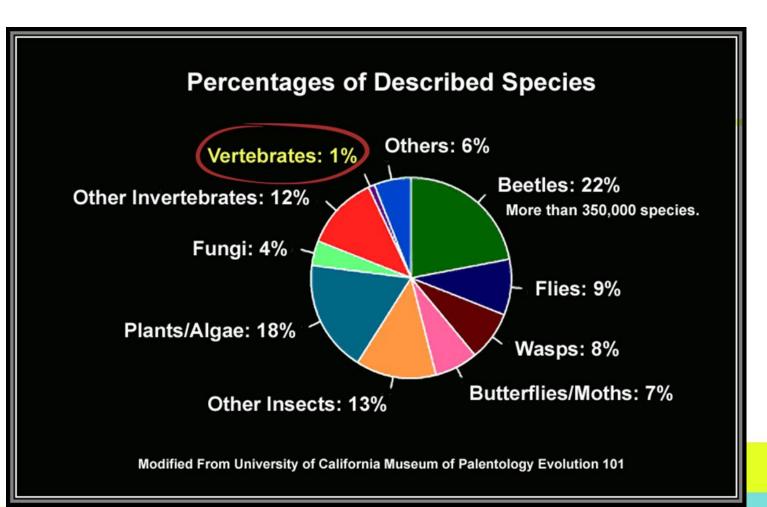
## What's on tap for today

- Insects—fact of life, know thine enemy—immature bugs (\*usually) look different than their parents!
- Plant damage—the mouth makes the difference
- Frequent bad bugs in your garden
  - Let's try HORTSENSE!
- What to do about them! Integrated Pest Management

#### We're outnumbered!

- About 1 million known insects
- <u>1000 are</u> serious pests
- 10,000 are occasional pests

The remaining 97% are neutral or beneficial!



## Sure things: Death, taxes, and garden insects!

- •Even if you do everything right, it's unrealistic to expect your garden to be pest free!
- •Keeping your garden healthy is the best way to reduce the impact of our buggy visitors

## But where do they come from?

- •Healthy plants give off scents that insects can detect from far away
- •Stressed plants emit chemicals that let the world of bugs know that they are vulnerable.
- •They can be brought in with other plants
- •They can be hiding in the soil or other plants until it's time to come out and eat.

## What's the best defense against insect pests?

- •Know your enemies
- Learn to identify the insects
- •Get to know what they look like in **all their life stages.**
- •BE VIGILANT! Check your plants every day to catch small glitches before they become big problems!

# Insects can look drastically different during their life stages

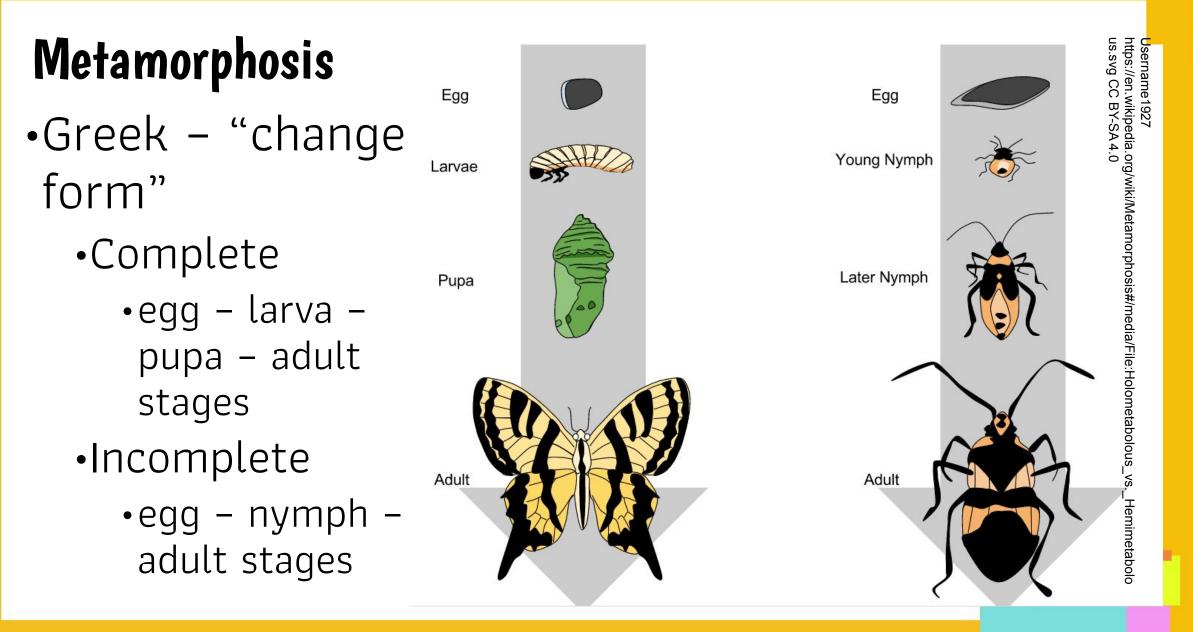
•Example —caterpillar turns into a butterfly or moth.

#### But wait—There's more!

- •Egg, larva, pupa, adult—they can look different during each of these states.
- This makes identification difficult on your own



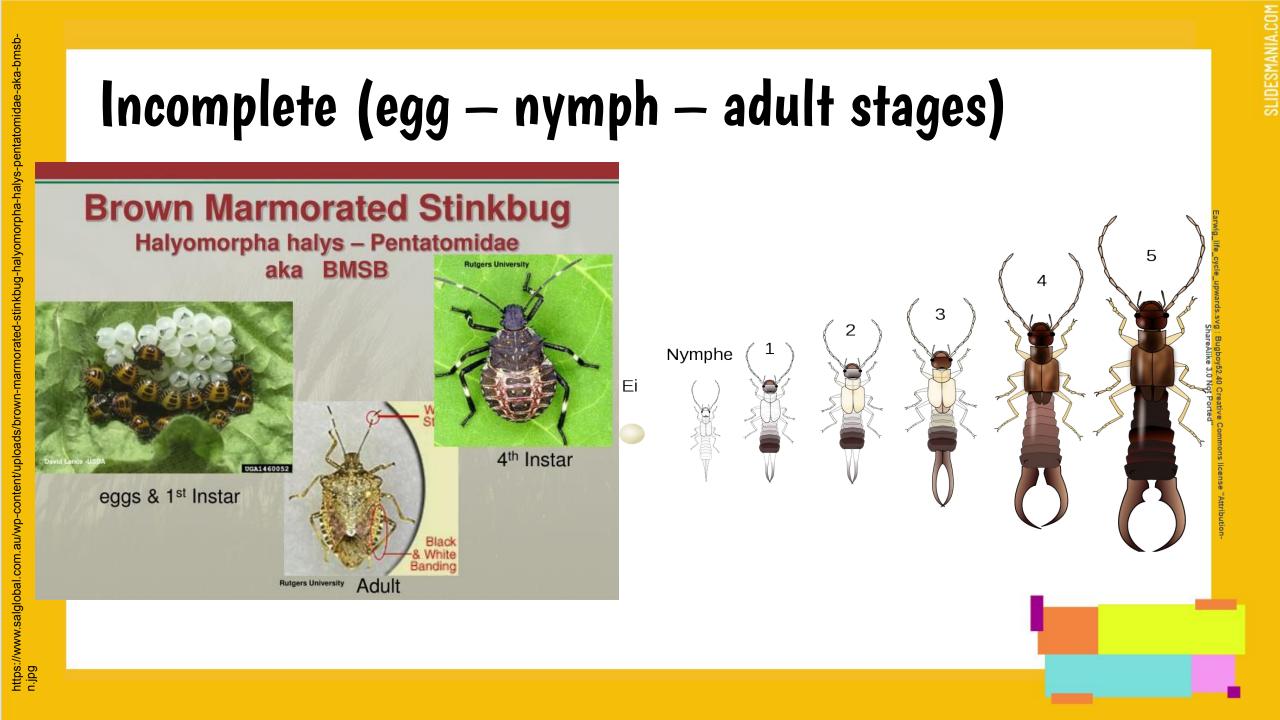
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## Complete

- egglarva
- pupa
- adult



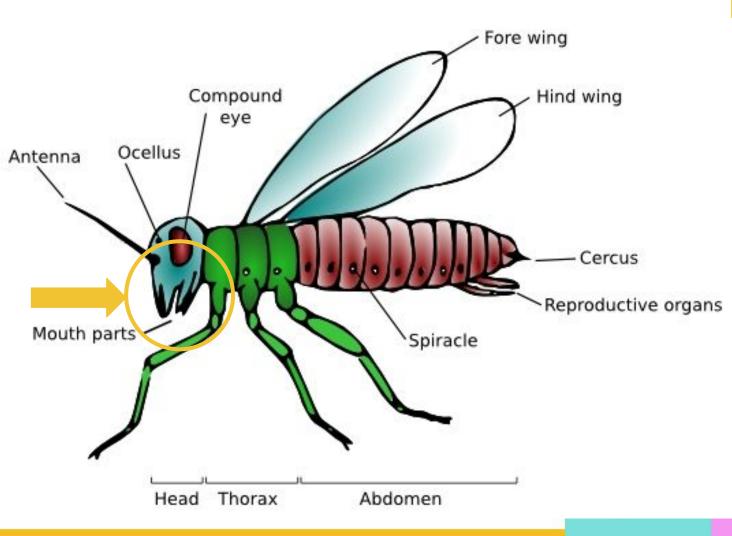


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# https://www.amentsoc.org/images/insect-body-structure.jpg

## **Insect Anatomy**

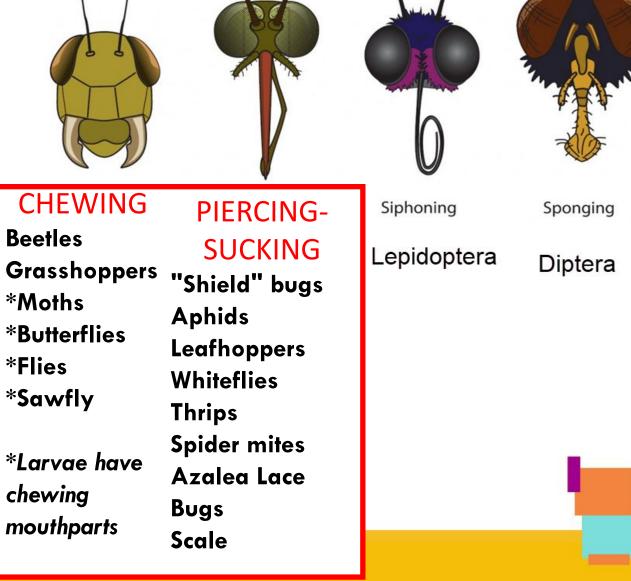
- 1. Body divided into THREE parts
- 2. 3 pair of legs (SIX total) attached to thorax
- Most adults have TWO pair of wings
- <mark>4</mark>. Exoskeleton
- 5. TWO Antennae



1422 March

## The Head & Mouth Parts

- Characteristic plant damage by each type—like a "footprint"
- Most plant damage caused by:
  - Chewing
  - Piercing-sucking



**Insect Mouthpieces** 

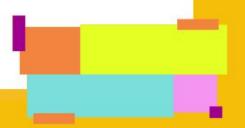
## Damage caused by chewing mouthparts

- Chewing insects eat plant tissue
  - Holes in leaves
  - Notching along edges of leaves
  - Skeletonized leaves





Figure 4: Traminette leaves skeletonized by Japanese Beetle. Photo by: Andy Muza



## Damage caused by **piercing sucking** mouthparts

•Pierce leaf tissue, withdraw fluids,

- Discolor (yellowed, silvery, bronzy coloration)
- Distort leaf tissue (twisted, curling)







Photo 3. Twospotted spider mite injury on soybean. Photo by Whitney Cranshaw, <u>www.ipmimages.org</u>

## Chewers





#### Imported cabbage worm







#### <u>Cabbage looper</u>

#### **Chewer: Flea Beetle**



#### Chewer: Western Spotted Cucumber Beetle

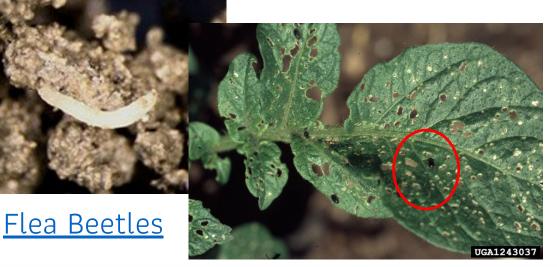


Western spotted cucumber beetle



© Ken Gray Insect Image Collection





<u>Western Spotted</u> <u>Cucumber Beetle</u>

#### Cutworms (nocturnal) Loopers(day time)



Caption: Looper on rhododendron

Damage is frequently seen in seedling vegetables and flowers as plants cut off at or just below the soil line. There are also climbing cutworms which chew leaves. <u>Cutworms and Loopers</u>

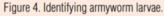
#### Army worms—lawn destroyers this spring





#### Lambsquarters





Sleek body with small head

Browr

netlike

pattern

dark arcs on head

Figure 5. Red, torpedo-shaped pupa of the armyworm.

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#### Chewer—Apple Maggot

Apple Maggott

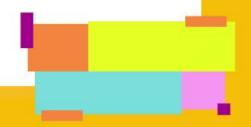
**Codling Moth** 



#### Codling Moth



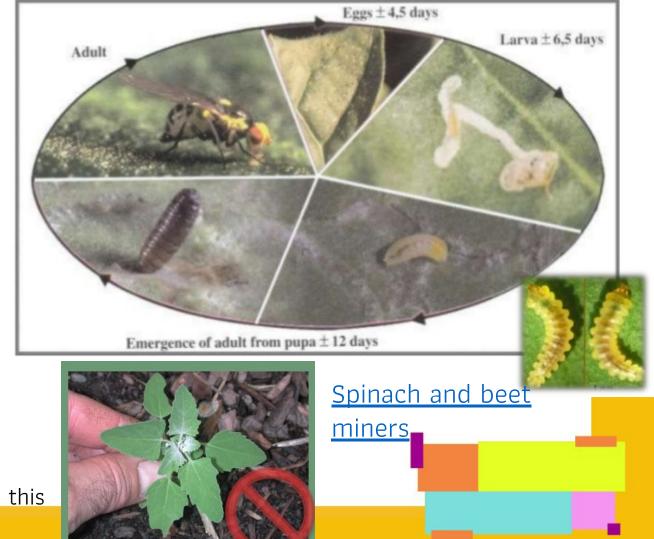




## Invisible chewers: Leaf Miners—beets, spinach, chard

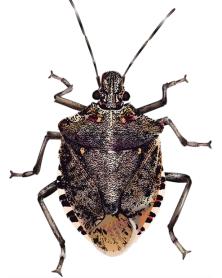


Control weeds Rotate crops Pinch leaves Pick out infested leaves Screen plants with a floating row cover [April-May]. Do not put row covers over soil previously infested with this pest.



#### Piercing sucking: Brown marmorated stink bug







"Shield bug" damage to tomatoes and apples—<u>Brown</u> <u>Marmorated Stink Bug</u>



#### Recognize immature stink bugs

#### Allentown, Pennsylvania 1996\*Vancouver, WA 2010\*Kalama, WA 2014 and the rest is history!

https://extension.umn.edu/nuisance-insects/brown-marmorated-stink-bug Photo W. Hershberger

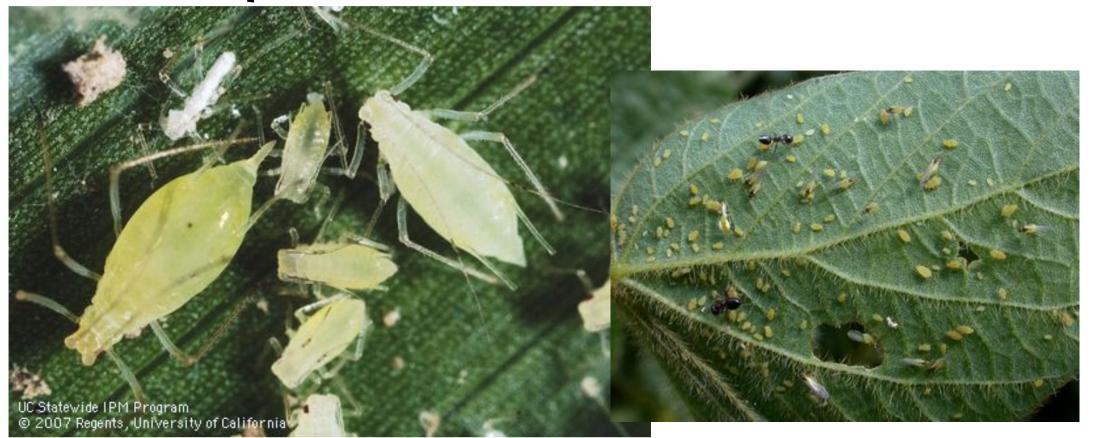
#### Plant damage by piercing sucking mouthparts



Aphids and whiteflies sucking the juices from new growth causing stunted growth, leaf yellowing



## Suckers: Aphids



Wingless adults and nymphs of the potato aphid.



#### Plant damage by piercing sucking mouthparts



<u>Leafhoppers</u>—Lighter colored areas on leaf where plant tissue has been extracted





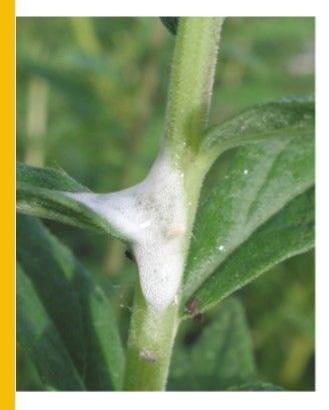
#### Plant damage by piercing sucking mouthparts



<u>Thrips</u>- distorted leaves, bronzy appearance from leaf feeding <u>Spider mites</u>—webs and silvery/white appearance from leaf feeding



#### Nuisance insects







**Boxelder Bugs** 



## Integrated Pest Management (IPM)-Best way to protect your garden

- •Use a variety of common-sense methods to control problems in the garden, not just using pesticides!
- Monitoring the pest's activity and adjusting methods over time
- •Tolerating harmless pests
- Setting a threshold to decide when it's time to act

## Ways to protect your garden

- Have a healthy garden
  - Good airflow, fertilize, and water properly
  - Keep a very close watch for problems
- Control access to your plants
  - Row cover
  - Crop rotation
  - Mulch
  - Weed control
- Repellant-
  - diatomaceous earth (crawling insects)
  - Pheromone lures (insect specific)



# Ways to protect your garden—After visually identifying insect pest

#### Use the least toxic methods first

- •Best control: Your thumb and index finger, despite the "YUK factor"!
- Strong spray of water
- Biological controls
- Pesticides—least toxic (spot treat!! The affected plant and shield others)

## Last resort—pesticide. READ THE LABEL!

#### •Again-ID the insect--contact the Plant and Insect Clinic!

- •Find the product that solves the problem. The **insect will be listed on the label** if it's effective for that problem
- •Buy the right amount—label tells how much you'll need, and some won't remain effective if stored.
- •FOLLOW DIRECTIONS- when and how to apply, how long before picking fruits/veggies.
- •More is not better—you can harm plants, lawn, water supply!
- Dispose properly

#### WSU's list of common offenders

<u>Asparagus</u> * <u>Guide</u>	<u>Lettuce</u>	Hortsense-http
Boon	Oniona Carlia	<ul> <li>Search by crop:</li> </ul>
<u>Bean</u>	<u>Onions, Garlic</u>	http://hortsense.cal
Beet, Chard	<u>Pea</u>	hFactSheet.aspx?Ca
<u>Broccoli, Cole crops</u>	Pepper, Eggplant	<u>Pestsense</u>
<u>Cantaloupe, Melons</u>	<u>Potato</u>	
<u>Carrot</u>	<u>Radish</u> * <u>Problem solving</u>	Always cl
<u>Corn</u>	<u>Spinach</u>	LEAST TOXI
	Terrete	SIMPLE, HOLIS
<u>Cucumber, Pumpkin,</u> <u>Squash</u>	<u>Tomato</u>	<u>SENSE ME</u>
		MANGING GAR
	<u>Turnip, Rutabaga</u>	DISEA

#### lortsense http://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu

nttp://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/Search/MainMenuWit
nFactSheet.aspx?CategoryId=5

Always choose the LEAST TOXIC OPTIONS!

<u>SIMPLE, HOLISTIC, COMMON</u>

SENSE METHOD OF

MANGING GARDEN PESTS &

DISEASES

#### Cheat Sheet: Least Toxic Pesticides Organic-

#### Least to most toxic to beneficials

- **Bt** -caterpillars--little or no toxicity to any other organism
- Diotomaceous Earth
- Neem oil azadirachtin
- Insecticidal Soap Potassium salts of fatty acids
- Spinosad E.g., Entrust, Success, Regard, Bonide Captain Jack's Deadbug Brew R-T-U; apply at night
- Boric Acid ants
- **Pyrethrin** highly toxic--apply at night

#### Cheat Sheet: Synthetic Pesticides

- ALL highly toxic to bees
  - Acetamiprid
  - Acephate
  - Bifenthrin
  - Carbaryl (E.g., Sevin)

- Cyfluthrin
- Esfenvalerate
- Cyhalothrins
- Malathion
- Permethrin

#### **READ THE LABELS**

- How to use
- Target use and insects
- How to dispose
- Protect yourself, the environment, and pollinators



Products containing Spinosad



Monterer

Effective Aga Wide Variety of

Monterey Garden



ORGANIC

Garder Safe



Netected Meteric



ORGANIC



## TAKE HOME--Best offense is a good defense!

- Be proactive--visit your garden every day
- Keep your garden healthy--irrigation, airflow, fertilizing, removing damaged leaves
- THERE WILL BE BUGS--if they're not causing much damage, leave them alone or pick them off the plant. Remember that beneficial bugs need something to eat, too!
- If you need to act, be sure of the culprit, start with the least toxic methods following all directions. SPOT TREAT to minimize killing beneficial insects
- Continue to monitor after treatment.
- Rinse and repeat!

#### For future reference (snap a photo of this with your phone)

You can review this presentation at cowlitzcomg.com/lookingahead

You can also see our **monthly garden guides** on that webpage.

Contact the WSU Plant and Insect Clinic for any gardening questions, including insect ID

and help: <a href="mailto:cowlitzcomg.com/plant-and-insect-clinic">cowlitzcomg.com/plant-and-insect-clinic</a> or

cowlitzmastergardener@gmail.com, or 360-577-3014 ext. 8

#### Resources

#### WSU Hortsense <u>http://hortsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/</u>

SIMPLE, HOLISTIC, COMMON SENSE METHOD OF MANGING GARDEN PESTS & DISEASES

#### Pest Control in Home Vegetable Gardens EM009E

http://pubs.cahnrs.wsu.edu/publications/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/publicati ons/em009e.pdf

WSU Pestsense http://pestsense.cahnrs.wsu.edu/Home/PestsenseHome.aspx

Clemson University: Less Toxic Insecticides: https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/less-toxic-insecticides/

Toxicity of Pesticides to Pollinators and Beneficials <u>https://ag.umass.edu/fruit/ne-small-fruit-management-guide/appendices-resourc</u> <u>e-material-listings-conversion-tables-0</u>

#### Pesticides: Safe Handling

https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/2071/2014/04/Pesticides-Safe-Handling -FSIPM002E.pdf WSU Pest Leaflet Series https://puyallup.wsu.edu/plantclinic/pls/

Pest Management Guide for Apples in Washington Home Orchards "WSU EM101E" <u>http://pubs.cahnrs.wsu.edu/publications/pubs/em101e/</u>

Organic Pest and Disease Management in Home Fruit Trees and Berry Bushes "WSU EM066E" <u>http://pubs.cahnrs.wsu.edu/publications/pubs/em066e/</u>

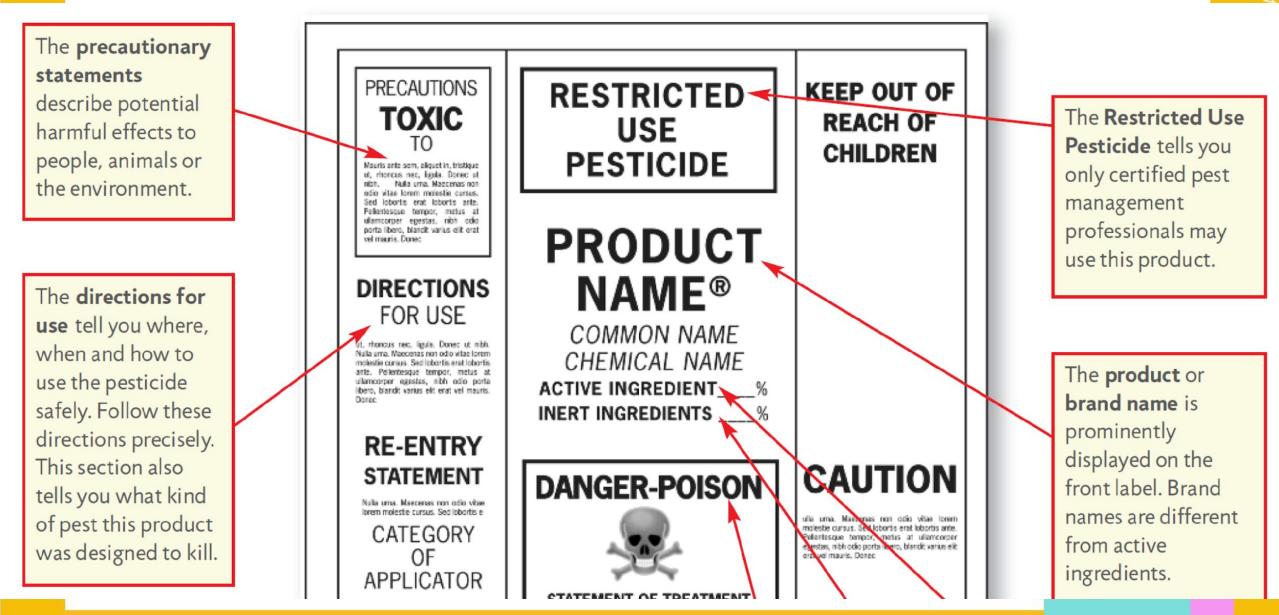
Encouraging Beneficial Insects in Your Garden <u>https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/pnw550.pdf</u>

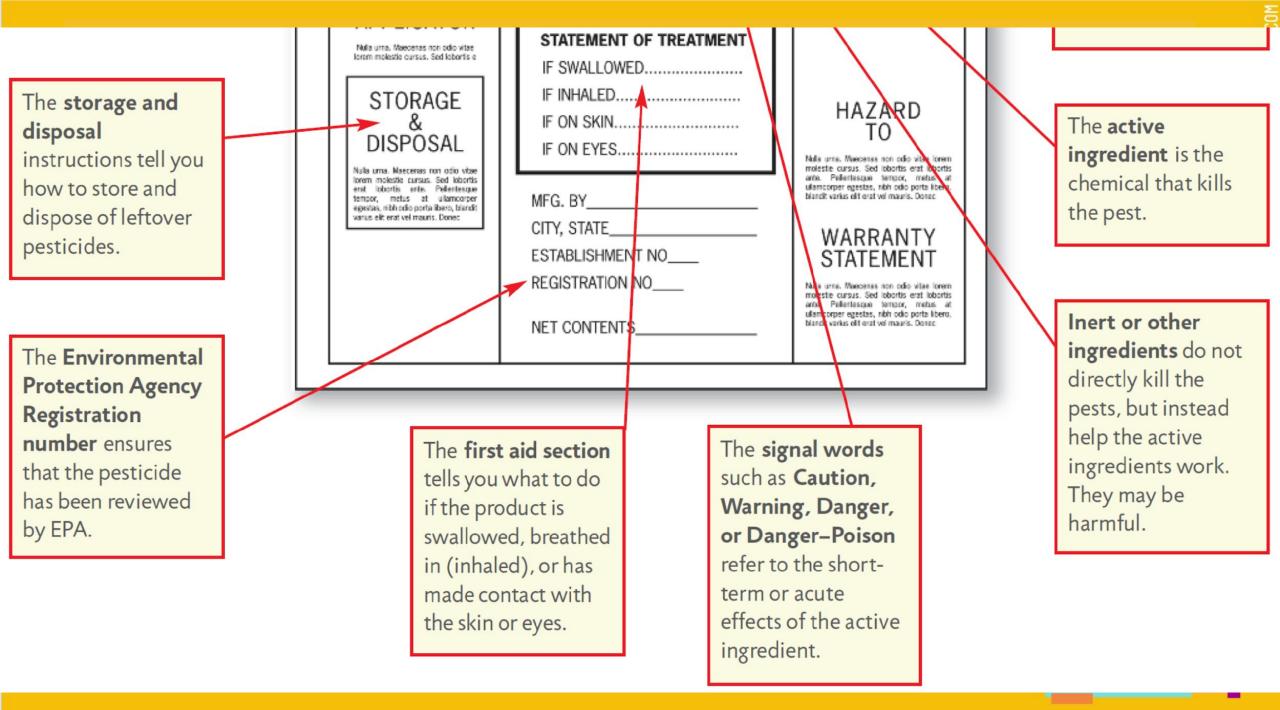
Beneficial Insects, Spiders, and Mites in Your Garden: Who they are and how to get them to stay "WSU EM067E"

http://pubs.cahnrs.wsu.edu/publications/pubs/em067e/

These are the basic information sources that will get you through the growing season

ANIA.COM





## Research tip:

- •There is LOT of misinformation out there
- •Turn to trusted sites that base their information on research
- •Example–Universities, government, some organizations
- •Start your search with "edu" or "gov" or "org" to get reliable information
- •WSU has a GREAT gardening research: Hortsense!

#### Please mute your phones to eliminate background noise.



To ask a question, hold down the space key (like a walkie-talkie) to unmute while you speak.