Exercises for Master Gardeners:
Getting to Know the Home and Garden Resources on the UC IPM Web Site

http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/menu.homegarden.html

Instructors: These questions are designed to help people find how to locate information on home, garden, landscape, and turf pests and plant problems **using only the UC IPM website**. Have your audience do these exercises after they have been given a brief introduction on how to find information on the UC IPM site. Many of the questions have multiple “right” answers—links to pages can be found in many sections on the UC IPM site. Discourage them from using the Search function too much while answering these questions.

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**Weeds**

1. A woman walks into your county CE office holding a weed, and she wants to know how to keep others like it out of her lawn. You recognize it as **prickly lettuce**. Where can you go to see/print a photo of a prickly lettuce seedling so she’ll be able to recognize and control/hand weed the plant while it is still young? Go to this page and find out when prickly lettuce germinates.

   **ANSWER**
   Weed Photo Gallery—Choose ALL WEEDS or BROADLEAF GALLERY
   http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/weeds_all.html
   Then go down the list to “Lettuce, Prickly”
   http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/WEEDS/prickly_lettuce.html
   Reading the description, you’ll see that prickly lettuce germinates with the onset of winter rains.

   If you didn’t know what the weed was, where could you go to key it out?

   **ANSWER**
   Use the Key to identifying weeds:
   http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/TOOLS/TURF/PESTS/weedkey.html

2. Identify the weed sample you were given today using the “Key to Identifying Weeds”. **(optional)**
   What weed is it?

   Collect two or three different weed species. Give one to each participant to key out using the Weed Key.
   http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/TOOLS/TURF/PESTS/weedkey.html
   Make sure the weed you choose is one found in the key! The weed key doesn’t contain all weeds in the photo gallery!

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Updated 02/2010
Lawns
(Instructor: You can change the month, county/city/region, turf type, or sprinkler output in these questions to suit your needs. Just make sure you modify the answers accordingly.)

3. It’s June and you are trying to help a Sacramento homeowner save water and prevent problems by watering his lawn correctly.
   • Where on the UC IPM Web site do you find lawn care answers?

   **ANSWER**
   UC Guide To Healthy Lawns: http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/TOOLS/TURF/
   And select “Lawn care for established lawns”.

   • What information about his lawn do you need from him?

   **ANSWER**
   Need to know grass (turf) species, which is stated below (perennial ryegrass). Assume the lawn is established and not new. Need to know sprinkler output, which is also stated. [We don’t have soil type as part of our lawn guide.]

   • He tells you that he has a perennial ryegrass lawn with a sprinkler output of 1 inch per hour. Based on this, how long should he water his lawn each week in June?

   **ANSWER**
   1. Under the “Irrigating” section in the right-hand column of this page
   2. Choose “Interactive program to schedule your irrigation”. You will then go to this page with a CA map. If you choose “When to water” or “Irrigation scheduling” you will go to another page where you then need to select “Schedule your irrigation.”
      http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/TOOLS/TURF/MAINTAIN/irrsched.html
   3. Select the current zone, in this case Zone 4 for Sacramento Valley
   4. Choose “Perennial ryegrass” which then takes you to this page:
      http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/TOOLS/TURF/MAINTAIN/reg4cool.html
      [Note on the sprinkler output page that if someone didn’t know their sprinkler output, they can select “Determine your sprinkler output” for help in performing a Can Test.]
   5. Select sprinkler output of “1 inch/ hour” which takes you to the last page:

   The homeowner should water 105 minutes per week in June.
ANSWERS for Instructors

- How should he space out the irrigations during the week?

ANSWER
On the same end page as the question above, the second bullet to the right of the chart says to “Divide the required weekly minutes into about 3 equal irrigations…”

4. You receive a Help Line call from a San Diego resident who plans to fertilize her tall fescue lawn. Her lawn is about 500 sq. ft. She’s already bought the fertilizer, a product with 29% nitrogen, but doesn’t know how much to put on.
- Where on the UC IPM Web site do you go to find answers?

In the Lawn Guide, choose “Lawn Care for Established Lawns” then select “Fertilizing”
http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/TOOLS/TURF/MAINTAIN/fertilize.html
On this page, select “Determine how much actual material you need to apply…” from the box off to the right. This is the interactive calculator. Don't select the publication “Practical Lawn Fertilization”—this will take you to a static PDF page and not the interactive online calculator. The PDF a good reference to print, but it’s not the goal of this question, which is to use the calculator.

- How much product does she apply and how many applications over the year?

ANSWER
Using the calculator
http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/TOOLS/TURF/MAINTAIN/fertamt.html
1) Choose the turf species, which is this scenario is tall fescue.
2) The recommended rate is 3-6 lbs N/1000 sq ft per year. Enter any number between 3 and 6 and hit “Go.” Suggest they enter 4. [Note: number entered must be in the specified range between 3-6]
3) The minimum # of applications per year will show. This is the minimum recommended. Enter in how many applications you plan to make—this number can be higher than the minimum. Suggest they enter 4 or higher. [Different numbers entered here will yield different final results.]
4) Enter % Nitrogen in the product, which was stated as 29% in the exercise question.
5) Enter lawn size (in sq. ft.), which is 500 for the question. Hit “Calculate”.

Answers may vary if different rates and min. application are entered, but if one enters the same rate # and # of planned applications, the result will be to use 1.72 lbs. of product for each of x number of applications per year.

You may want to familiarize yourself with this calculator before you do your training so you understand how it works.
**ANSWERS for Instructors**

- When is the best time for her to fertilize tall fescue?

**ANSWER**
Returning to the “Fertilizing” menu http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/TOOLS/TURF/MAINTAIN/fertilize.html you will find in the right-hand box “time to fertilize”. On the map of CA, choose either Zone 9 or 10 for San Diego, then the species of turf (tall fescue). You will arrive at this page http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/TOOLS/TURF/MAINTAIN/fertcool10.html, which shows that March, May, October and November are the best months for her to fertilize according to where she lives and what type of grass she has.

**Pest Notes and Quick Tips**

5. Where can you find four low- or non-toxic ways to prevent, control, or reduce powdery mildew on ornamentals?

**ANSWER**
Tell your audience they just need to say where they can find this info—they don’t have to read through the materials and list what the 4 methods are. You can find answers on either the Powdery Mildew Quick Tip http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/QT/powderymildewcard.html Or the Powdery Mildew for Ornamentals Pest Note http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7493.html

How did you get to this (these) page(s)?

**ANSWER**
From the Home & Garden main menu page, select either Pest Notes or Quick Tips in the Blue Bar toward the top of the page. [This is one way, but there are many others. Ask your participants to tell you how they got there.]

6. Where can you find a list or index for all Pest Notes?

**ANSWER**
Pest Note index http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PDF/PESTNOTES/index.html

This page has a flyer you can use as a handout. When was this flyer last updated? (Hint: you have to open the document to view see the date)

**ANSWER**
Before the table listing Pest Notes starts, you will see where it says “Printer-friendly list: Flyer (328 KB, PDF)”. Open the PDF and the date it was last updated will be near the bottom of page 1 or 2.

Updated 02/2010
7. Where can you find a list of all the Quick Tips available in English? In Spanish?

**ANSWER**
From the Blue Bar on the H & G menu, click on “Quick Tips” to find the list of all QTs in English. [http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/QT/index.html](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/QT/index.html) 
On this same page, click on “Quick Tips en espanol” or from the English QT page, click on “Quick Tips in Spanish n the Yellow bar” [http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/QT/qtindexsp.html](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/QT/qtindexsp.html)

8. Where do you find recent changes and updates to the Pest Notes?

**ANSWER**
On the H & G menu page, click on “Recent changes” in the Blue Bar to find all recent changes (updates and additions) to Pest Notes and Quick Tips. [http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/pnchanges.html](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/pnchanges.html)

**Pest identification**

9. A gardener comes into the office with camellia flowers that are covered with brown spots. Where (online) would you be able to see the possible culprits of this problem? Name the likely cause of the brown spots.

**ANSWER**
On the tree and shrub menu, scroll down to camellia and click on it to view the page, [http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/PLANTS/camellia.html](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/PLANTS/camellia.html) 
The most common pests of camellia are seen in the list. Based on your knowledge of damaged caused by many of the pests listed, you should be able to narrow down the pest or disorder seen on the camellia flowers. 
The correct answer is Camellia petal and flower blight. Photos of the disease symptoms should help verify the cause and information on this page will help with its prevention or management. [http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/PLANTS/DISEASES/campfbli.html](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/PLANTS/DISEASES/campfbli.html)

10. You get a call from someone who wants to know about leafhoppers, but there is no Pest Note on it. What can you do to find this info on the web site?

**ANSWER**
Use the “Search” function on the UC IPM H&G pages. The word must be spelled correctly and if it is one word like “leafhoppers” or “mealybugs” do not put a space between the words or search will not yield correct results.
ANSWERS for Instructors

Pesticides

11. A fellow Master Gardener sees that the Lace Bug Pest Note mentions a material you haven’t heard of before—spinosad. How hazardous is this pesticide to beneficials? Where did you find this information on the UC IPM web site?

ANSWER
On the H&G menu page, under the “Pesticide information” heading, click on “Information related to specific pesticides”.
http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/menu_pesticides.html
You will see a list of many of the least-toxic pesticides recommended in Pest Notes and other pages on our web site. Select “Spinosad” to view information of this material, including “Hazards to beneficials.” Spinosad has low- to moderate toxicity to beneficials.

Natural Enemies

12. A student wants to know what a lady beetle larva looks like and what it eats. Where would you send her to find photos and information?

ANSWER
Find the Natural Enemies galley at http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/NE/index.html and click on any of the “lady beetle” predators listed. For example, selecting Convergent lady beetle will take you to the page showing photos of all life stages in the lady beetle life cycle, including larval stage. Click on the photo of the larva to enlarge. http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/NE/convergent_lady_beetle.html

Water Quality

13. Your local water quality agency wants to know if UC IPM has any online information on how to reduce runoff of home use pesticides. Where do you send them?

ANSWER
On the H&G menu page, under the “Pesticide information” heading, click on “Pesticides and Water Quality.”

Other

14. How do you find the online training modules for retail employees and others who educate the public about pesticides? What are the titles of the two training modules we currently offer?

Updated 02/2010
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ANSWER
In the left hand column of most pages, see “Training programs” under the heading “Educational Resources” to go to our training page:
http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/training/index.html

15. Where can you find out where the touch-screen IPM kiosks are currently on display in California?

ANSWER
Under the “More information” heading on the H&G menu page, click on “Pest management kiosk locations”
http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/FAQ/kiosk.html

Bonus
What is the URL of the “secret” UC Master Gardener page on the UC IPM web site?

ANSWER
http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/FAQ/mgipm.html
This page is specifically for UC Master Gardeners. You will find quick links to common items on the UC IPM web site (especially useful when working the hotline), training materials, IPM kiosk facts and borrowing info, and more! We want it secret from the general public, not from MGs.

You can bookmark the page or find it via the Statewide MG page http://camastergardeners.ucdavis.edu/. In the left hand column of the Statewide MG page, click on the “for Volunteers” link. The third bullet down on this page says “IPM for Master Gardeners”. Click on the link and you’re at the secret page.

[You will also find a handout here to use when doing the UC IPM web site training for other MGs.]