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

These questions are designed to help you find information on home, garden, landscape, and turf pests and problems using only the UC IPM website.

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.

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

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

Lawns

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?
   - What information about his lawn do you need from him?
   - He tells you that he has a perennial ryegrass lawn with a sprinkler output of 1 inch per hour. How long should he water his lawn each week in June?
   - How should he space out the irrigations during the week?

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?
   - How much product does she apply and how many applications over the year?
   - When is the best time of year for her to fertilize tall fescue?
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? How did you get to this (these) page(s)?

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

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)

7. Where can you find a list of all the Quick Tips available in English?
   • In Spanish?

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

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.

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?

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?

Natural Enemies

12. A student wants to know what a lady beetle larva looks like and what it eats. Where would you send her on the UC IPM Web site to find photos and information? [Note: There is more than one right answer]

Updated 02/2010
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?

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?

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

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