

Submitting Insects, Arachnid, Snail and Related Invertebrate Samples – Collecting, Preparing and Shipping

- **Collection of sample:** When you have an insect that you want to have identified, please collect more than one if possible. Most of the time, multiple specimens are needed for identification. This would include different sizes or life stages of the insect. If you have insects that are covering plant material, please submit a sample of the plant material with the insects still attached.
- **Preservation of Insect samples:** Most specimens should be preserved in isopropyl/rubbing alcohol and submitted in a leak proof container. Place leak proof container in a plastic/zip-lock bag.
- **Information:** When submitting, describe the type of insect pest that you are seeing and/or its common name. Provide information of what the insect was found on and if it is a plant, then provide a plant sample (please see submitting plant samples). Please provide as much information on the form as possible and write the form in pencil. Place the form and any other information in a separate plastic/zip-lock bag.
- **Hazards:** Tell us if your if your sample contains an irritating plant such as poison ivy, if your plant sample is prickly, or if it has been sprayed with pesticides, so we don't accidentally touch the plant or place an unsuspecting hand into the bag. **Please mark this information clearly on the submission form and plastic bags.**
- **When packaging your sample:** If the leak proof container is glass, please pad the sample such that the leak proof container does not break.
- **Always submit a sample submission form with each specimen/sample.**

Please Send Samples to:

Florida Department of Agriculture / Division of Plant Industry
1911 SW 34th St.
P.O. Box 147100
Gainesville, FL 32614-7100
ATTN: Specimen Inside for Entomology