



**Dangerous**  
Insects in the Landscape

Day of Gardening  
2017




**Defense Classification**

- Stinging
- Biting
- Biting and Stinging
- Insects that cause dermal reaction
- Disease vectors Vs. non-vectors

### Venoms

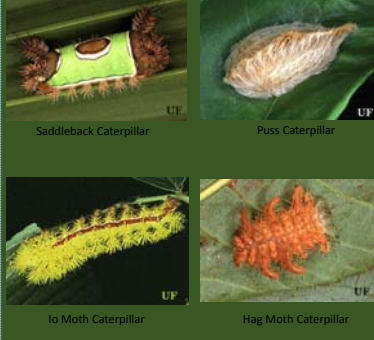
<b>Venoms that produce blisters</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blistin beetles</li> <li>Certain stinging caterpillars</li> <li>Millipedes</li> </ul>	<b>Venoms that attack the central nervous system (neurotoxins)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Black and brown widow</li> <li>Bark scorpions</li> <li>Certain ticks</li> <li>Wheel bugs</li> </ul>	<b>Venoms that destroy tissue</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fire ants</li> <li>Ground scorpions</li> <li>Mites</li> <li>Chiggers</li> <li>Wheel bugs</li> <li>Brown recluse spiders</li> </ul>	<b>Toxins that prevent blood from clotting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lice</li> <li>Fleas</li> <li>Mites</li> <li>Truebug</li> <li>Biting flies</li> </ul>
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**Insects that Sting**

### Stinging Caterpillars

- Feed on Plants
- Spines break in skin
- Burning sensation
- Use tape to remove spines



Saddleback Caterpillar      Puss Caterpillar  
Io Moth Caterpillar      Hag Moth Caterpillar

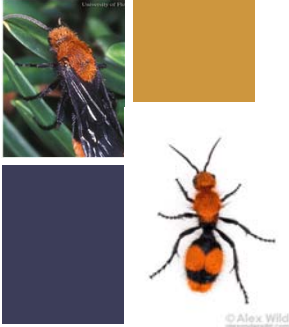
### Oleander Caterpillar

- Map shows native status
- All parts are poisonous



### Velvet Ant/ Cow Killer


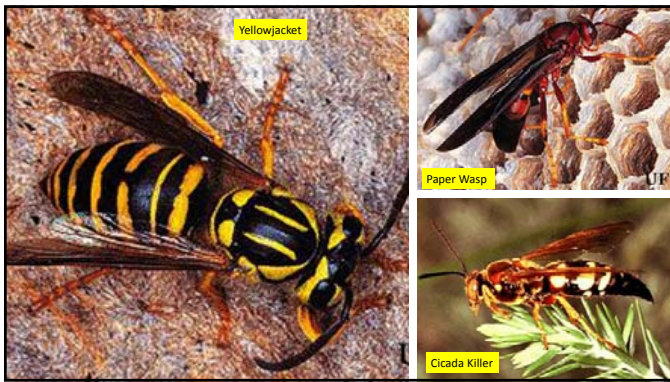
- Wasps, not ants
- Males have wings and cannot sting
- 50 different species in FL
- Painful sting
- Generally solitary and parasitic



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### Yellowjackets, Paper Wasps, & Cicada Killers

- Beneficial
- Nest underground
  - Yellow Jackets
  - Cicada Killers
- Nest above ground
  - Paper Wasps
- Social Insects
  - Paper Wasps
  - Yellow Jackets

### 3 Species of FL Yellowjackets

	<i>V. maculifrons</i>	<i>V. squamosa</i>	<i>D. maculata</i>
Male			
Worker			
Queen			


### Other Wasps

- Mud Daubers
- Potter Wasps
- Cicada Killers



### Africanized Honey Bees


- Introduced into Brazil in the 1950s
- More defensive up to 50' from nest
- Chases enemies for up to a mile
- Produce large colonies and lots of progeny
- Nests in more locations than EHB





### Scorpions

- 3 Species in FL, 2 in NE FL
- Florida Bark Scorpion
- Nerve poison, very painful
- Cannot produce fatal sting
- Viviparous
- Young stay on back of mothers
- Live 3-5 years

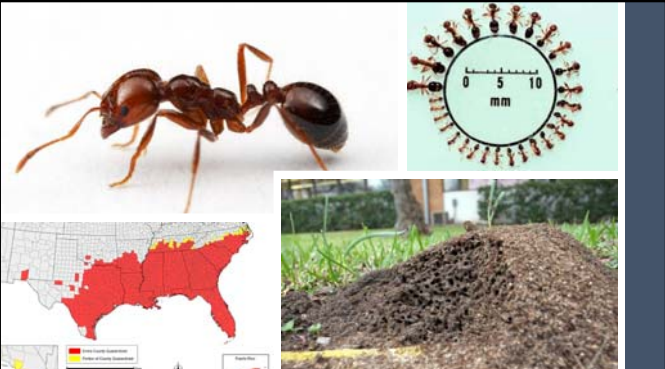


ion UV fluorescence is well known, but we haven't seen i  
ss that show this unique quality. Photo by Kenton Ell




### Fire Ants


- Queens can live 6-7 years
- Painful sting
- Omnivores
- Single and multiple queen colonies
- Multiple may have up to 500,000 workers in the colony





### Spiders

- Huntsman
  - Beneficial
- Brown Recluse
  - Not established in FL
- Brown and Black Widow
  - Webs are disorganized




University of Nebraska  
Department of Entomology




### Wheel Bugs and the Blood Sucking Conenose

- Predators of insects
- Some spread disease (Chagas)

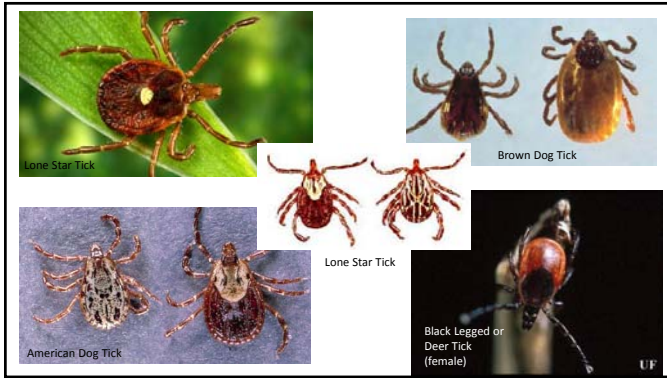


### Ticks

- American Dog (pictured) and Brown Dog Tick are not vectors of Lyme Disease
- Few cases have been reported in FL
- Southern-tick associated rash disease (STARI) - similar disease & symptoms in FL that is mistaken for Lyme (Lone star tick)
- American Dog Tick can cause temporary paralysis in dogs and children




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Tick	Associated Disease
American Dog	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
Black-Legged (Deer)	Lyme, Babesiosis
Lone Star	STARI, Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis
Golf Coast	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
Brown Dog	Ehrlichiosis and Babesiosis in canine


*Aedes spp.*  
mosquitoes

- Transmit Zika, Chikungunya, Dengue, Yellow Fever, Equine Encephalitis
- *Aedes aegypti* (Yellow Fever) and *Aedes albopictus* (Asian Tiger)



### Container Breeding Mosquitoes

- *Aedes albopictus* (upper photo)
- *Aedes aegypti* (bottom photo)
- Remove sources of water for control



### Photo Credits

- Alex Wild Photography - [www.alexanderwild.com](http://www.alexanderwild.com)
- <http://finature.org/>
- <http://ces.ncsu.edu>
- <http://entomology.unl.edu/images/spiders/spiders1.shtml>
- <http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/misc/wasps/mutillidae.htm>
- <http://okeechobee.ifas.ufl.edu/News%20column/Florida%20Scorpions.htm>
- [http://apps.caes.uga.edu/urbanag/landscape\\_alert/bee-attack.cfm](http://apps.caes.uga.edu/urbanag/landscape_alert/bee-attack.cfm)



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