

Bug-Wise

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Who Can I Contact About Insect Problems: When you have insect problems, or want to avoid having insect problems through proactive training and management, you need to talk to an entomologist. But entomology is a big discipline, and no one person can keep current on all of the insect pests that occur in the state, as well as the management options and insecticides used to control those pests. This is why extension entomologists have various specialty areas, and it is also why you want to talk to an entomologist who works in the particular specialty area you are interested in.

Currently, there are three state extension entomology specialists located on campus at Mississippi State. Dr. Angus Catchot works with insect pests of major row crops: cotton, corn, soybeans, and wheat. Dr. Jerome Goddard focuses on insect pests of medical and veterinary importance: mosquitoes, ticks, horn flies, poultry pests, and other blood-sucking insects. Dr. Blake Layton is the primary contact for “homeowner” insect problems, including insect pests of ornamental plants and home lawns, as well as household insects and insect pests of home vegetable gardens. Blake also covers insect pests of commercial vegetables and pasture and hay fields and is the entomology contact for Master Gardener training.

Dr. Gordon Andrews is an area extension entomology specialist located at the Delta Research and Extension Center who works primarily on row crops in the delta region and has statewide responsibilities for rice entomology. Mr. Elmo Collum, located at Central Mississippi Research and Extension Center at Raymond, has statewide responsibility for private and commercial pesticide applicator training.

The attached table gives the contact information, location, and areas of responsibility for the extension entomology specialists in Mississippi. Do not hesitate to contact one of us anytime you have questions about insect identification, management, or control, or want to arrange a trouble-shooting visit or educational program on insects and/or insect management.

Blake Layton, Extension Entomologist

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Extension Entomology Contacts

Specialist	Primary Contact for insect pests of:	Phone Number	E-mail	Location
Dr. Blake Layton	Home Ornamentals {S} Home Lawns {S} Home Vegetables {S} Household Insects {S} Insect Identification {S} Master Gardener Entomology {S} Commercial Pest Control {S} Commercial Veggies. {S} Pasture and Forage Crops {S}	662-325-2960	blayton@entomology.msstate.edu	MSU, Department of Entomology
Dr. Angus Catchot	Cotton {S} Soybeans {S} Corn {S} Wheat {S}	662-325-2074	acatchot@entomology.msstate.edu	MSU, Department of Entomology
Dr. Jerome Goddard	Medical Entomology {S} Veterinary Entomology {S}	662-325-2986	jgoddard@entomology.msstate.edu	MSU, Department of Entomology
Dr. Gordon Andrews	Rice {S} Row Crops in NW MS {A}	662-686-3245	gordona@ext.msstate.edu	Stoneville, Delta R&E Center
Mr. Elmo Collum	Pesticide App. Training, Private {S} Pesticide App. Training, Commercial {S}	601-857-2284	elmoc@ext.msstate.edu	Raymond, Central MS R&E Center

{S} = Statewide assignment {A} = Area assignment

The above assignments show which scientist has primary responsibility for each area.