

## **Plant and Insect Identification**

Some callers want assistance identifying a plant they have seen somewhere or found on their property. Here are some questions to ask to help in identification.

### **Plant Identification**

What is the height and width of the plant?

Does it bloom? When? What does the flower look like: color, shape, size, etc.?

What shape are the leaves? What color on top and bottom? What do the edges look like? Are the leaves smooth, shiny, hairy?

### **Insect Identification**

Insects are of concern to many people. They should know whether it is harmful or beneficial before any treatment is applied.

Callers often go right into a detailed description of the creature, so take notes!

Focus on details such as:

Color

Size

Wings or not

Biting or stinging

Found on ground, in the ground in tree or shrub

Where on the plant it was found

Found indoors or outdoors

What type of damage to plant

Use the resources in the reference library and online photos to help in your search.

If you are unable to identify it from the information available, recommend they bring a sample to the office or send a photo through email to:

wakullamg@ifas.ufl.edu