

Something New for Invasive Species Reporting

Farm Bill: Regional Strategic System for Early
Detection of Invasive Species.

Susan Sawyer

A brief history of this Farm Bill:

- In 2011, CDFA requested Farm Bill monies for the category “Regional Strategic System for Early Detection of Invasive Species”. Oregon had conceived of the idea and California agreed to the idea; both states applied for this Farm Bill group. Both were awarded the money for developing a region wide system for “Citizen Scientists” to easily report suspicious sightings of possible exotic insects, plants, diseases and animals. Oregon and California are starting with insects.

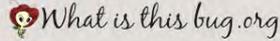
To conclude the story ...

- The Farm Bill consists of several parts:
- 1. A method for the public to report a possible find using an iPhone application, consisting of a short form and an image to be sent.
- 2. A web based reporting system.
- 3. A way for officials to respond to these possible finds.
- 4. Reports generated and confirmed, would be available for the entire western region of federal, state and local governments (Agriculture, Fish and Game, etc.), universities and county extension offices, as well as private conservation groups and individuals.
- 5. Maps of the find areas would be available too.

To date, here is what we have.

- Web page with several sections to teach about Invasive Species, what they are and what is considered an invasive species and how private citizens can help.
- Other sections are to inform readers about beneficial and endangered insect species.
- A link to California Invasive Species Council invasive species list.
- One section has the iPhone app for free download.
- Connections to several social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, Pintrest).

Web page: Whatisthisbug.org

Home Maps Apps Videos Links

What is an Invasive Species?

An invasive species is a non-native organism (plant, animal or disease) that can or does harm a new environment. Invasive species can be a relocated native species that does harm in its new home or an invasive species can be a foreign species from another continent.

MOST invasive species are moved by humans!

[How do I know it is an invasive species? >](#)

Invasive Species

Short List:

- ✓ Asian Citrus Psyllid
- ✓ Asian Longhorned Beetle
- ✓ Emerald Ash Borer
- ✓ European Grapevine Moth
- ✓ Goldspotted Oak Borer
- ✓ Gypsy Moth

Love Avocados?
Learn about an upcoming threat!



Which is Which?



California has many insect species, but do you know which insects you see are native to California, or are introduced species? Do you know a "good insect" from a "bad insect"? To learn a little bit about native, introduced, good and bad insects, check out the pictures and see if you can tell "Which is Which."

[Go to Which is Which Page >](#)

What is this bug?



Have you seen a new or unusual plant or pest in your area? If so, this app is perfect for you!

[Download App >](#)

How Can You Help?



Forstino says, "You can play an important role in protecting your state's agriculture and your environment by reporting the sighting of a pest that you suspect may be a new invasive species in your area."

[Go to Report a Pest Page >](#)

Beneficial Species



Beneficial species are those organisms that are good for the environment. In insect species, these keep other insects in balance with the environment. Some beneficial insects are native and some are specifically imported foreign species to fight an insect problem.

[Go to Beneficial Species Page >](#)

Invasive Species



So just what is an invasive species? An unofficial definition could be that an invasive species is a species that does not naturally occur in a specific area and whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

[Go to Invasive Species Page >](#)

CA Invasive Species List



The California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (CISAC) has created a list of invasive species that threaten California, as mandated by the ISCC Bylaws and the CISAC Charter. The list currently includes over 1,700 species of all taxonomic types—vertebrate, invertebrate, plant, and disease—and includes not only those damaging organisms already in the state but also those that could conceivably be introduced and become problems in the future.

[Download List >](#)

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[Home](#) • [Which is Which](#) • [Report a Pest](#) • [Apps](#) • [Videos](#) • [Resource Links](#)

If you click on “How You Can Help”.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'What is this bug.org' website. The browser's address bar shows the URL 'http://www.whatisthisbug.org/reportapest.html'. The website's header includes the logo 'What is this bug.org' and navigation links for 'Home', 'Maps', 'Apps', 'Videos', and 'Resource Links'. Below the header is a dark banner with the text 'REPORT A PEST ONLINE' and a search bar. The main content area features a section titled 'How Can You Help?' with an illustration of a cartoon bug holding a magnifying glass. To the right of the illustration is a text box explaining the importance of reporting pests and providing instructions on how to take helpful photos. Further right is a 'Report a Pest' button with a red bug icon and a 'Go to online form' link. The footer contains social media links for Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest, a 'top' button, and copyright information: '© 2012 What Is This Bug. All Rights Reserved.' The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the Windows logo, several application icons, and the system clock displaying '11:07 AM 10/22/2012'.

What is this bug.org

Home Maps Apps Videos Resource Links

REPORT A PEST ONLINE

Search

How Can You Help?



You can play an important role in protecting your state's agriculture and your environment by reporting the sighting of a pest that you suspect may be a new invasive species in your area.

If possible, take photographs of the plant or pest. Include something of commonly known size in the photo for comparison. Taking photos of the immediate environment where the sighting occurred and key landmarks for finding the site is also helpful.

Report a Pest

Report a pest that you suspect may be a new invasive species in your area.

[Go to online form ... >](#)

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100%

11:07 AM
10/22/2012

You are sent to an electronic form to fill out and send in.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://pdrdev.cdpr.ca.gov/rap/repReportAPestMain.aspx?isInserP>. The browser's address bar shows the page title "Report a Pest". The browser's menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "View", "Favorites", "Tools", and "Help". The browser's toolbar shows various icons for home, search, and other functions. The browser's status bar shows the page title "Report a Pest" and the address bar.

The main content area of the browser displays a form titled "REPORT A PEST SIGHTING FORM". The form is divided into several sections:

- Header:** On the left is a logo of a red apple with a green leaf and a small insect. To the right of the logo is the text "REPORT A PEST HOTLINE phone: (800) 491-1899". To the right of this is the title "REPORT A PEST SIGHTING FORM" and a "Reset Form" button.
- Date:** A field for "Date:" with a "Date of Sighting:" label and a "Current Date" button.
- Description:** A large text area for "Description of organism (size, color, shape and other distinguishing characteristics):".
- Situation:** A dropdown menu for "Situation where Organism was found:" with the option "- No Selection -".
- Location:** Fields for "City, county, state where the sighting took place:" including "City:", "County:", and "State:". To the right is a section for "Directions to the location of the sighting:" with "Address/physical description:", "Latitude:", and "Longitude:" fields, and a "Geocode (get Lat/Long)" button.
- Contact:** Fields for "First and Last names of person who sighted the suspect pest:", "Best phone number to reach this person (include area code):", "Fax:", "Preferred Contact Method:" (with a dropdown menu set to "Email"), "Email Address:", "Mailing Address:", "City:", "State:", and "Zip:".

The browser's status bar at the bottom shows the system tray with the time "11:09 AM" and the date "10/22/2012".

If you use the iPhone app

The screenshot shows the homepage of the website 'What is this bug.org'. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Home', 'Maps', 'Apps', 'Mobile', and 'Links'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- What is an Invasive Species?**: A red box containing a definition of an invasive species and a link to 'How do I know if it is an invasive species?'.
- Invasive Species Short List:**: A dark box listing several species: Asian Citrus Psyllid, Asian Longhorned Beetle, Emerald Ash Borer, European Drapewine Moth, Goldspotted Oak Borer, and Gypsy Moth.
- Love Avocados? Learn about an upcoming threat!**: A green box with the text 'The polyphagous shot hole borer' and a magnifying glass icon.
- Which is Which?**: A section with an image of a butterfly and a link to 'Go to Which is Which Page?'.
- What is this bug?**: A section with an image of a fly and a link to 'Download App?'.
- How Can You Help?**: A section with an image of a person holding a magnifying glass and a link to 'Go to Report a Pest Page?'.
- Beneficial Species**: A section with an image of a ladybug and a link to 'Go to Beneficial Species Page?'.
- Invasive Species**: A section with an image of a beetle and a link to 'Go to Invasive Species Page?'.
- CA Invasive Species List**: A section with an image of a wasp and a link to 'Download List?'.

At the bottom, there is a footer with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube, and a copyright notice: '© 2012 What is This Bug. All Rights Reserved.' and a navigation bar with links for 'Home', 'Search', 'About', 'Home', 'Pest', 'Apps', 'Mobile', and 'Invasive Species'.

The screen will look like this:

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'What is this bug.org' website. The browser's address bar shows the URL 'http://www.whatisthisbug.org/apps.html'. The website's header includes the logo 'What is this bug.org' and navigation links for 'Home', 'Maps', 'Apps', 'Videos', and 'Links'. Below the header is a dark navigation bar with the word 'APPS' on the left and a search bar on the right. The main content area features a section titled 'Report a Pest iPhone App!' with a green 'Download App Here' button. To the left of the button is an image of a fly on a leaf with a magnifying glass overlay. Below this section is a 'More App Resources!' section with three app tiles: 'Save Our Citrus!', 'The Calflora Observer', and 'What's Invasive!'. Each tile includes a small image and a brief description of the app's functionality. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the system clock as 11:10 AM on 10/22/2012.

http://www.whatisthisbug.org/apps.html

What is this bug.org

Home Maps **Apps** Videos Links

APPS Search

Report a Pest iPhone App!

Download App Here

Have you seen a new or unusual plant or pest in your area?

The Report A Pest iPhone App provides the ability to photograph and report suspected harmful pests to state and local agricultural officials. If possible, include something of commonly known size in the photo for comparison.

More App Resources!



Save Our Citrus!

[iPhone] Are you worried that your orange tree looks sick? Are your citrus fruits misshapen or



The Calflora Observer

[iPhone][Android] The Calflora Observer is a smart phone app that allows you to quickly and efficiently



What's Invasive!

[iPhone][Android] The What's Invasive app displays local lists of top invasive plants and/or animals

100% 11:10 AM 10/22/2012

Click on the “Download” button:

Report A Pest

By California Department of Food and Agriculture

Open iTunes to buy and download apps.

[View More By This Developer](#)



Description

Report A Pest provides the ability to photograph and report suspected harmful pests to state and local agricultural officials.

[Report A Pest Support](#)

What's New in Version 1.1

GPS functions updated

[View In iTunes](#)

Free

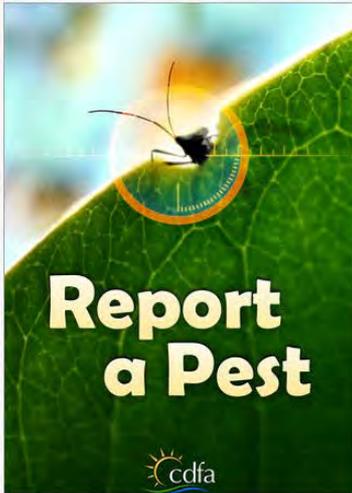
Category: [Business](#)
Updated: Aug 22, 2012
Version: 1.1
Size: 5.7 MB
Language: English
Seller: California Department of Food and Agriculture
© California Department of Food and Agriculture
Rated 4+

Requirements: Compatible with iPhone 3GS, iPhone 4, iPhone 4S, iPhone 5, iPod touch (3rd generation), iPod touch (4th generation), iPod touch (5th generation) and iPad. Requires iOS 5.1 or later.

Customer Ratings

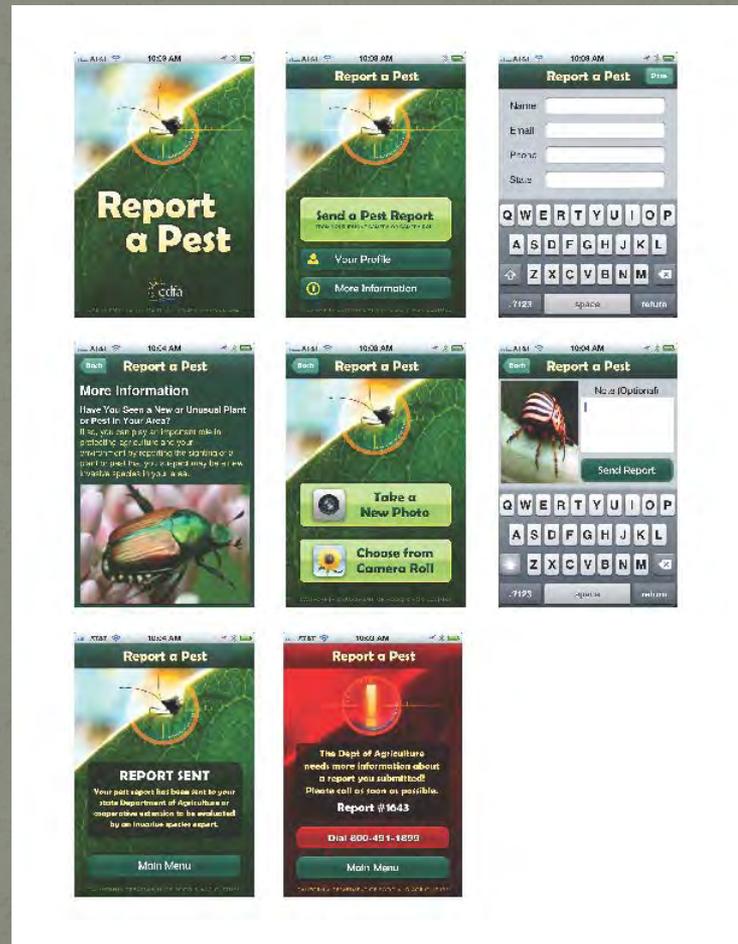
We have not received enough ratings to display an average for the current version of this application.

iPhone Screenshots

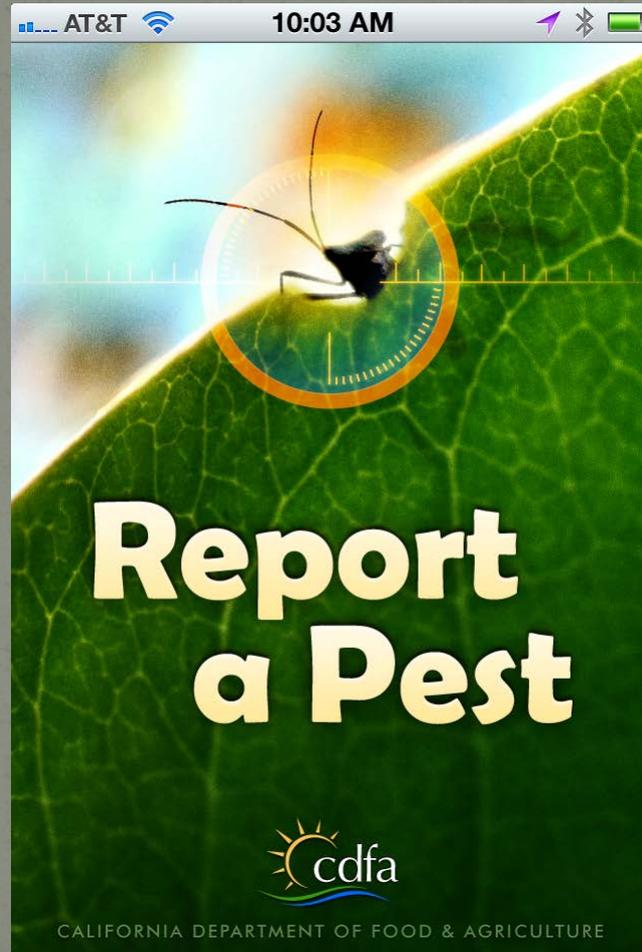


The first screenshot shows the app's splash screen with a green leaf background, a magnifying glass over a pest, and the text 'Report a Pest' and the 'cdfa' logo. The second screenshot shows the app's main menu with the title 'Report a Pest' at the top, a 'Send a Pest Report' button (with subtext 'FROM YOUR IPHONE CAMERA OR CAMERA ROLL'), and two other buttons: 'Your Profile' and 'More Information'.

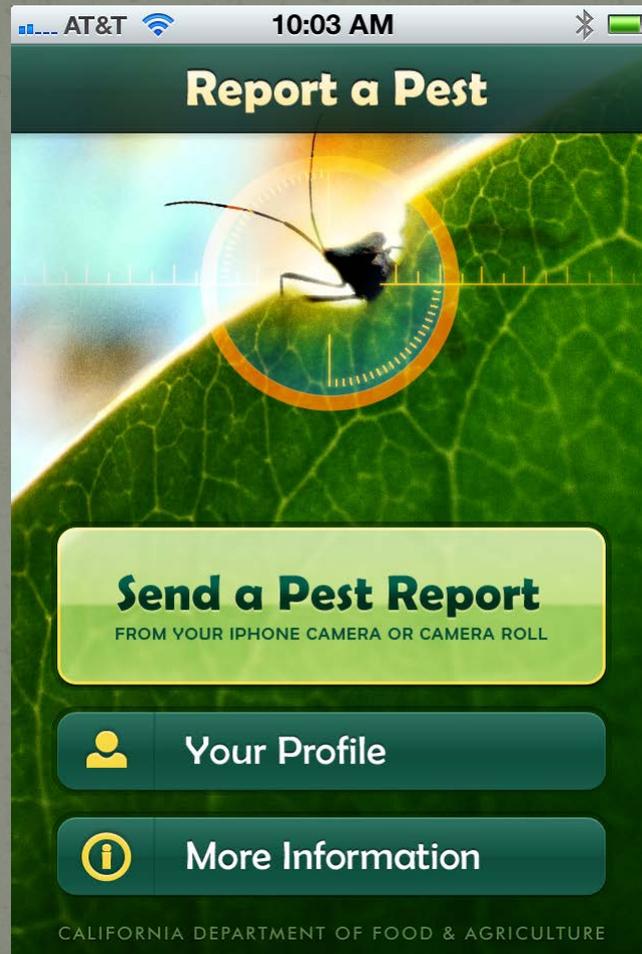
What the entire pathway will look like:



iPhone App: Report-A-Pest



iPhone App: Report-A-Pest main page



iPhone App: Profile

The screenshot shows an iPhone app interface. At the top, the status bar displays 'AT&T', signal strength, Wi-Fi, the time '10:03 AM', and battery level. Below the status bar is a dark green header with the text 'Report a Pest' in yellow and a green 'Done' button. The main content area is light blue and contains four white input fields labeled 'Name', 'Email', 'Phone', and 'State'. A standard QWERTY keyboard is overlaid at the bottom of the screen.

AT&T 10:03 AM

Report a Pest Done

Name

Email

Phone

State

Q W E R T Y U I O P

A S D F G H J K L

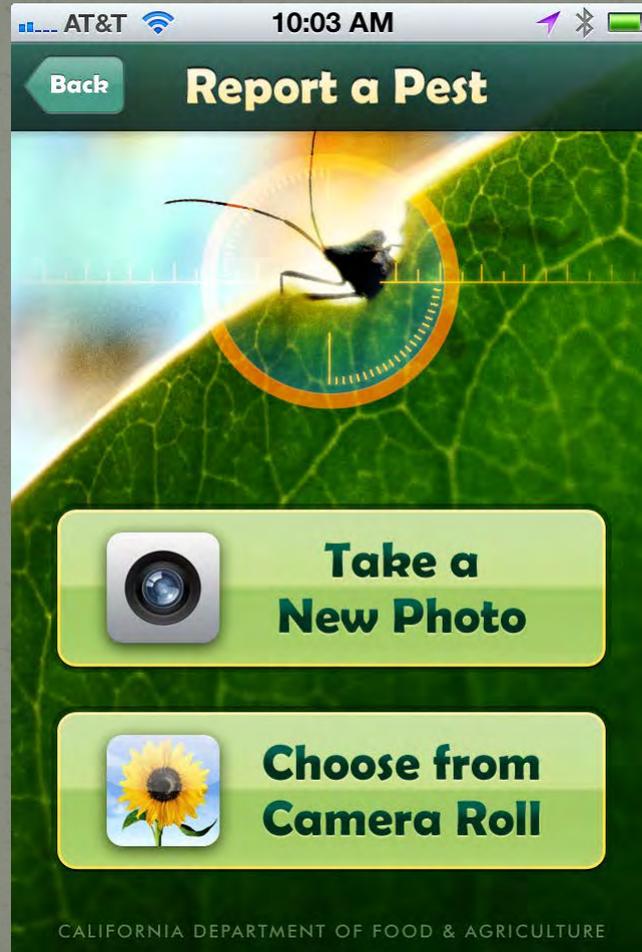
↑ Z X C V B N M ↵

.?123 space return

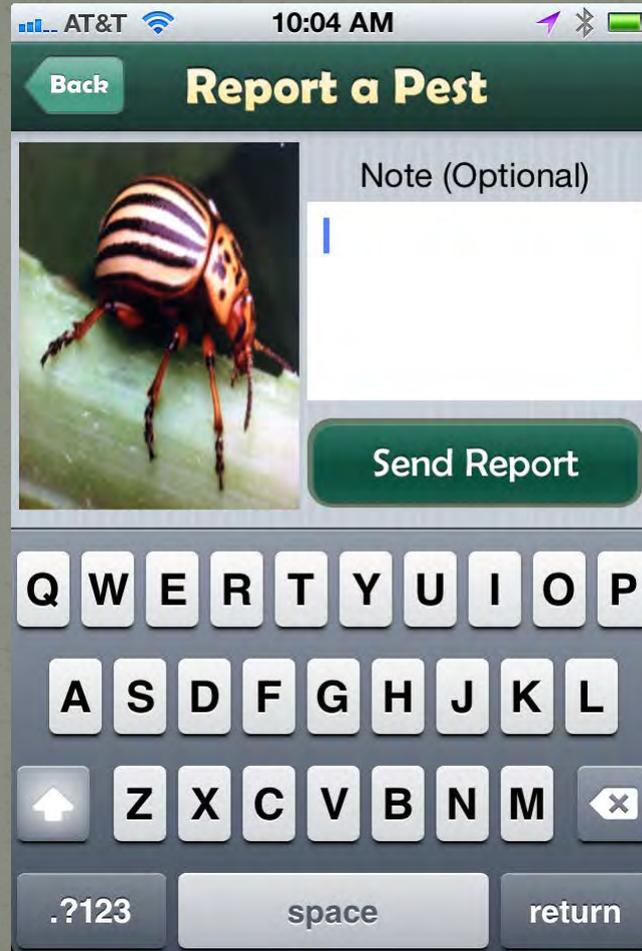
iPhone App: Information



iPhone App: Shoot



iPhone App: Send



iPhone App: Thank you



What Happens to the iReport?

- Image and form goes to State of California ID Lab.
- Screened and sent on.
- Diagnostician looks at image and determines if there needs further investigation.
- Someone is sent to collect a sample and the actual specimen is looked at.
- If it is a positive find, it is sent to United States Department of Agriculture Lab to confirm the find.
- At the find site, more investigation is conducted to see how many may be present in that location.

iPhone App: More Information Needed



There are Other Agencies with Forms and Sites for Sending Reports

- Forest Pest: <http://caforestpestcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2008/06/Forest-Pest-Detection-Report2.pdf>
- Fish and Game: http://www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/inv_reporting/InvasiveSpeciesReporting.pdf
- National Plant Board: <http://www.wpdn.org/>
- University of Georgia (EDDMaps): <http://www.eddmaps.org/>
- CDFA: <http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/reportapest/form/reportapestform.pdf>
- Nature Conservancy (iMaps): <http://www.imapinvasives.org/>



Not Finished ...

but on its way!