

Recommending a Pesticide

- ✓ UH Cooperative Extension Service cannot be liable for misinformation that is given out about pesticides.
- ✓ When representing the UH Cooperative Extension Service as a UH Master Gardener it is not necessary to recommend a specific product name.
- ✓ It is more important to discuss proper identification, and corresponding Integrated Pest Management practices.

Here are some HELPFUL STORYLINES to discuss pesticides with home gardeners as a UH Master Gardener:

Step 1: Help the home gardener identify the pest.

If you're not confident about identifying the pest:

- Give the home gardener information about the Master Gardener Helpline.
- Let them know that they can drop off a sample to be identified by the Extension Agent MG Coordinator, or they can use the KMG e-mail address to send a picture of the insect or disease sample.

Step 2 : Communicate Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Practices

Learn more about IPM practices and start to dialogue about control measures that can prevent the insect or disease in the first place. Good places to learn more about IPM are listed here:

- ✓ Integrated Pest Management:
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/PP-05.pdf>
- ✓ IPM for Home Gardens:
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/IP-13.pdf>
- ✓ Minimizing Pollution Risk from Pest Management:
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/HF-5.pdf>
- ✓ UC Davis IPM: <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/>

Step 3 : If a pesticide is still requested, simply recite the following:

"Visit your local garden center. Read the labels to search for the plant (vegetables, fruit trees, or specific tree or shrub) on the label and the insect or disease on the label. If the label lists both [the plant name] and [the insect or disease], then it can be used to control your pest. It is important to read the label to understand application rates and precautionary statements. On edible crops, pay close attention to caution statements and harvestable date."



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