College of Agriculture Cooperative Extension

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Entomology

4-H Entomology/Beekeeping 1-2 Years in Project (W 927-A)

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Insect Basics

- •Define entomology, entomologist, insect, arthropod and exoskeleton.
- •Explain the importance of entomology.
- •Identify the major insect body parts, including head, thorax, abdomen, antenna, compound eye, leg (coxa, trochanter, femur, tibia, tarsus), spiracle, tympanum and wing; explain their functions.
- •Describe the importance of careful observation and record keeping.

Arthropods

- •Describe the Phylum Arthropoda.
- •Explain how insects differ from other arthropods.
- •List examples of insects (Class Insecta) and spiders and other arachnids (Class Arachnida).

Insect Pollinators

•Define caste, worker, queen, drone and pollinator.

- •Describe the castes of honey bees, the races of honey bees, honey and wax they produce.
- •Explain the importance of honey bees and other types of bees.
- •List five plants in Tennessee pollinated by honey bees and five plants pollinated by other types of bees.
- •List five food crops that need pollinators.
- •Create a list of the equipment that a beekeeper needs and an estimated budget.
- Compile beekeeping records.
- •List five non-bee insects that are pollinators.

Diversity of Life

- •Define biodiversity and evolution.
- •Explain the importance of biodiversity.
- •Describe the value of insect diversity.
- •Describe various ways that different insects communicate.
- •Develop a definition of diversity and inclusion.

Exotic and Invasive Insects

- •Define exotic species and invasive species.
- •Compare and contrast the differences between exotic and invasive species.
- •Discuss why not all insects (in Tennessee and elsewhere) are native.
- •Investigate 10 insects found in gardens, crop fields or households in Tennessee

Harmful and Beneficial Insects

- •Define integrated pest management, predator, parasite, pathogen and parasitoid.
- •Explain why some insects are pests and some are beneficial.
- •Identify pest insects in Tennessee that affect plants, non-human animals and humans.
- •Identify beneficial insects in Tennessee that affect plants, non-human animals and humans.
- •Investigate invasive, beneficial and pest insects in Tennessee.

Potential Activities

- •Identify and label major insect body parts: head, thorax, abdomen, antenna, compound eye, leg (coxa, trochanter, femur, tibia, tarsus), spiracle, tympanum, wing.
- •Investigate and describe 10 insects that you can find in a garden, crop fields or households in Tennessee.
- •Investigate and describe several invasive, beneficial or pest insects in Tennessee.
- •Create your own definitions of diversity and inclusion.

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