The Insect Information Web Site. A source for insect information, and links to the handouts and referred fact sheets used in Master Gardener training, is housed within the Department of Bioagricultural Sciences and Pest Management at Colorado State University http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/bspm/. Click on “Extension and Outreach” to find the “Insect Information” site.

Some Ideas for Your Insect Library

Developing a guide for insects is difficult given their incredible diversity but this guide does an excellent job tackling this task. It is the easy to use and extensively illustrated (ca 2,350 images).

A very thorough treatment of methods that can be used to improve habitat to favor populations of pollinator species. A section introducing the various common genera of native bees is very well illustrated and an excellent resource of introducing one to the appearance and habits of these insects.

This book successfully handles a very difficult subject, the North American bees – which includes over 4000 NA species. Well illustrated, with over 900 photographs, and organized in a manner that can be very useful if one wishes to identify and learn basic life history of bees one may encounter in backyards, or other settings.

This publication focuses on insects that are useful in the biological control of other insects (e.g., lady beetles, lacewings, syrphid flies, parasitic wasps). Numerous examples are given to illustrate how changes in landscape practice can affect the activity of these kinds of helpful insects.

A book designed for an introductory entomology class that tries to cram in everything-you-need-to-know-about-insects in one class. Lots of photographs.

Probably the best introduction to the world of living insects available. Full of well-written, fascinating stories of common insects and a healthy dose of philosophy.

*The Bugs in the System: Insects and Their Impact on Human Affairs.* M. Berenbaum. 1995. Helix Books; Addison-Wesley Publishing Co. $15.00
Packed with interesting information on a wide variety of topics related to insects: how they develop, their importance in agriculture, historical events involving insects - a bit of everything. Written well and very entertaining.

Designed as a field guide to North American insects of garden plants, including vegetables, fruits, flowers, trees/shrubs and turfgrass. The most outstanding feature is the photographs; mention of some 1400 species is made with photographs for most and
multiple images for key species. Keys include host plant associations and there is an extensive Diagnostics section in the beginning.


A quite accessible field guide style book on this vast topic. Includes information on habits as well as basic biology.

Price: ca $60 hardcover; $35 Kindle version.


Price: $6.95.

This guide will allow identification of many common spiders to family level and even sometimes to species. Due to its low cost and ease of use, this remains a useful non-technical guide to spider identification.

**Colorado State University Publications**


**Some Insect Museums**

*The Butterfly Pavilion and Insect Center.*  This is located at 6252 West 104th Ave in Westminster and is open every day except Monday.  Special tours can be made by arrangement.  
Phone: (303) 469-5441  
Email: [www.butterflies.org](http://www.butterflies.org)

*The May Museum of Natural History.*  This is located along the highway running between Colorado Springs and Canon City - marked with a huge rhinoceros beetle at the side of the road. It is open from May 1-October 1.  Special arrangements for large groups can be made at other times.  
Phone: (719) 576-0450/(800) 666-3840  
Email: [www.maymuseum-camp-rvpark.com/natural_history.htm](http://www.maymuseum-camp-rvpark.com/natural_history.htm)
Some Good Web Sites

Colorado State University Insects Online Fact Sheets
http://www.ext.colostate.edu/PUBS/INSECT/pubins.html
A source for over 90 fact sheets on common and important insects of Colorado.

BugGuide.net (http://bugguide.net/node/view/15740)
A web site dedicated to posting and identifying images or insects and other arthropods.

BugWood/IPM Images (http://www.ipmimages.org)
A repository of insect images (including a great many by CSU personnel), particularly emphasizing those of economic importance. The use of these slides is allowed for all educational purposes; commercial uses do require permission, which is almost always freely given. Best source if you need insect images.

Entomological Society of America (http://www.entsoc.org/)
Home page of the national association dedicated to entomological sciences. Links to other entomological associations and departments.

American Arachnological Society http://www.americanarachnology.org/
Home page of the national association dedicated to the study of arachnids. Several good links to information on spiders, scorpions, windscorpions and other arachnids.

Xerces Society http://www.xerces.org/
The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation is highly active in issues affecting insects and other arthropods native to North America. They have produce a great many fine publications regarding ways to recognize and conserve native insects (including pollinators), and most of these publications can be freely downloaded.

Grasshoppers: Their Identification, Biology and Management
http://www.sidney.ars.usda.gov/grasshopper/ID_Tools/
This USDA site consolidates numerous grasshopper-related resources (including the excellent material from Wyoming).

The University of Florida Book of Insect Records (http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/walker/ufbir/)
Biggest, fastest, longest lived…. A summary of insect records.

A site that catalogs all manner of urban legends and rumors. For those with an insect angle click on "Horror" then click on "Insect Infestations".

Entomology Fact Sheets from Colorado State University are available on the Web at:
http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/pubs.html#insects
A large number of publications are available on-line through the Colorado State Insect Information Web Site (http://bspm.agsci.colostate.edu/outreach-button/insect-information/). It is found within the Department of Bioaggricultural Sciences and Pest Management: (http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/bspm/) If you go through there, then click on “Extension”, click on “Insect Information” and you will find links to “Bug Mugs”, “Colorado Arthropods of Interest” and several other publications (including Master Gardener publications) and powerpoint presentations related to Colorado insects.

… and don’t forget to check out the Western Colorado Entomology Web Site (http://wci.colostate.edu/) – a particularly good site for local issues affecting western Colorado!
Suppliers of Insect Collecting Equipment

Ben Meadows Company
3589 Broad St.
Atlanta, GA  30341
Phone: (800) 241-6401
    Internet: www.benmeadows.com
Carries sweep nets, pins, killing jar, pinning blocks and one size (12" x 16" x 2.5") of display case.

Bio-Quip Products
2321 Gladwick St.
Rancho Dominguez, CA  90220
Phone:  (310) 324-0620
    Internet:  www.bioquip.com
The most complete source for materials related to insect collection and preservation. BioQuip also carries a very extensive library of entomology-related books.

Carolina Biological Supply
2700 York Rd.
Burlington, NC  27215
Phone:  (800) 334-5551
    Internet:  www.carolina.com
A large biological supply house, they carry #2 pins, a display box and an insect net.

Forestry Suppliers, Inc.
P.O. Box 8397
Jackson, MS  39284-8397
Phone: (800) 647-5368
    Internet:  www.Forestry-Suppliers.com
Carries a good range of insect collecting and display items.

Gempler's
P.O. Box 270
Belleville, WI  53508
Phone: (800) 382-8473
    Internet:  www.gemplers.com
Oriented towards pest management, Gempler's sells a variety of insect nets, pheromone other insect traps

Nasco
901 Janesville Ave.
P.O. Box 901
Ft. Atkinson, WI  53538-0901
Phone: (800) 558-9595
    Internet:  www.eNASCO.com
Carries the basic supplies used in insect collection (sweep nets, pins, display boxes, killing jars)

Nebraska Scientific
3823 Leavenworth St.
Omaha, NE  68105-1180
Phone: (800) 228-7117
    Internet:  www.nebraskascientific.com
Carries the basic supplies used in insect collection (sweep nets, pins, display boxes, killing jars)

WARD'S Natural Science
P.O Box 92919
Rochester, NY   14692-9012
Phone:  (800) 962-2660
    Internet:  www.wardsci.com
A large biological supply house that carries a wide selection of basic insect collecting and display supplies.