Something New for Invasive Species Reporting

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

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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.

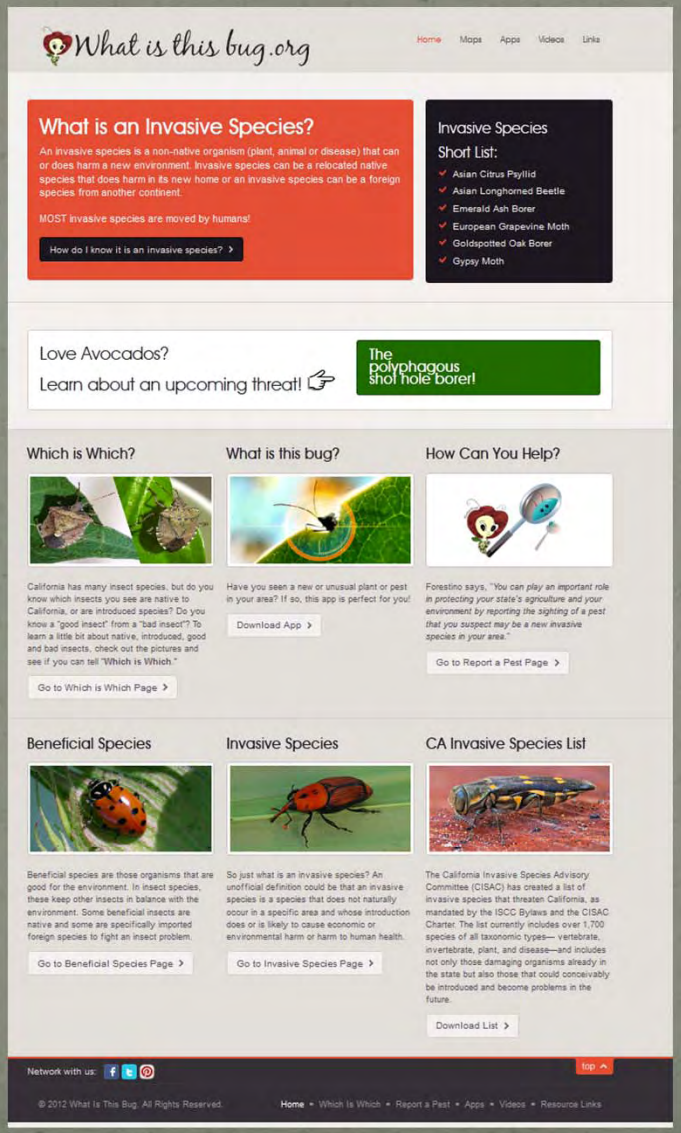
To conclude the story …

- 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.

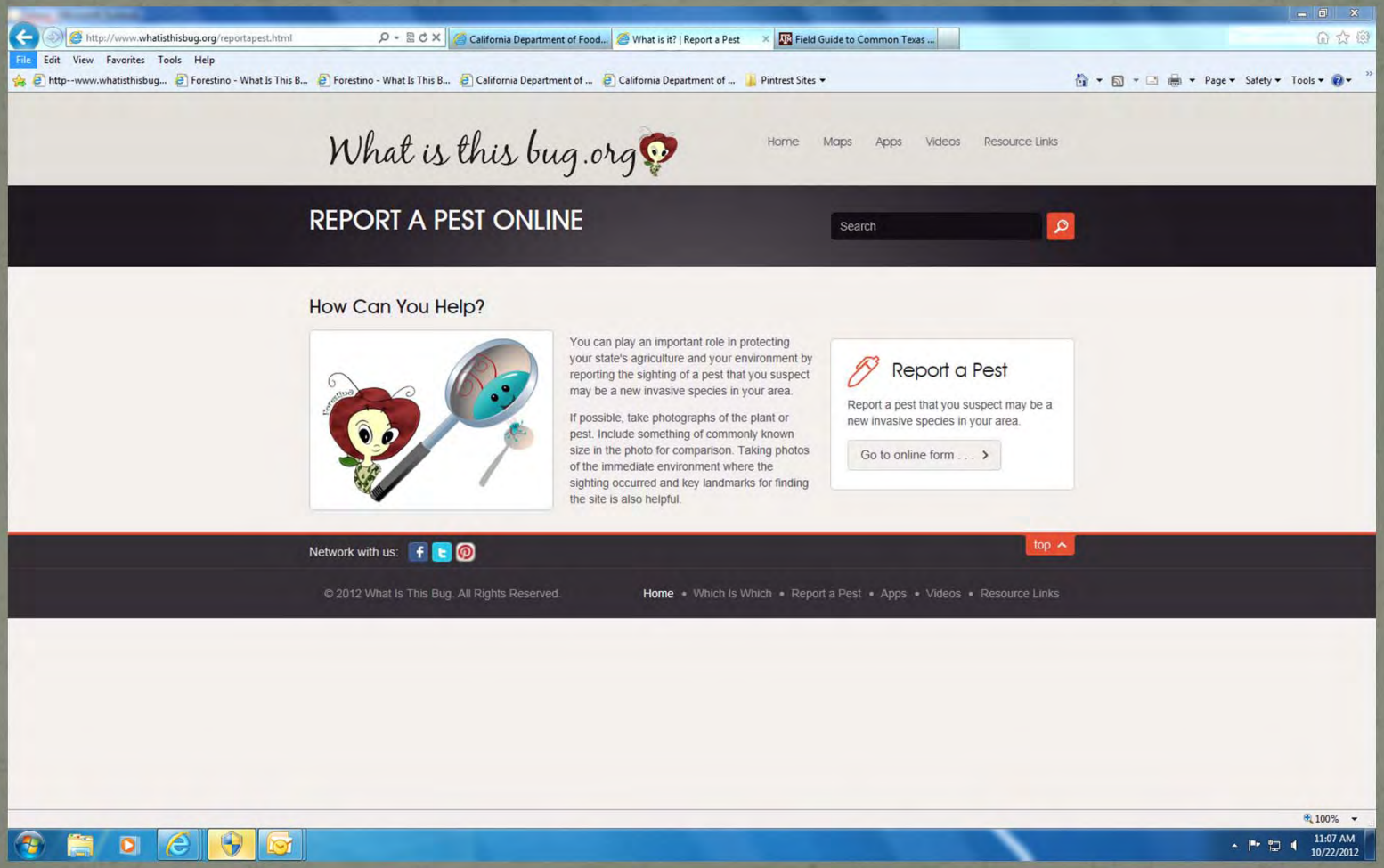
To date, here is what we have.

- 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).

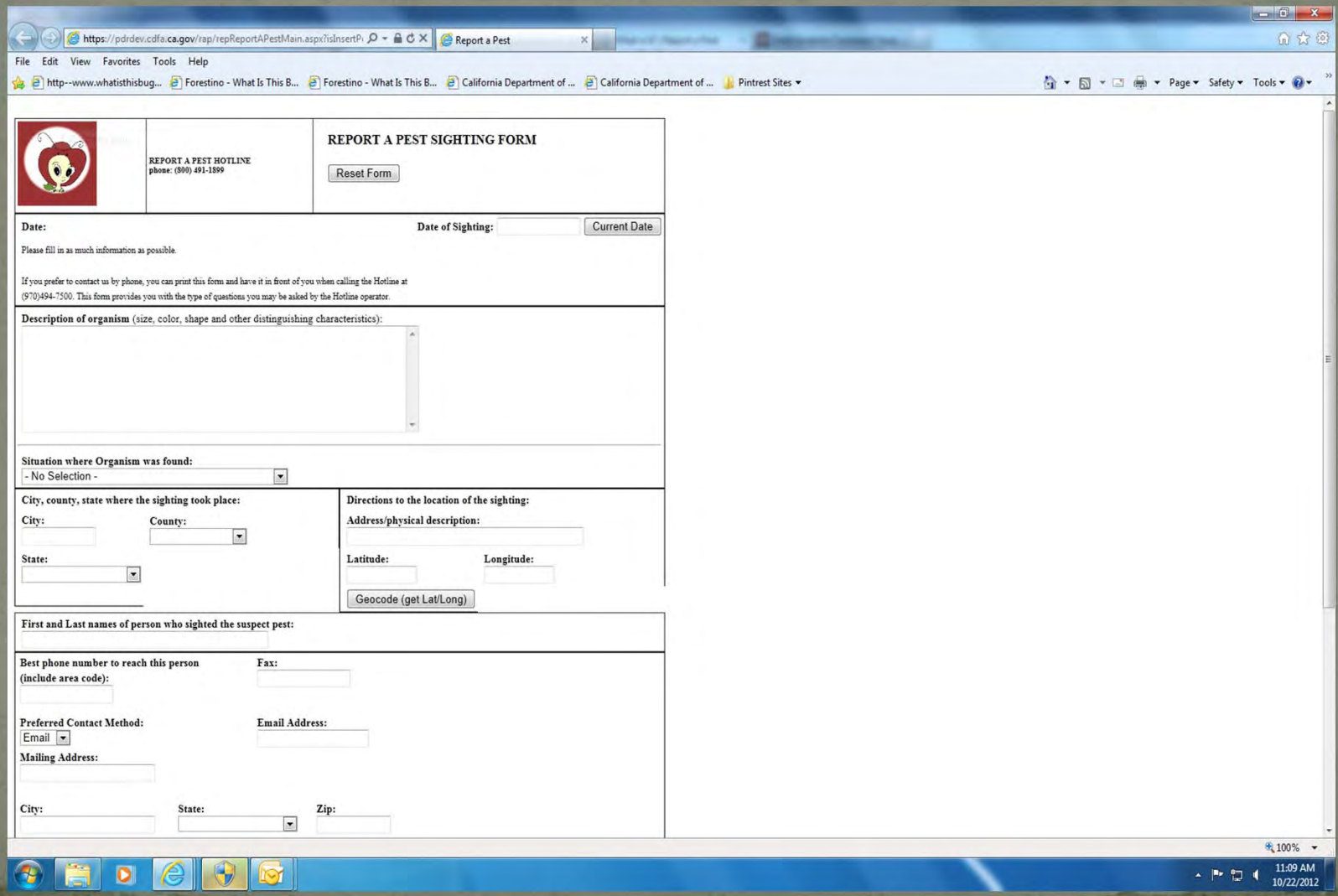
Web page: Whatisthisbug.org



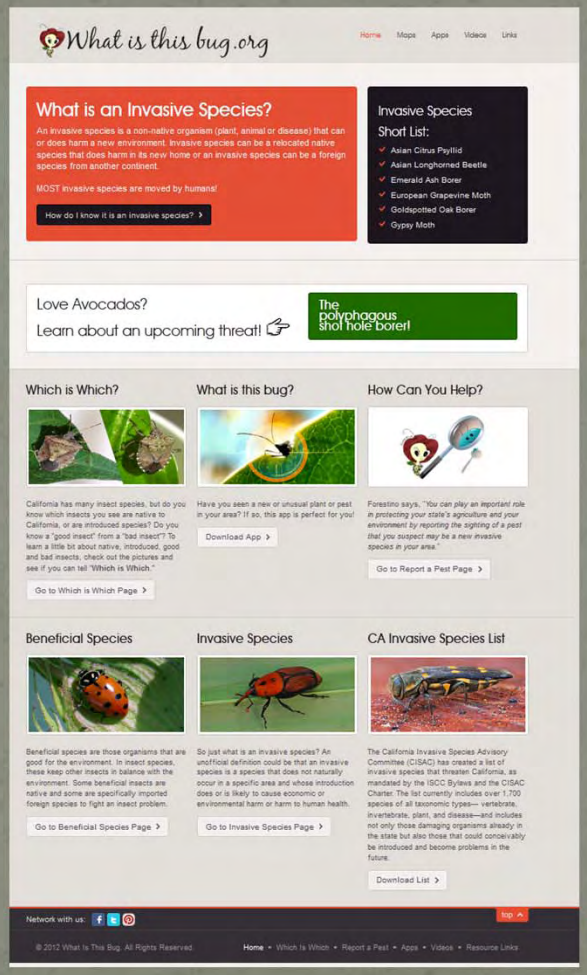
If you click on "How You Can Help".



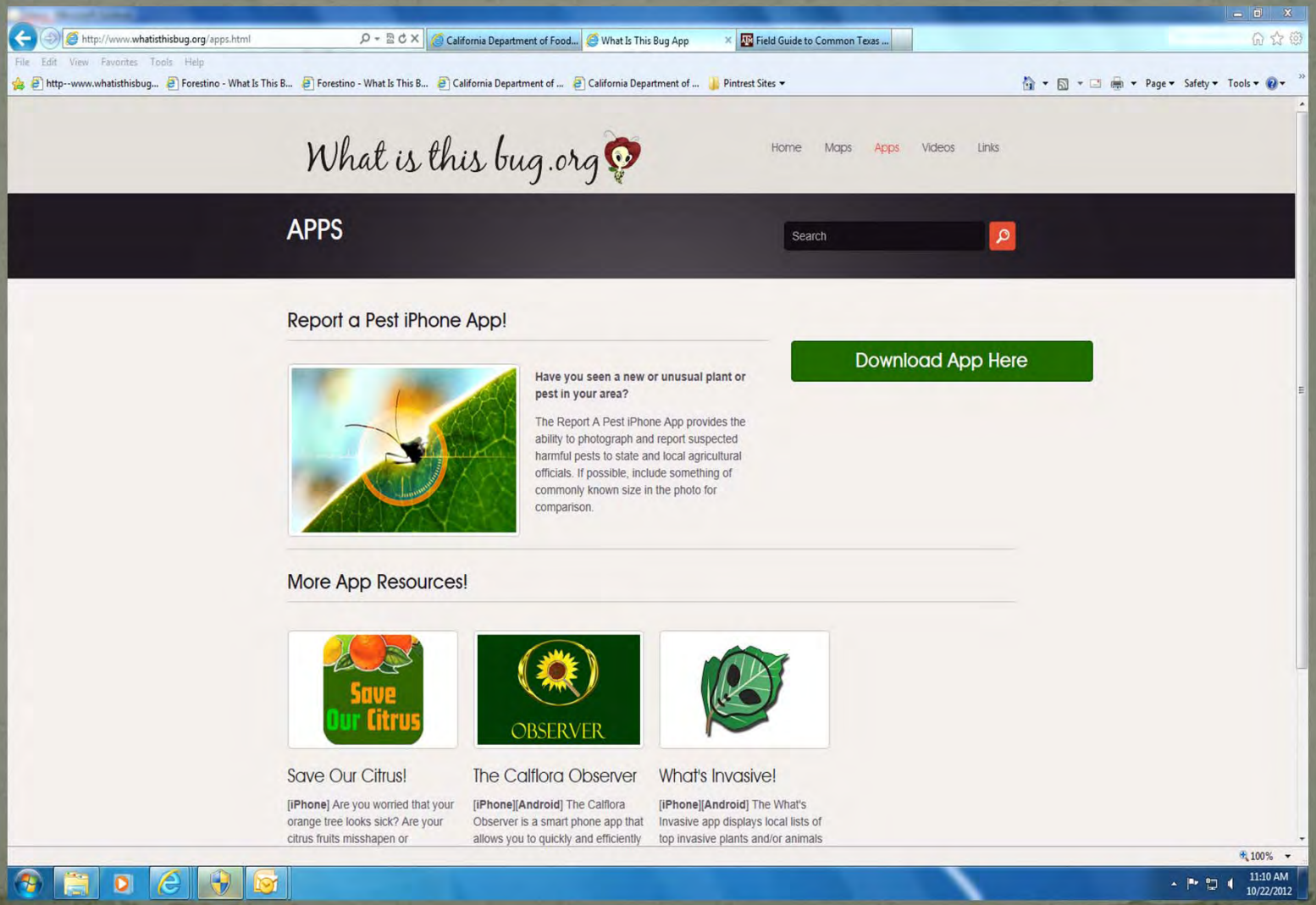
You are sent to an electronic form to fill out and send in.



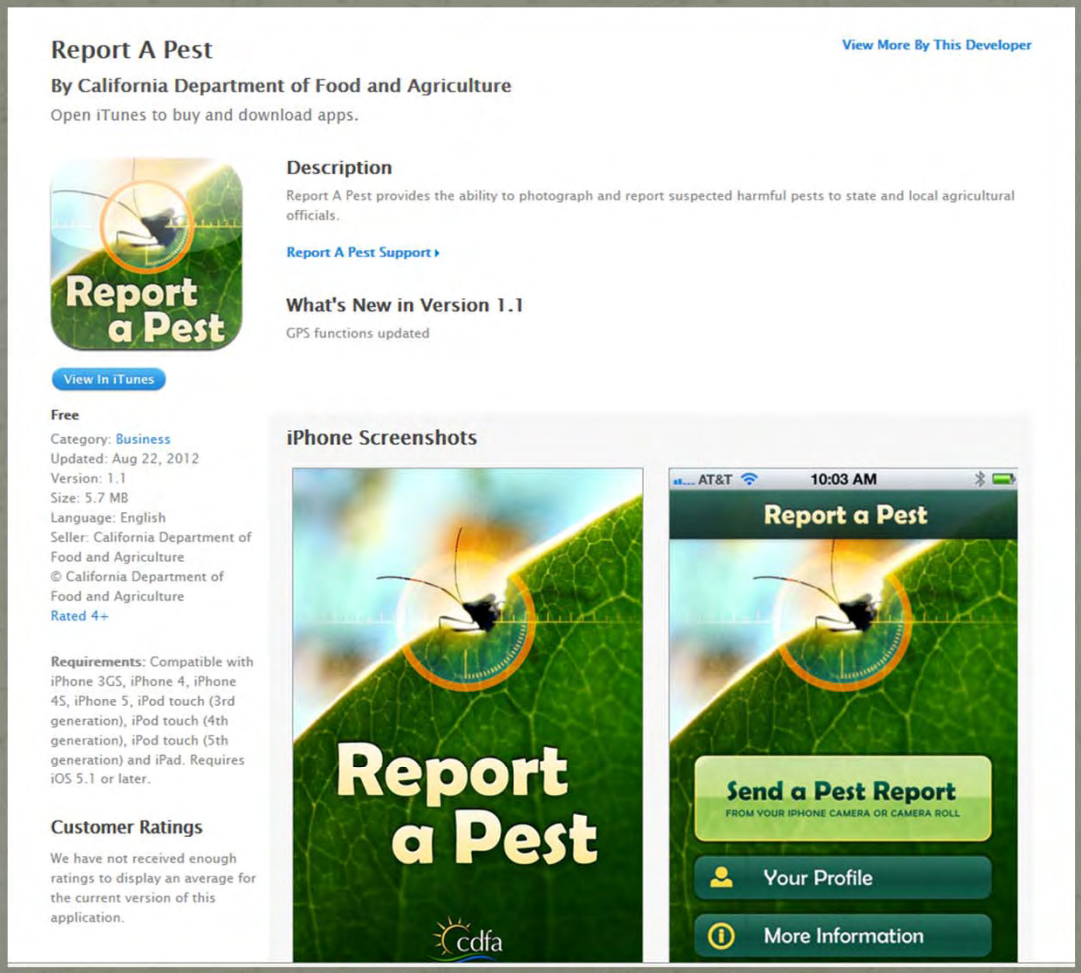
If you use the iPhone app



The screen will look like this:



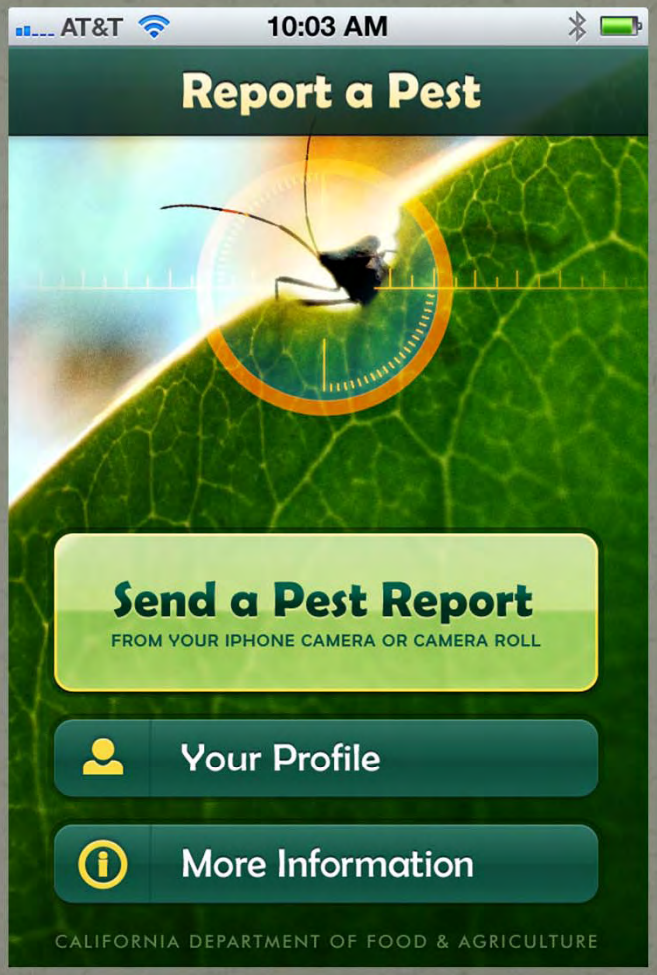
Click on the “Download” button:



What the entire pathway will look like:

iPhone App: Report-A-Pest

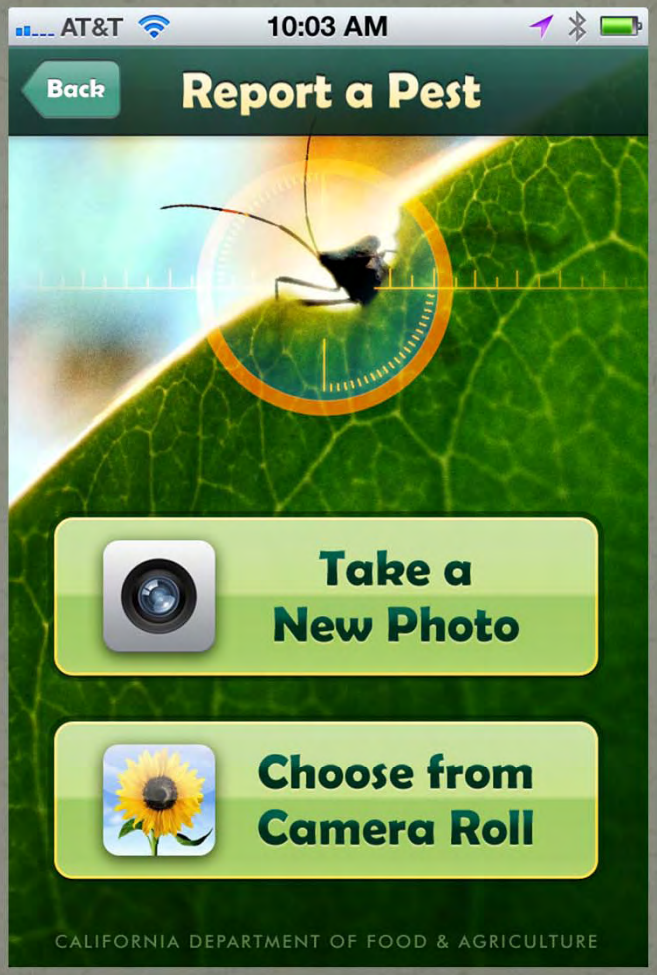
iPhone App: Report-A-Pest main page



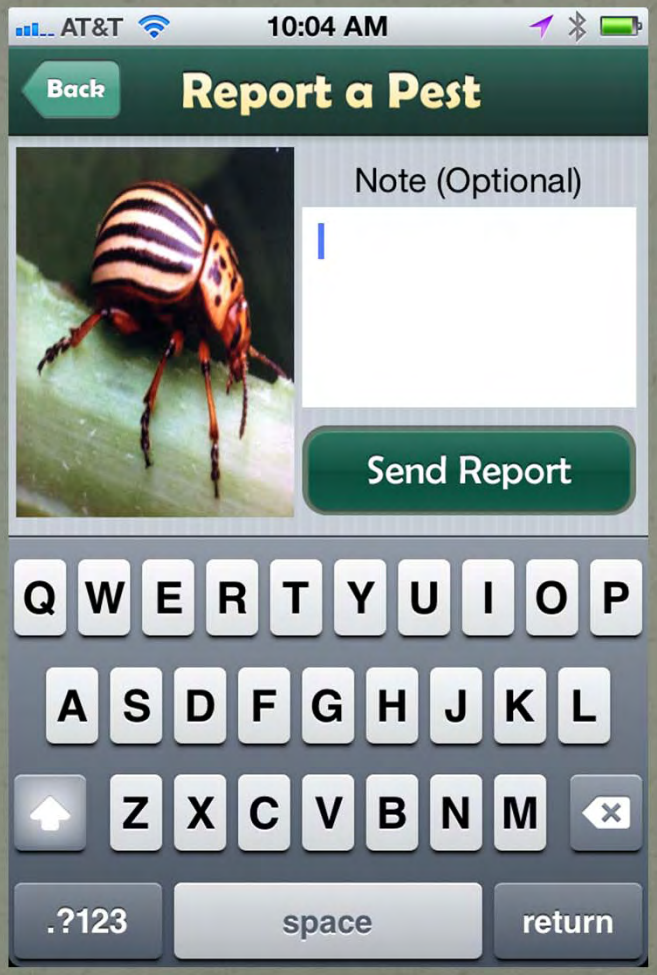
iPhone App: Profile

iPhone App: Information

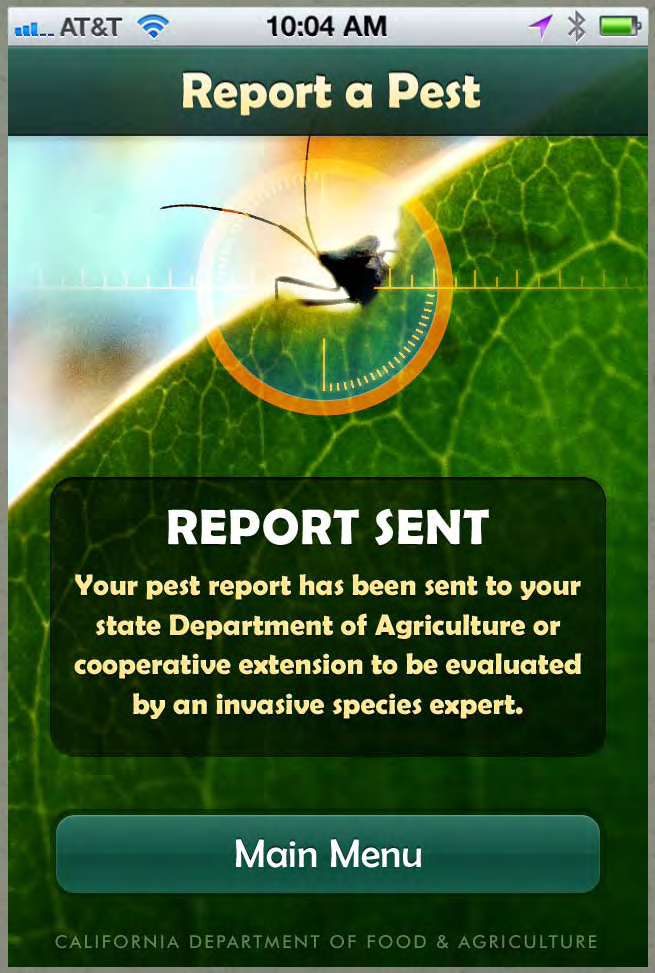
iPhone App: Shoot



iPhone App: Send



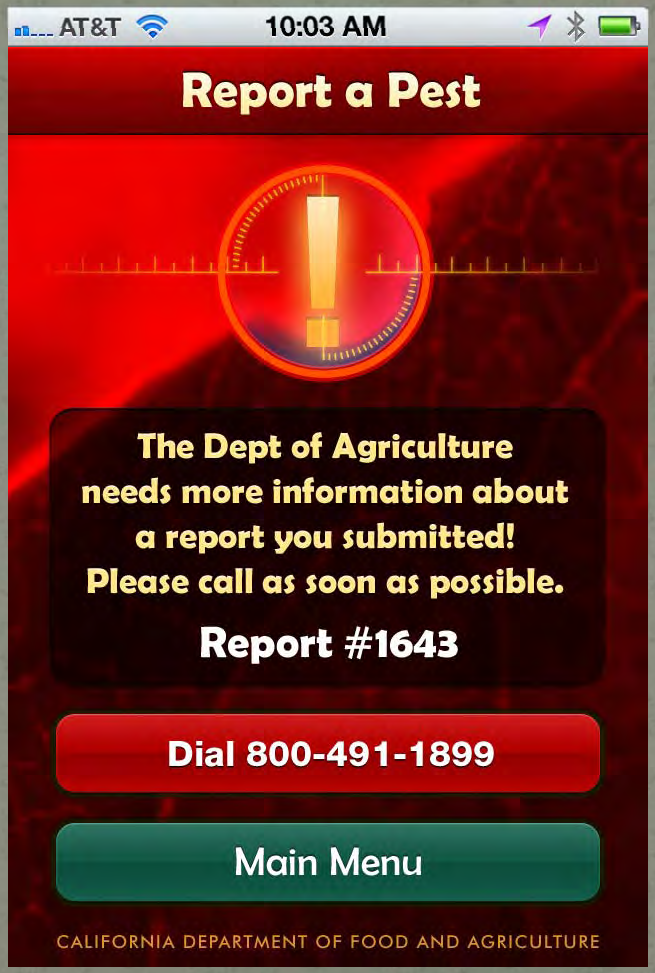
iPhone App: Thank you



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!