

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.

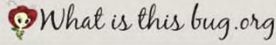
To conclude the story ...

- 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! 

The polyphagous shot hole borer!


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.

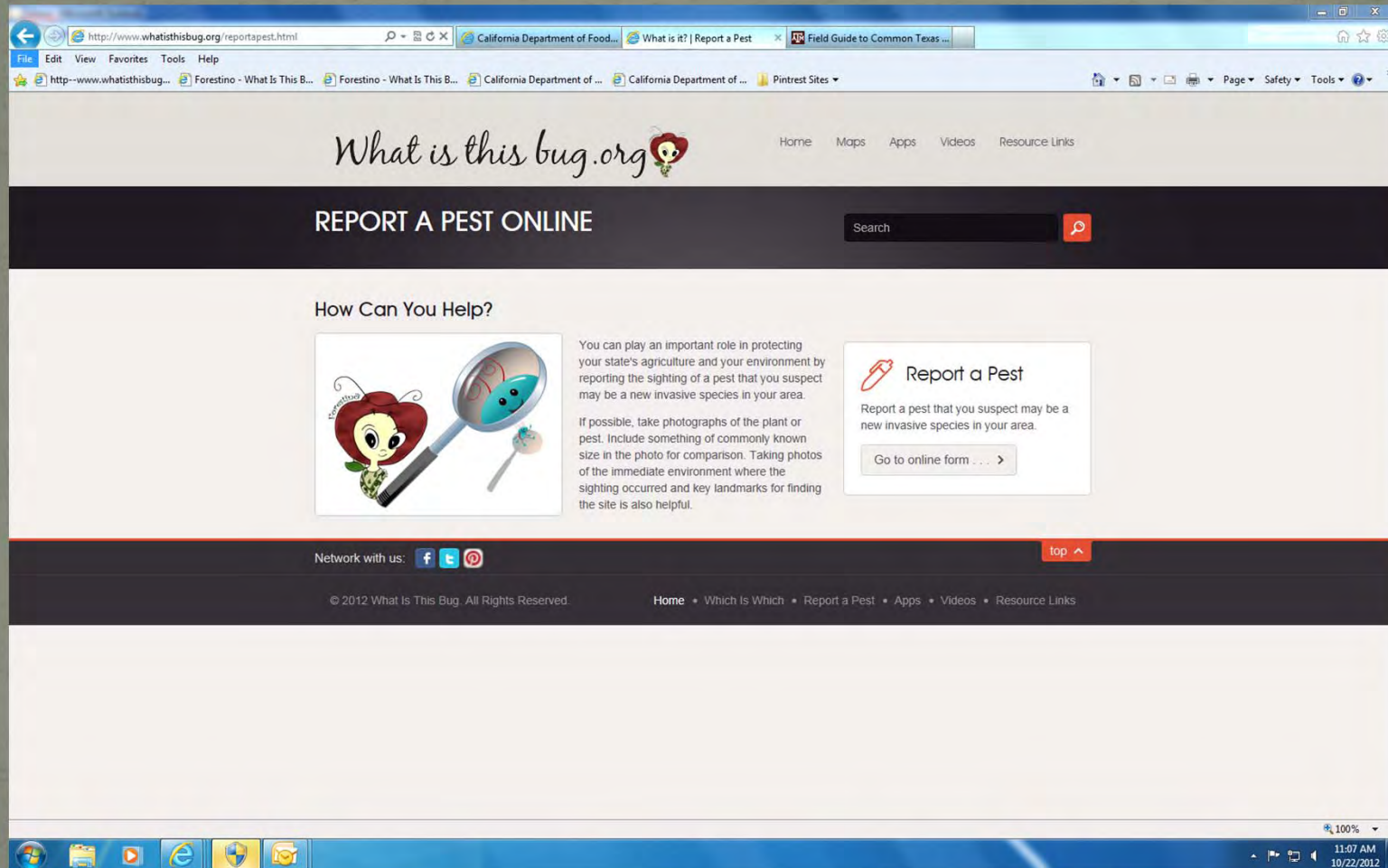
[Download List >](#)

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If you click on “How You Can Help”.



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.cdfa.ca.gov/rap/repReportAPestMain.aspx?isInsertP...>. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. The main content area displays the 'REPORT A PEST SIGHTING FORM'.

REPORT A PEST SIGHTING FORM

REPORT A PEST HOTLINE
phone: (800) 491-1899

[Reset Form](#)

Date: **Date of Sighting:** [Current Date](#)

Please fill in as much information as possible.

If you prefer to contact us by phone, you can print this form and have it in front of you when calling the Hotline at (970)494-7500. This form provides you with the type of questions you may be asked by the Hotline operator.

Description of organism (size, color, shape and other distinguishing characteristics):

Situation where Organism was found:
 - No Selection -

City, county, state where the sighting took place:
City: **County:**
State:

Directions to the location of the sighting:
Address/physical description:
Latitude: **Longitude:**
[Geocode \(get Lat/Long\)](#)

First and Last names of person who sighted the suspect pest:

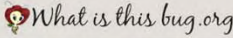
Best phone number to reach this person (include area code): **Fax:**

Preferred Contact Method: **Email Address:**

Mailing Address:

City: **State:** **Zip:**

If you use the iPhone app

[Home](#) [Maps](#) [Apps](#) [Videos](#) [Links](#)

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
[Go to Invasive Species Page >](#)

CA Invasive Species List



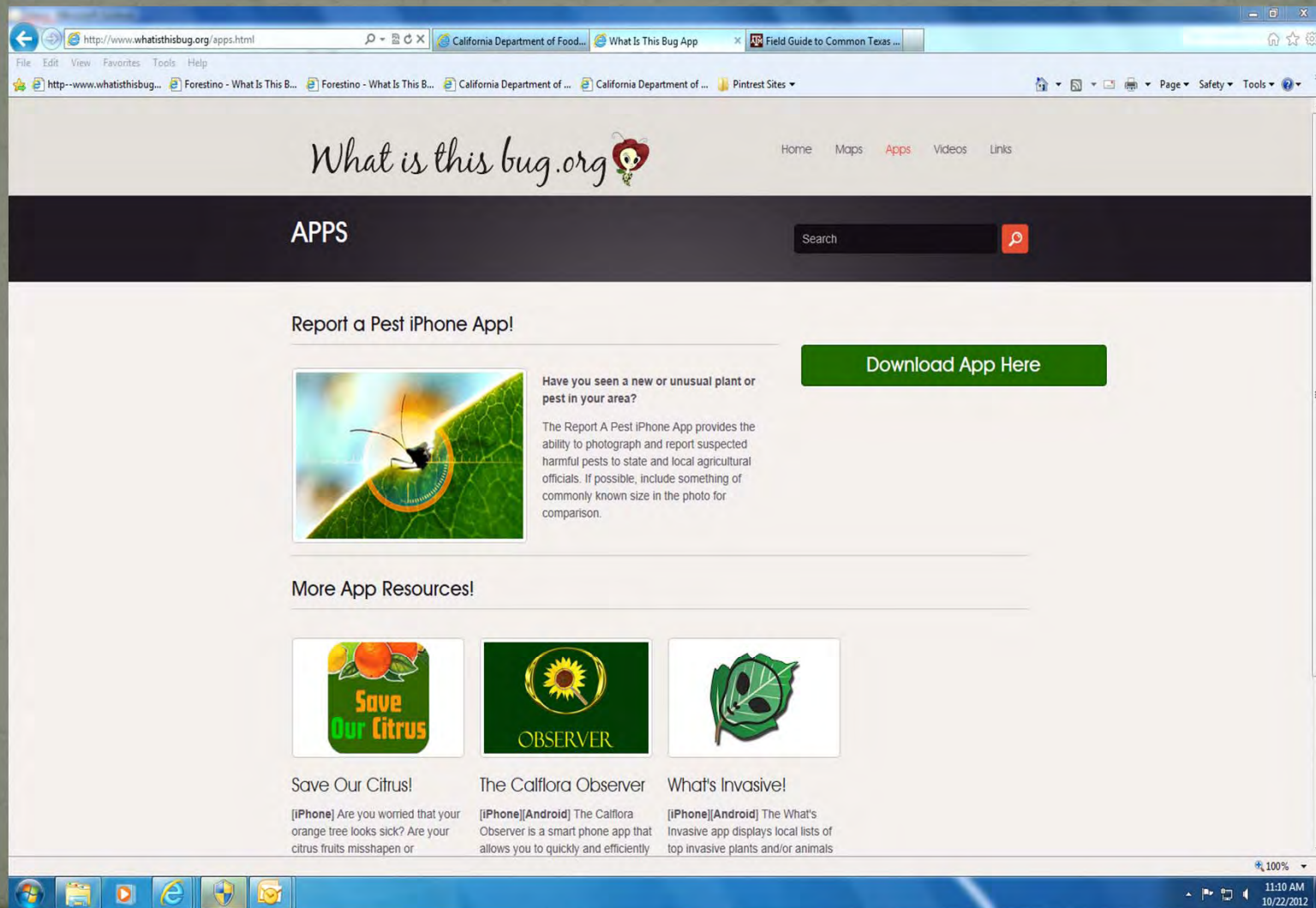
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[Download List >](#)

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The screen will look like this:




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](#)



Report a Pest

[View In iTunes](#)

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

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

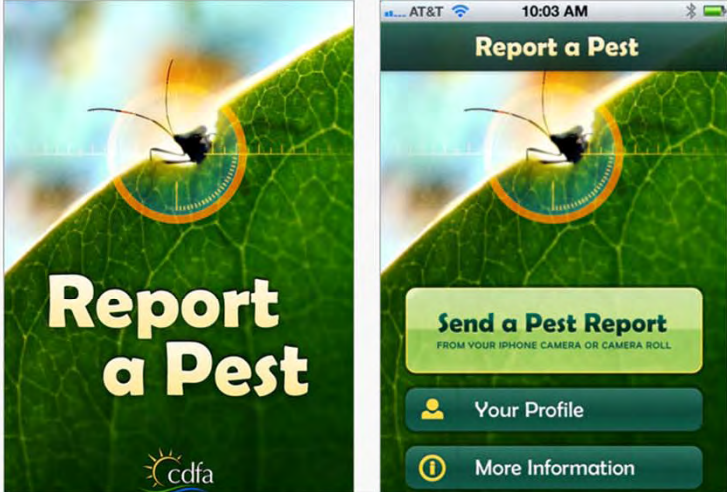
[Rated 4+](#)

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.

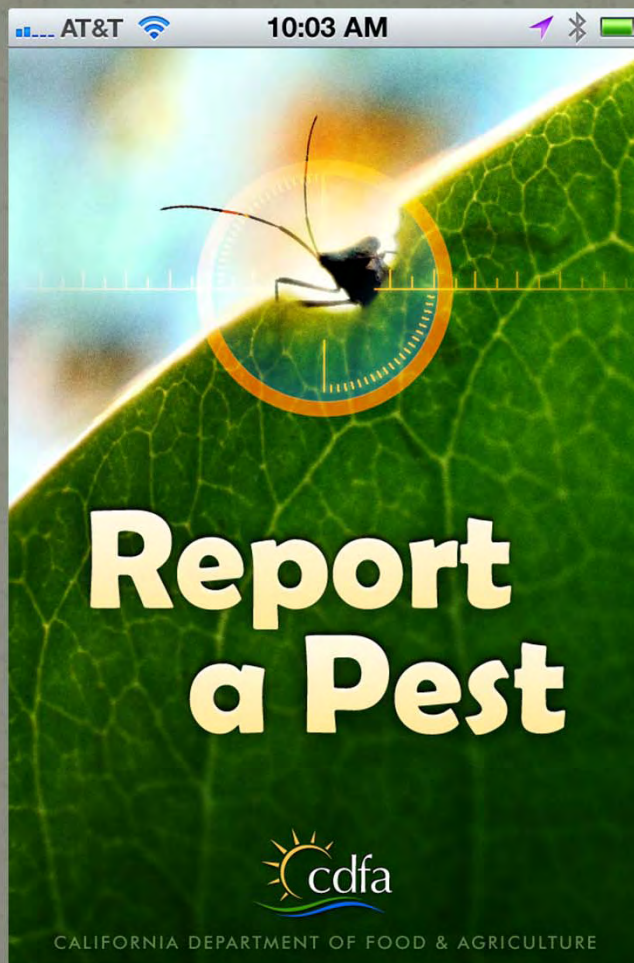
iPhone Screenshots



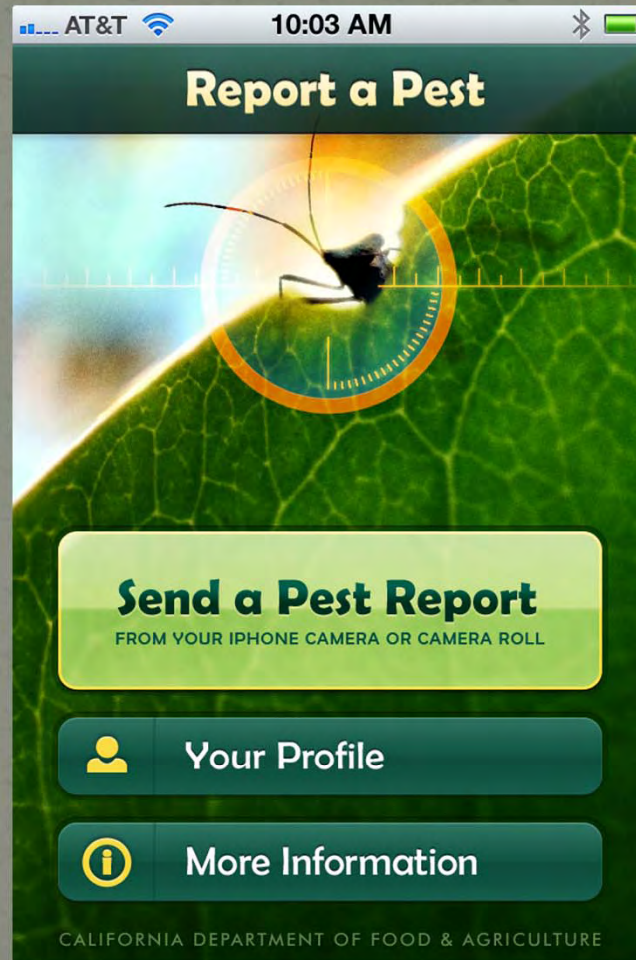
What the entire pathway will look like:



iPhone App: Report-A-Pest



iPhone App: Report-A-Pest main page



iPhone App: Profile

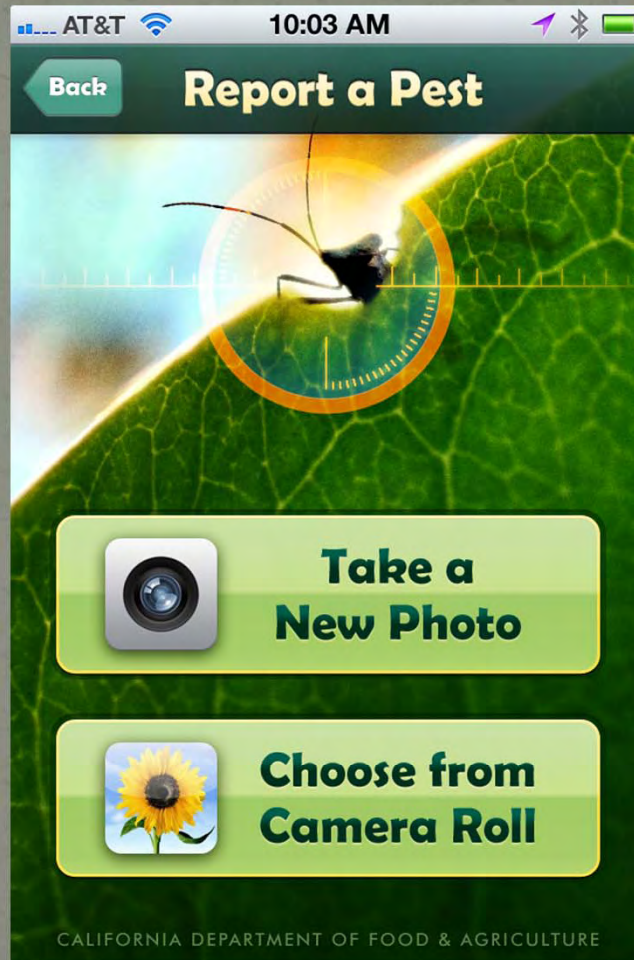
The screenshot shows an iPhone screen with a status bar at the top displaying 'AT&T', signal strength, time '10:03 AM', and battery level. The app's title bar is dark green with the text 'Report a Pest' in yellow and a green 'Done' button. Below the title bar is a light blue form with four input fields labeled 'Name', 'Email', 'Phone', and 'State'. A standard QWERTY keyboard is visible at the bottom of the screen.

Field	Value
Name	
Email	
Phone	
State	

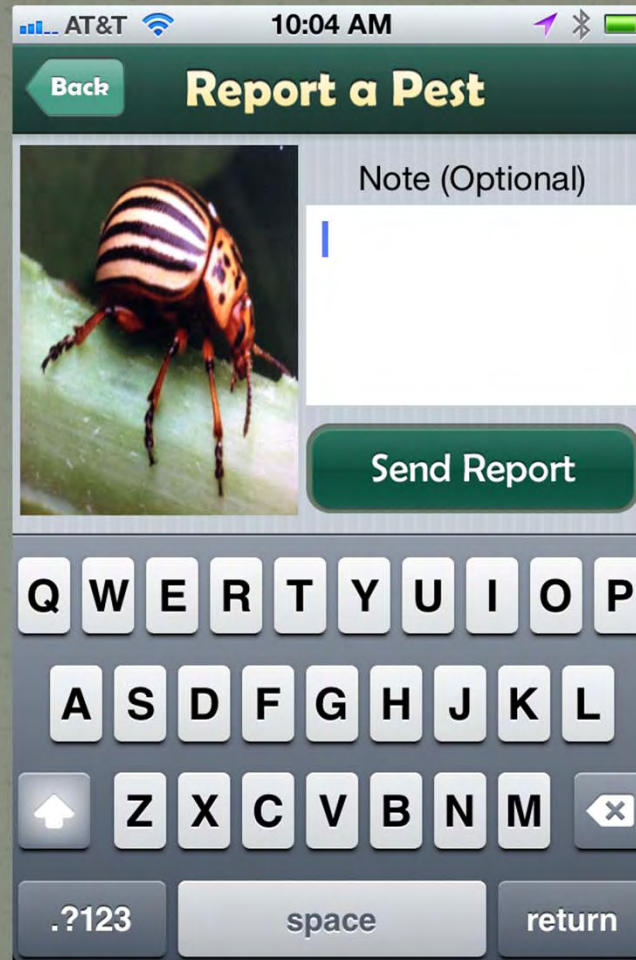
iPhone App: Information



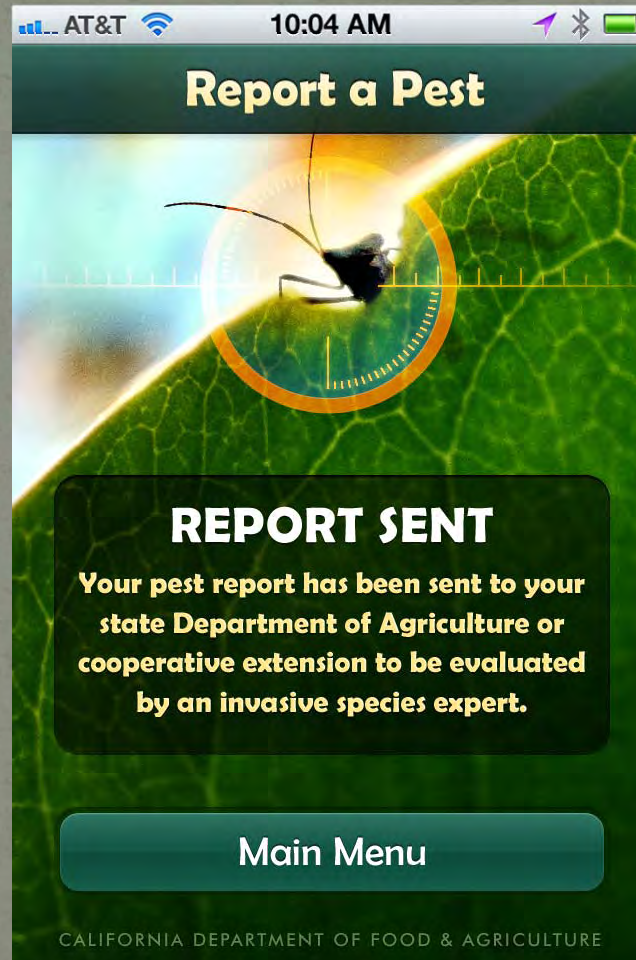
iPhone App: Shoot



iPhone App: Send



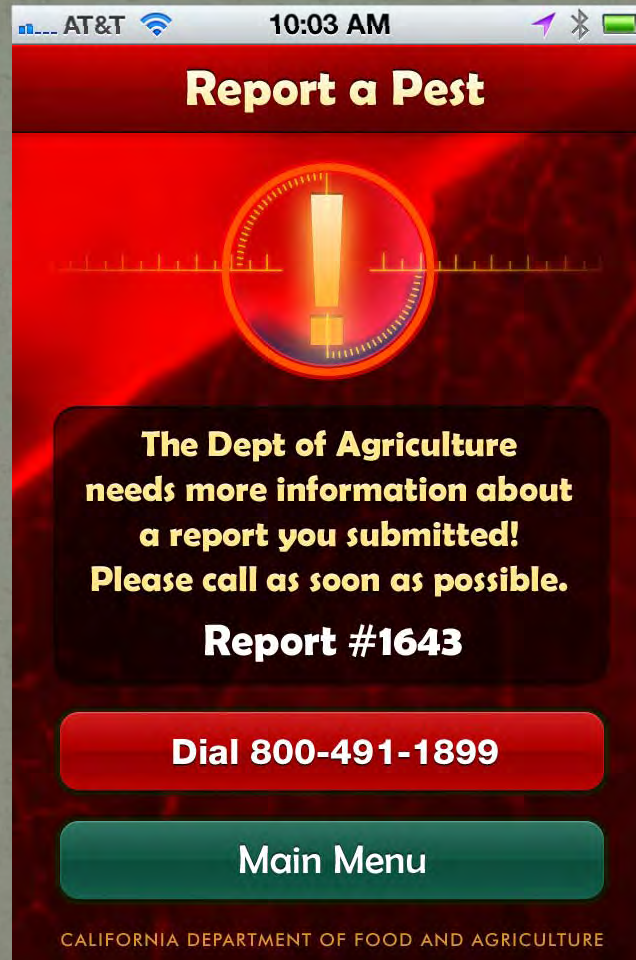
iPhone App: Thank you



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!