What can I do with a major in

Entomology

The University of Georgia Career Center

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This information describes typical occupations and employment settings associated with this major. Understand that some of these options may require additional training. Moreover, you are not limited to these options when choosing a possible career path.

Description of Entomology

Worldwide, insects destroy about one-third of the food and fiber we produce and they transmit some of the most devastating pathogens of plants and animals. On the other hand, insects pollinate many valuable food and forest crops, significantly increase the productivity of soils, and are important components in most food chains. A graduate in entomology should have a strong background in general biology and an understanding of the scientific method. Students learn to identify insects and other arthropods and study the biology and ecology of pests and beneficial insects in order to manage them efficiently. They should acquire a basic knowledge of agricultural production principles and how insects influence crop production. Students should also become knowledgeable about the effects of abiotic and biotic factors on insect development, about population growth, species interactions, physiological requirements, and behavior of insects.

Researching Job Titles and Careers

O*NET http://online.onetcenter.org (click on Find Occupations)
Occupational Outlook Handbook http://www.bls.gov/oco (type in general term for career of interest)
Georgia Career Information Center http://www.gcic.peachnet.edu (accessible only on campus computers)
Career Insider: Vault Guides http://career.uga.edu/resources/online_resources (Under the "Resources" tab and select "Online Resources")
Candid Career http://career.uga.edu/resources/online_resources **(**View professionals speaking about their careers under the "Resources" tab and select "Online Resources")

Possible Job Titles

Agronomist
Biologist
CAD Operator
Entomologist
Entomology Collections Manager
Environmental Specialist
Horticultural Crops Entomologist
Insect Rearing Specialist
Integrated Pest Management Agent
Medical Entomologist
Plant Pathologist
Regulatory Specialist
Research Assistant
Research Associate
Scientific Consultant
Technical Development Representative
Technical Trainer

Possible Employers

BioMerieux
Botanical gardens and arboretums
Centers for Disease Control
Chemical laboratories
Colleges and universities
Conservation agencies
Consulting
Environmental organizations
Experiment stations
Fish hatcheries
Food production
H.L.M Consultants
Hulett Environmental Services
Inspection agencies
Museums
Pharmaceutical and forestry products
Private recreation organizations
Public research
State and federal government:
The University of Georgia
United States Army
USDA
U.S. Navy
Veterinary medicine
Wildlife preserves and parks
Zoos and aquariums

To learn what types of positions and companies UGA students are working with, see the UGA Career Center Post Graduation Survey at www.career.uga.edu/gradsurveyresults/ and search for alumni on Linked In at www.linkedin.com.

Campus Resources

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Clubs and Organizations- http://students.caes.uga.edu/athens/organizations.cfm
Entomology Department- http://www.ent.uga.edu/
The H.O. Lund Entomology Club- http://www.entoclub.uga.edu
Georgia Entomological Society- http://www.ent.uga.edu/ges/
Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS)- http://www.caes.uga.edu/academics/manrrs/
Alpha Gamma Rho (Men pursuing careers in agriculture)- http://www.georgiaagr.com/home
Sigma Alpha (Women pursuing careers in agriculture)- http://www.ugasigmaalpha.com
Pre-Veterinary Medicine Club- http://pre-vet.uga.edu

To find additional clubs and organizations, go to the Center for Student Organizations at- http://stuorgs.uga.edu/find/index.html
Connect with your Career Consultant http://career.uga.edu/contact#careerconsultants

Employment Websites

GENERAL:
CareerSearch http://career.uga.edu/resources/online_resources (Research employers by location and/or industry)
DAWGlink www.career.uga.edu/ (login with your UGA MyID and password)
GoinGlobal (To access GoinGlobal, login to your DAWGlink account)
Idealist www.idealist.org/ (nonprofit jobs)
USAJobs www.usajobs.gov/ (federal jobs)

MAJOR/CAREER SPECIFIC:
AgCareers.com - http://agcareers.com
BlueSkySearch - http://www.blueskysearch.com/
Entomological Society of America Job Board - http://www.entsoc.org/listjobs
U.S. Navy Entomology Positions - https://www.navy.com/careers/healthcare/healthcare-sciences/entomology.html
BASF Entomology Positions - http://jobs.basf.us/key/BASF-entomology-jobs.html

Professional Information Resources

Entomological Society of America - http://www.entsoc.org/
Insects on the Web - http://www.insects.org/
Forensic Entomology - http://www.forensic-entomology.com/
American Beekeeping Association - http://www.abfnet.org/
Association of Applied IPM Ecologists - http://www.aaie.net/
Agriculture Future of America - http://www.agfuture.org/

Tip: Join LinkedIn groups that are related to your career interest. Need help finding groups? Check out the Groups You May Like link under the Interests/Groups tab. Review the groups that professionals in your field of interest have joined and consider joining them as well.

Additional Career Consultant Recommendations:

Careers in Entomology
There are a variety of industries that entomology graduates can work in:
Private Industry

- Seed Industry: Evaluate new lines of corn, soybeans, and other crops for susceptibility to major insect pests (both field and laboratory research). Insect rearing expertise is often needed to supply the insect pests for research.
  Employers: Pioneer HiBred, Syngenta, Mycogen Seeds, and others
- Agrochemical Industry: Evaluate new crop protection chemicals against insect pests, as well as insects that are important pests of human health, veterinary health, forestry, household, turf grass, and other horticultural plants. Expertise in rearing insects is often needed for product testing.
  Employers: Large multi-national corporations like Dow AgroSciences, Du Pont, Bayer Crop Protection, BASF, as well as smaller companies who specialize in insect repellents and specialty markets like S.C. Johnson and EcoSmart.
- Food Industry: Insect pests of stored products are a major problem in the food and feed industries. Conduct pest management programs that include monitoring insect pests in their crops, both pre-harvest and post-harvest.
  Employers: Green Giant, Quaker Oats, Del Monte, and others
- Crop Consultants: Independent source of pest management services for corporate producers, cooperatives, and individual producers to help growers minimize losses to insects, weeds, or diseases.
  Employers: Heart of Iowa Co-op, Advanced Crop Management, and others
- Urban Pest Control: Control of insect problems is crucial to many types of institutions, including hospitals, schools, universities, hotels, nursing homes, and other governmental and private organizations. Urban pest control is commonly carried out by private pest control operators.

Federal and State

- Military: The Military employs and trains entomologists to protect troops from attack by insect pests, especially ones transmitting infectious diseases. Military facilities, vehicles, foods, and uniforms also need protection from insect pests.
  Employers: Army, Navy, and Air Force
- Federal Research Laboratories: Government research utilizes B.S. and M.S. technicians to help carry out important agricultural, environmental, and health research projects. At the federal level, research labs are present around the U.S. conducting a variety of entomology-based studies.
  Employers: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institutes of Health, and U.S. Geological Survey

- State Departments of Agriculture: State agencies that have responsibility for oversight of agriculture and land stewardship employ entomologists to monitor for newly introduced species as well as train and educate pesticide applicators.
- State Departments of Natural Resources: Departments of Natural Resources are often concerned with invasive species including insects and other invertebrates. They also focus on protection of natural resources such as forests, lakes, and rivers, as well as the plants and wildlife that live there.
- State, County, and City Departments of Health: Public health pests are of concern to governmental agencies that are responsible for protecting people and companion animals. Entomologists in these positions are often charged with making decisions about whether to spray, when to spray, and which chemical to spray as they evaluate potential public health threats.
- Extension Services: Extension Services in many states provide information and services to their stakeholders. Some provide identification of insects, especially those impacting their environment or livelihood, pest management recommendations, and pesticide applicator training.
- Federal and State Regulatory Agencies: Entomologists are involved in registration and/or enforcement of regulations, many of which involve insect pests or pesticides. Training and research towards pest management is also conducted domestic and internationally. Quarantine and inspection services also employ entomologists. At the state level, entomologists inspect shipments of nursery stock, produce, livestock, pets, etc. that enter the state.
  Employers: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (A.P.H.I.S.)
- Academic Institutions: Education and training of students in entomology and related biological and agricultural sciences requires personnel trained in these fields. Universities, colleges, community colleges, as well as primary and secondary educational institutions benefit from teachers who are well versed in entomological sciences.

Non-Governmental Organizations

- Zoos, Botanical Gardens, Butterfly Houses: The recent popularity and proliferation of insect exhibits has created a demand for entomologists at every level trained in insect husbandry, as well as interpretation/presentation and appreciation of insects.

Taken from Iowa State University: http://www.ent.iastate.edu/careers