Entomology
“Let’s Talk About Bugs”
District & State 4-H O-Rama – Junior & Senior 4-H’ers
Pest Management

This entomology activity is held so that 4-H members can become better acquainted with the insect world in which they live. Collecting and researching one insect can help them become more aware of the complex role insects play in our environment.

OBJECTIVES

Targeted Life Skills: Critical thinking, self-motivation

Opportunities will be provided for faculty to share information about related college degree programs and career options in pest management.

*To develop their observation skills in their quest for an insect
*To develop and improve communication skills
*To develop research skills
*To realize that a career in entomology can be rewarding

ELIGIBILITY

District 4-H O-Rama: Junior and Senior members from each county may participate.
Arkansas 4-H O-Rama: First- through fifth-place Senior winners from each District O-Rama.

ACTIVITY

Entomology activity “Let’s Talk About Bugs” at District and State 4-H O-Ramas consists of an illustrated talk and the collection of one insect pinned to specifications found in publication MP83 “Making an Insect Collection”, or the subject specimen can be displayed in a properly labeled vial of alcohol. The illustrated talk must show that the participant has identified the insect and understands how it lives and works in the environment.

Presentation Requirements:

Junior members presentation requirements:
- two- to five-minute presentations

Senior members presentation requirements:
- five- to eight-minute presentations

Possible insects collected and resulting presentations:
Monarch butterfly – How the monarch migrates
Black cutworm – Why the black cutworm is a pest in corn and soybeans
Boll Weevil – How to identify the boll weevil in your cotton
Green Lacewing – Beneficial insects in your garden
Dragonfly – Owners of the sky
Green Stinkbug – How I identified my bug
With over 200,000 species of beetles ALONE, the topics can be limitless.

JUDGING

This activity will be judged on the standard “Score Sheet for Method Demonstrations and Illustrated Talks” – CES-663.

AWARDS

First-place winners at District and State receive trophies. Second through fifth place receive ribbons.

RESOURCES

For Sale 4-H Publications – Entomology 1, 2, 3 and Helper’s Guide:
BU6853 – Entomology 1: Creepy Crawlies Project Activity Guide
BU6855 – Entomology 3: Dragons, Houses and Other Flies Project Activity Guide
BU6856 – Entomology Group Helper’s Guide

PREPARED BY

Dr. John D. Hopkins, Associate Professor and Extension Entomologist, LRSO
Dr. Kelly M. Loftin, Associate Professor and Extension Entomologist, Fayetteville, AR

Note: Work done in the district and state entomology activity should be reported in 4-H record books under Entomology activity. If no entomology project is being taken, report entomology activity work under other related projects such as agriculture, beef cattle, field crops, home management, safety, etc., where insect control is a part of carrying out these projects.

The Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability, marital or veteran status, or any other legally protected status, and is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.