

Wednesday, January 27, 2021
7:30 am - 8:30 am

Threats from Invasive Insects, Real and Imagined



Presentation By:
Dr. Doug Yanega

UCR Department of Entomology
Senior Museum Scientist - Entomology Research Museum

First there were Killer Bees. Now, we are hearing about the threat from Murder Hornets in recent months. Scary looking insects with the scary name that have been found in Washington. These invasive insects can fatally attack humans when provoked, but their real danger is to bees. Just a dozen murder hornets can wipe out an entire hive of

bees in just a few hours, biting off the heads of the bees and leaving their bodies in a pile.

But while murder hornets seem to benefit from an imposing name and a great publicist, does their threat equal the hype? Or are there other giant insects already posing a greater threat to people and agriculture in California and the rest of the United States? Join the CUC on January 27th as Dr. Doug Yanega contrasts genuine invasive insect threats with media hype.

The UCR campus houses the second oldest insect collection in the UC system, dating back to 1923. In 1994, a new building for UCR's large collection of insects and was dedicated and given an official name – the Entomology Research Museum. Its holdings, roughly four million specimens, places it among the 20 largest insect collections in North America.

Douglas Yanega is the Senior Museum Scientist of the Entomology Research Museum, His research interests include the evolutionary biology and behavioral ecology of Hymenoptera, particularly bees.

Doug received his Bachelor's Degree from Cornell University, and PhD in Entomology from the University of Kansas. He later worked as a post-doctoral researcher at the Illinois Natural History Survey, and then took a position as a Visiting Researcher at the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais in Brazil, before joining UC Riverside in 1999.



This CUC “Virtual Meeting” Will Be Free of Charge!

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