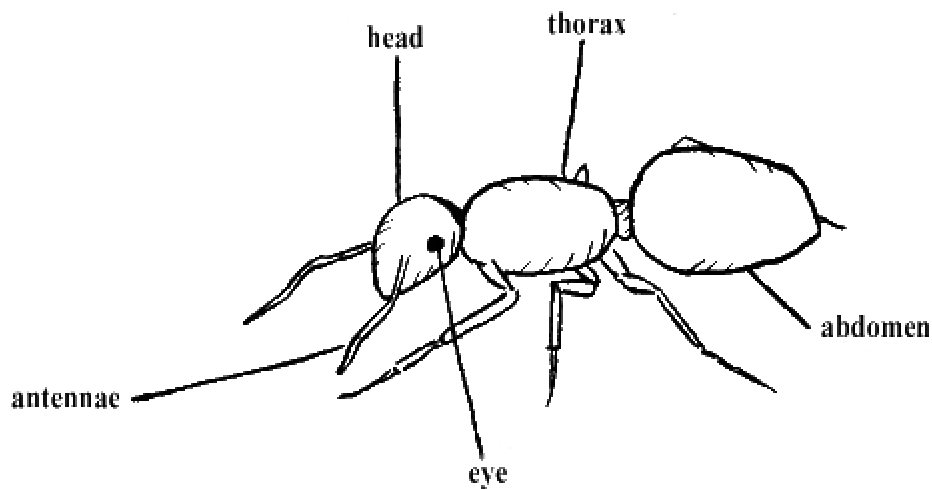


Garden Pests and Problems: Insects

Insects are an important part of nature. They live just about everywhere you can think of, especially on plants and food crops. We often think of insects as being pests, but many of them are actually very important to us. Insects help pollinate many fruits. Without these insects to pollinate plants we would not have many of the fruits and vegetables we enjoy eating. Some insects even help gardeners by eating other insects that can hurt plants.

What is an insect?

An insect is an animal that has three main body parts. These body parts are called the head, thorax, and abdomen.



The head contains the eyes, mouth, and antennae of the insect. The thorax is the middle part of the insect and contains the legs (**always 6 legs**) and the wings. The abdomen is the insect's stomach.

Research

Can you find out what insects use their antenna for? Try looking up 2 or 3 different insects and compare how they use their antenna and how they are shaped.