

CMG GardenNotes #105

Homework ANSWERS: IPM & Diagnostics

ANSWERS to GN# 105 Homework: IPM & Diagnostics. Covering GN# 100, 101, 102, 112, and 113.

- 1. Why is Integrated Pest Management (IPM) the best approach to managing pest problems? **IPM is the best approach because:**
 - It is situational, tailoring a solution to the site and needs of the grower.
 - It uses a variety of control measures, beginning with the least environmentally impactful.
 - And it operates on a "sliding scale" and uses treatment thresholds to ensure results with no more than the minimum required investment.
- 2. Why is it important to discuss tree care issues as they relate to growth phases?

 Tree needs and responses to pest-pressure (and care, like pruning, watering, and fertilizing) change throughout their life. Knowing the growth phase of a tree (establishment, growth, maturity, decline) informs what sort of care is warranted, unnecessary, or potentially even harmful to the overall health of the plant.
- 3. What is the first step in the diagnostic process? **Identify the plant.**
- 4. Why is it important to know what is "normal" for a given plant?
 To make sure that symptoms and signs are correctly identified, and treatments are not improperly prescribed.