

Name _____

Date Due: _____

UNIT 2 Topic 6: Pests and Pest Control

What is a Pest?

1. From the point of view of a farmer, what is a pest?
2. What other organisms, besides insects, could be considered pests?

The Pest Problem:

3. In natural systems, what helps keep the number of organisms in check?
4. What pests cause the most damage?
5. Why are weeds considered "theives"?
6. What damage is caused by insects?
7. How do fungi and/or bacteria damage crops?
8. What percentage of Canada's harvest is consumed by insects and diseases? _____

Introduced Species:

9. Why are introduced (or exotic) pests some of the most serious pests?
10. Why were dandelions brought to North America from Europe?
11. Why did dandelions become a big problem in North America?
12. How did the European boring bark beetle cause severe damage to elm trees in North America?

13. What has happened to the leaves in the branches in Figure 2:67, p.167?

Controlling Pests:

14. Long ago, how were large pests controlled? small pests?

15. Why is crop rotation an effective means of controlling pests?

16. What type of pests do the following types of chemicals control?

herbicides _____

insecticides _____

fungicides _____

17. Up to the 1930's, what was an common and effective form of weed control?

Organic Food Production:

18. What is organic food?

19. How do organic food growers add nutrients to the soil?

20. How do organic food growers fight weeds and other pests?

21. What are four other practices that both organic and non-organic producers use to reduce the need for chemicals?