Red palm weevils threaten ornamental, date, and native palms in California. This invasive pest is native to Southeast Asia and has killed palm trees in Laguna Beach, Orange Co., California.

Do You Know These Invasive Species Facts?
Invasive arthropod species are establishing in California at a rate of nine new species per year, or one every 40 days.

- Invasive pests cost California more than $3 billion per year to manage.
- Invasive pests threaten and degrade our urban, agricultural, and wilderness areas.
- Every Californian is affected in some way by invasive insect pests either because of increased food costs or the need for control in and around our homes and gardens.

Gold spotted oak borer, native to Arizona, has killed 80,000 native oak trees in San Diego Co., California.

About the Scholarship
Biological control is the use of natural enemies, predators, parasites, and pathogens, to control damaging invasive pests.

Prof. Harry pioneered the science of biological control at UC Riverside.

The Department of Entomology is a world leader in biological control that trains graduate students in this scientific discipline.

This scholarship enables students to attend professional meetings and training workshops; it also helps cover M.S. and Ph.D. research-related costs.

Your support of this scholarship can help us recruit and train top new talent in biological control.

Please Donate Today!

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Harry Scott Smith Scholarship Fund
To Support Entomology Students Studying Biological Control at UC Riverside
Biological control is an environmentally friendly and sustainable alternative to pesticides for controlling invasive pests.

In California, biological control has successfully controlled pests infesting agricultural crops like citrus, grapes, and avocados; backyard plants like eucalyptus, ash, and hibiscus have been protected from beetles and bugs; weeds infesting wilderness areas have been controlled with specialized herbivorous natural enemies.

Prof. Harry coined the phrase “Biological Control” in 1919 at an Entomology Meeting at the Mission Inn in Downtown Riverside.

Because invasive pests originate from overseas they often escape control of their natural enemies when they establish in California. This lack of control enables their populations to grow and spread rapidly.

Foreign Exploration

To successfully develop a biological control program for California, scientists need to visit the home country of the pest to collect the natural enemies that keep it under control.

These natural enemies are returned to a state of the art Insectary and Quarantine Facility at UC Riverside where they are tested for safety.