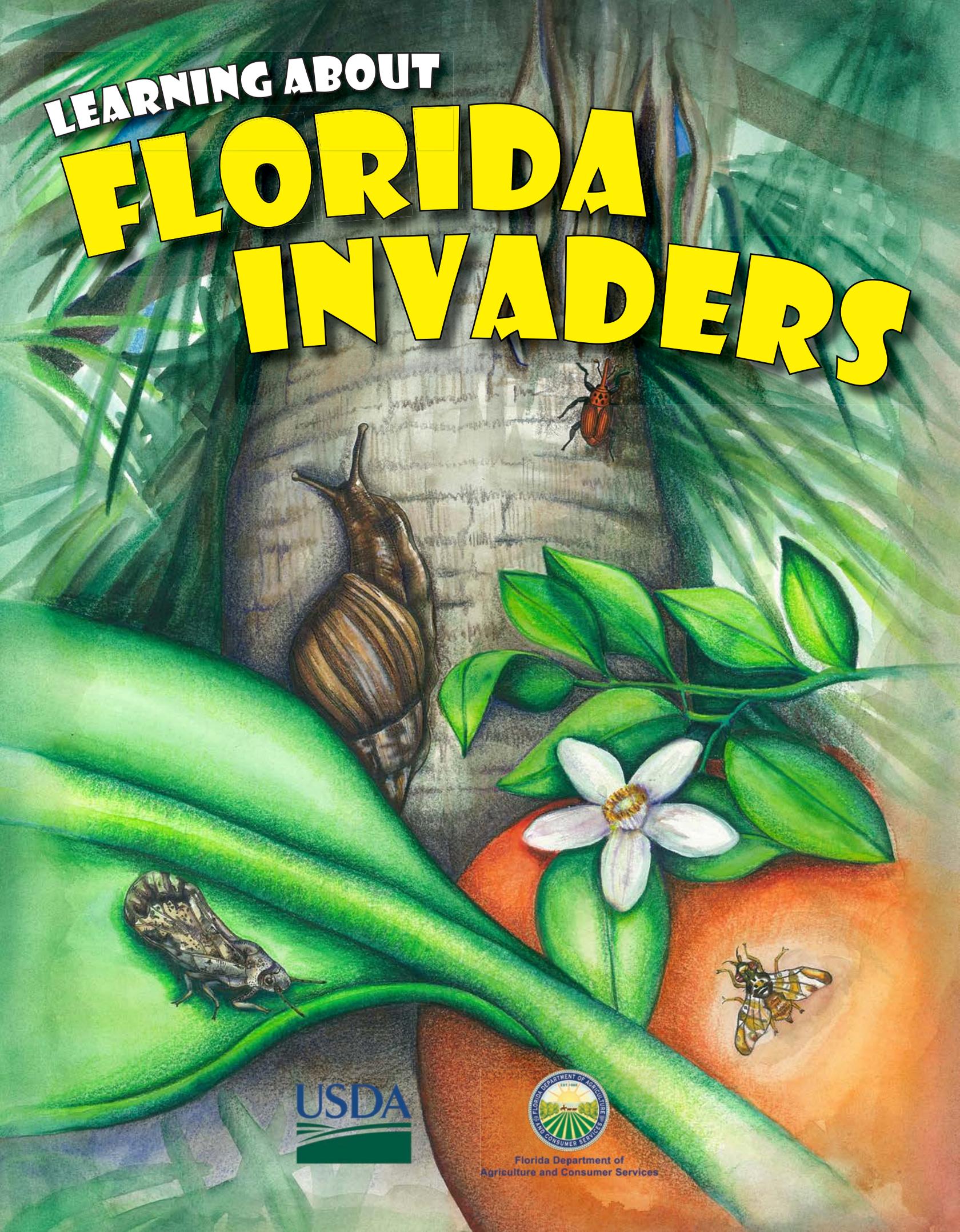


LEARNING ABOUT

# FLORIDA INVADERS



Florida Department of  
Agriculture and Consumer Services

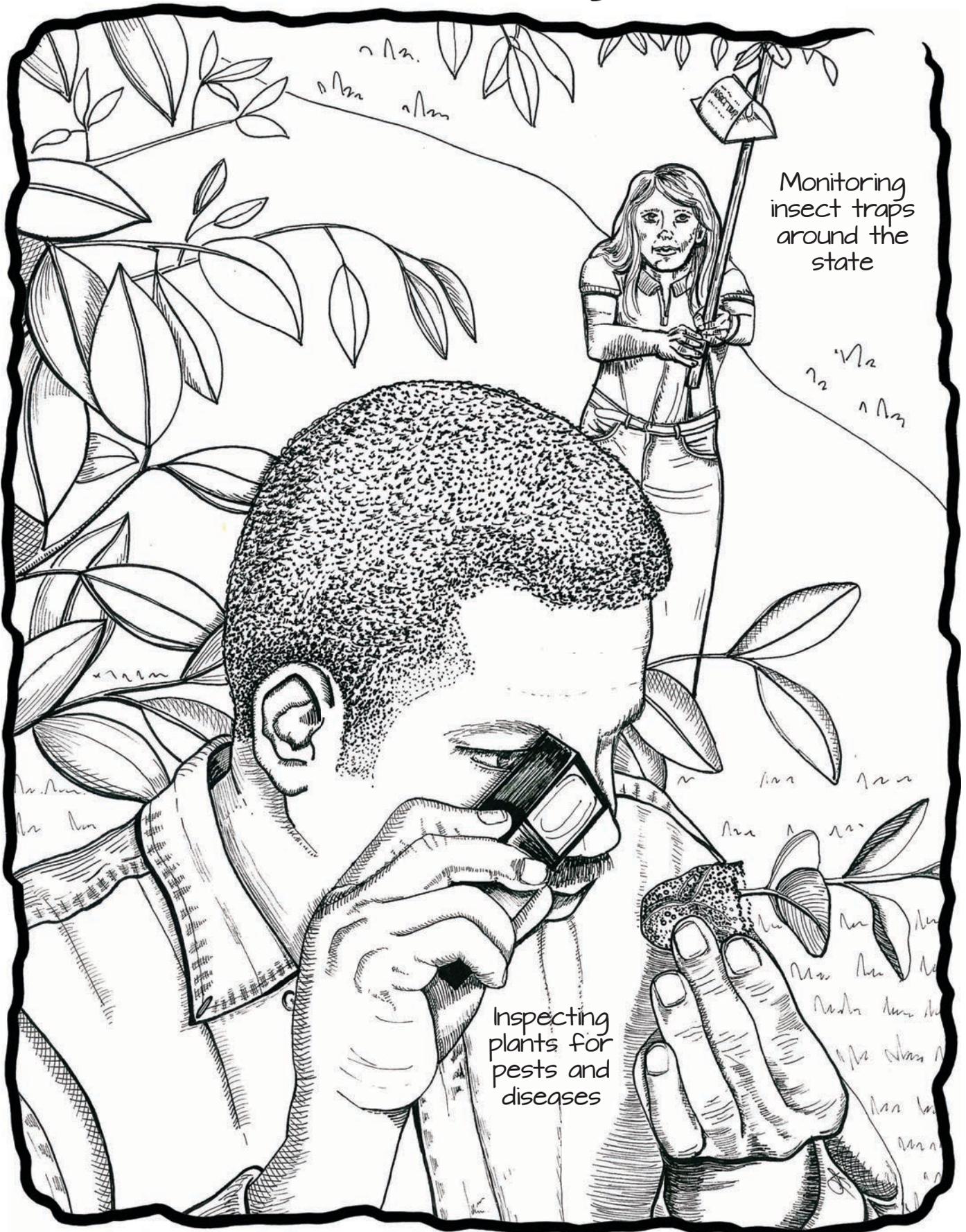
Florida Department of Agriculture  
and Consumer Services  
Division of Plant Industry

Mission

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To protect Florida's native and commercially grown plants and the state's beekeeping industry from harmful pests and diseases.

# Activities the Department conducts to Protect Florida Agriculture



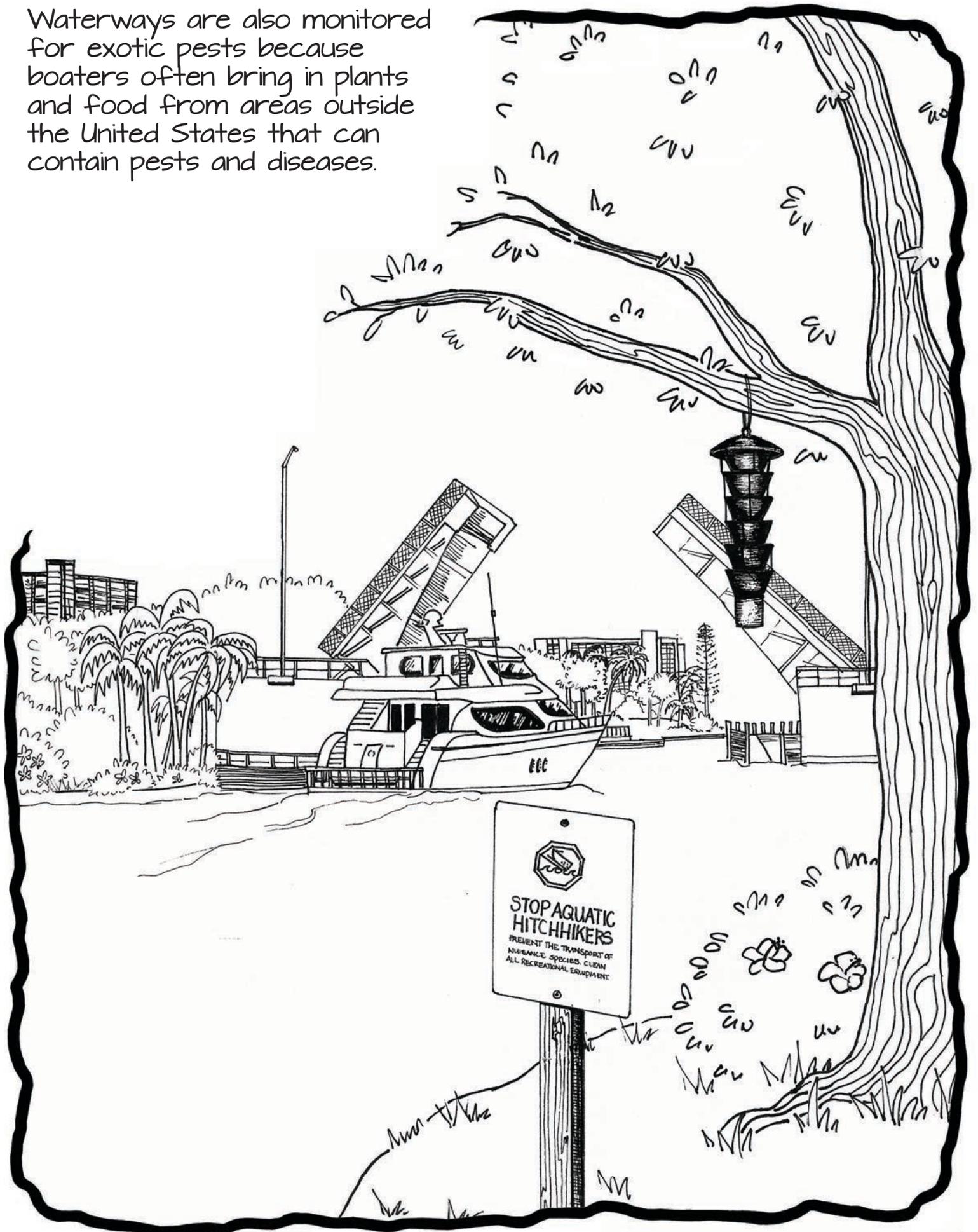
Monitoring  
insect traps  
around the  
state

Inspecting  
plants for  
pests and  
diseases

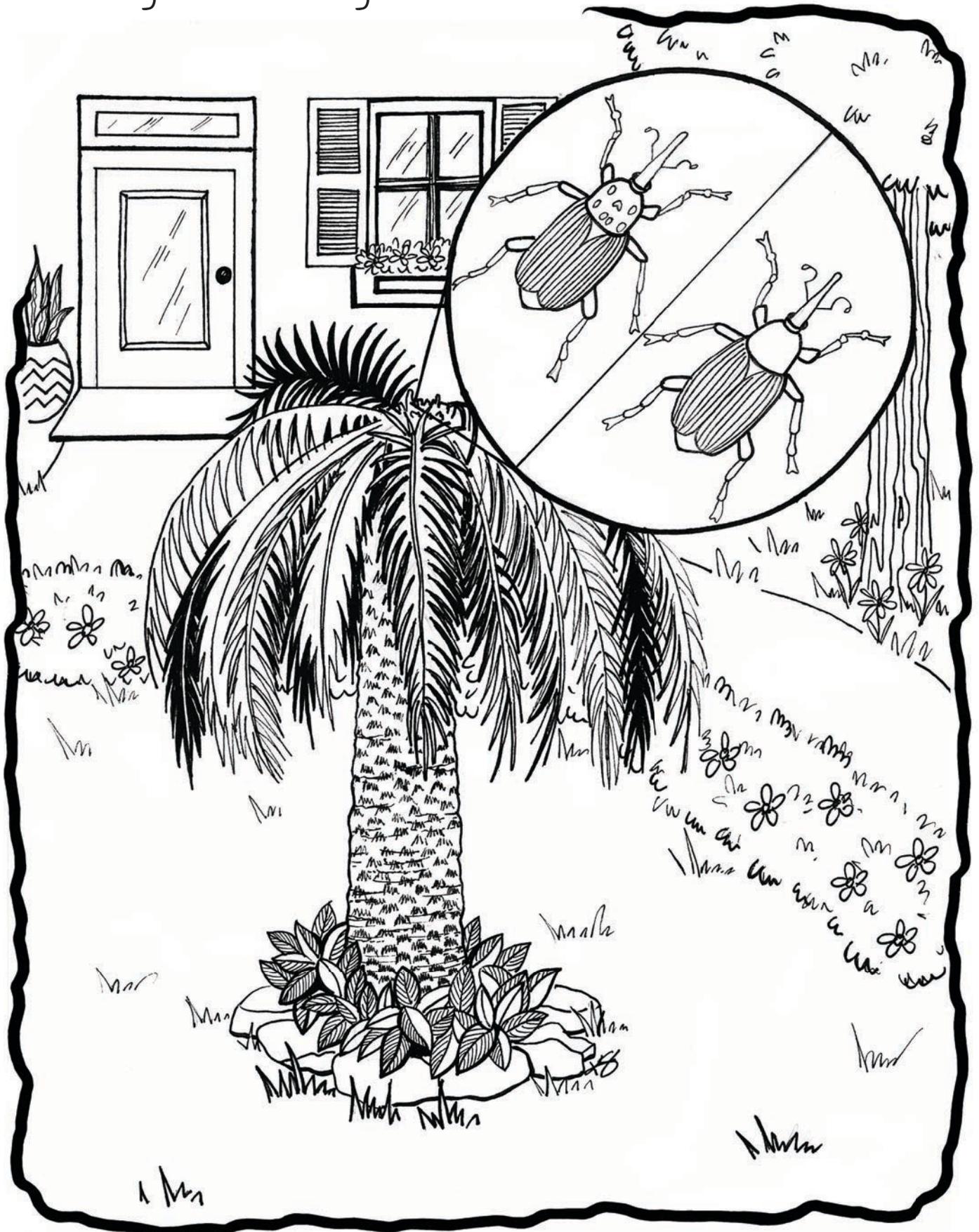
The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services works to prevent non-native organisms from entering the state. Inspectors check food and plants from other states and other countries to make sure they are free of pests and diseases before entering Florida.



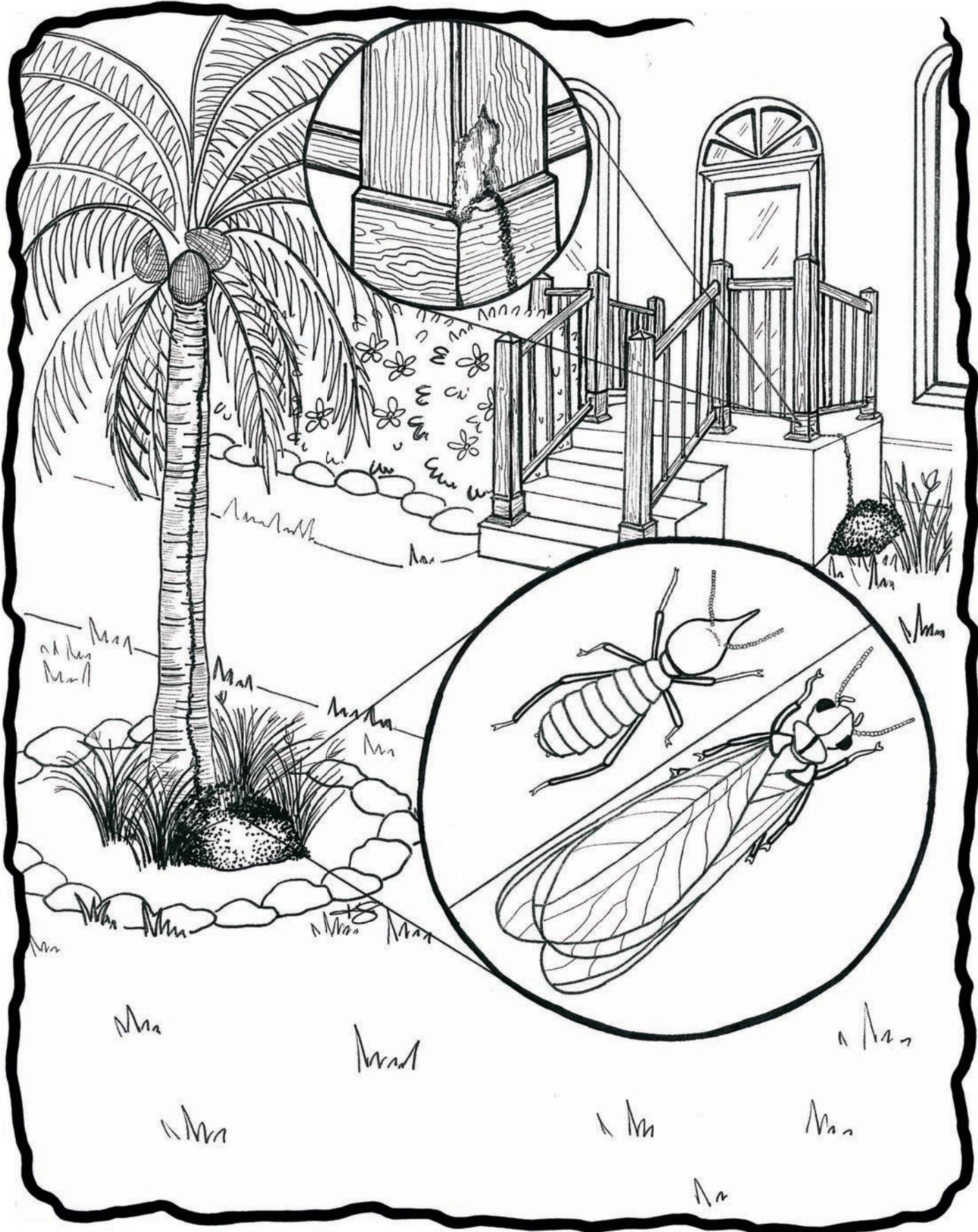
Waterways are also monitored for exotic pests because boaters often bring in plants and food from areas outside the United States that can contain pests and diseases.



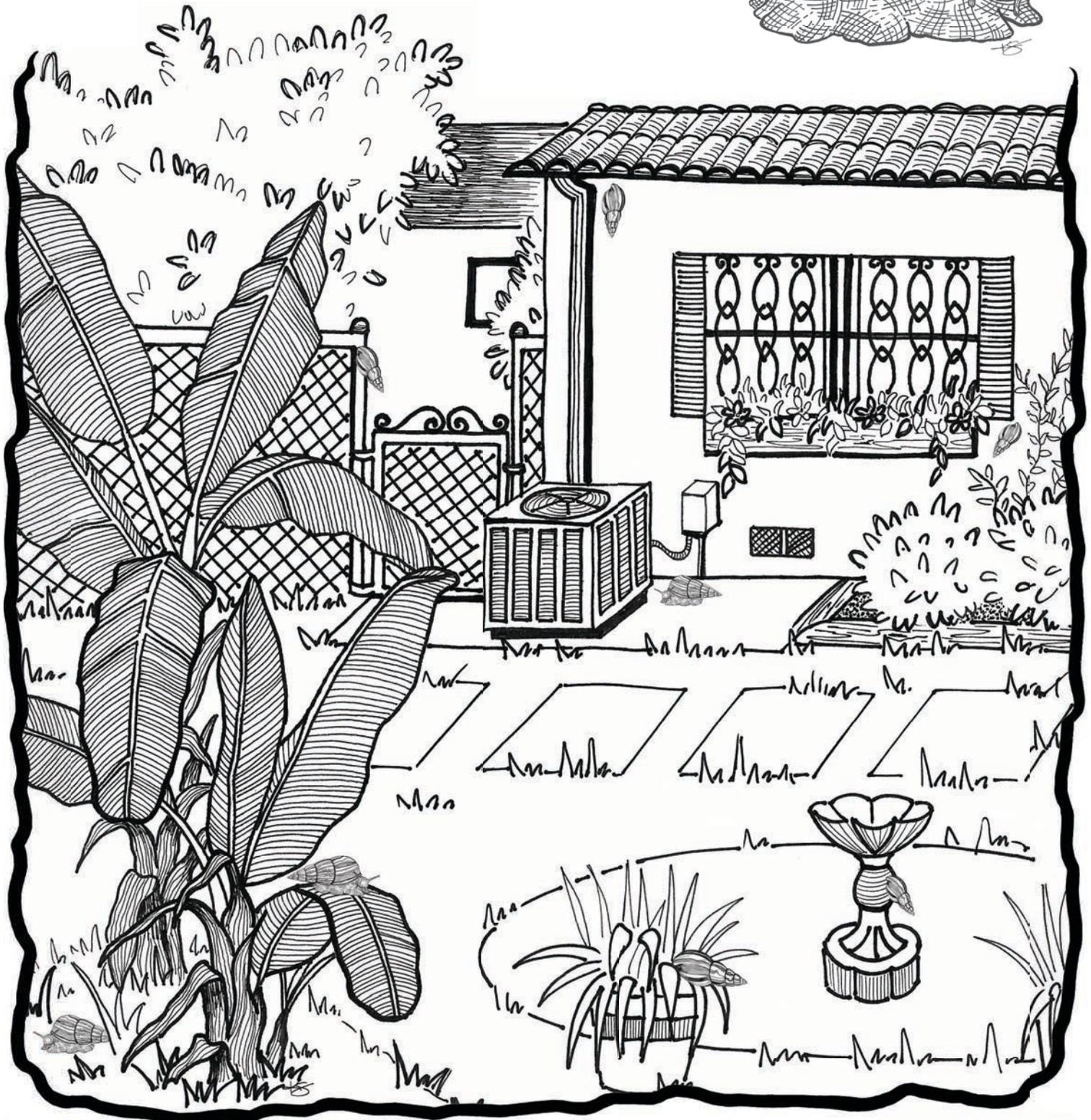
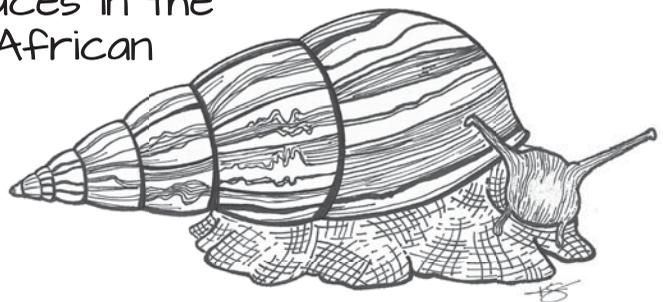
The red palm weevil is native to Southeast Asia. It has spread to many countries, and is a harmful pest to many palms we use for food including coconut and date palms. The larvae eat the top of palms causing severe damage.



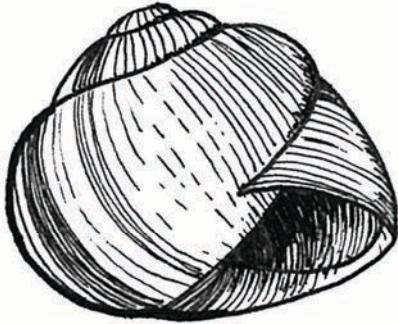
The conehead termite is a non-native termite that looks something like an ant. It builds nests on the ground or in trees. The termite feeds on dead wood and wood products.



Giant African land snails are a major agricultural pest that attack more than 500 varieties of plants. They can be found in many places and come out to feed early in the mornings, in the evenings and after it rains. On page 11, list the places in the picture below where you see the giant African land snail.



## Snails found in Florida

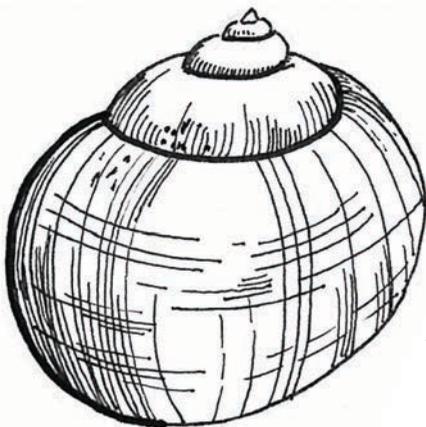


Cuban land snail  
INVASIVE

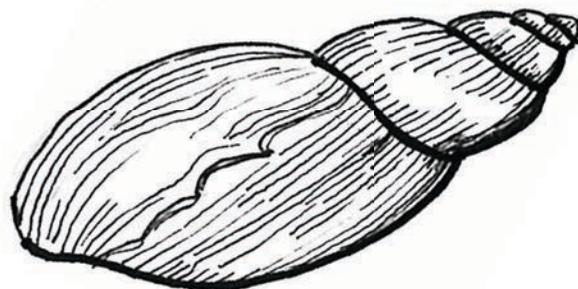
Giant African land snail  
INVASIVE



Many-lined tree snail  
NATIVE

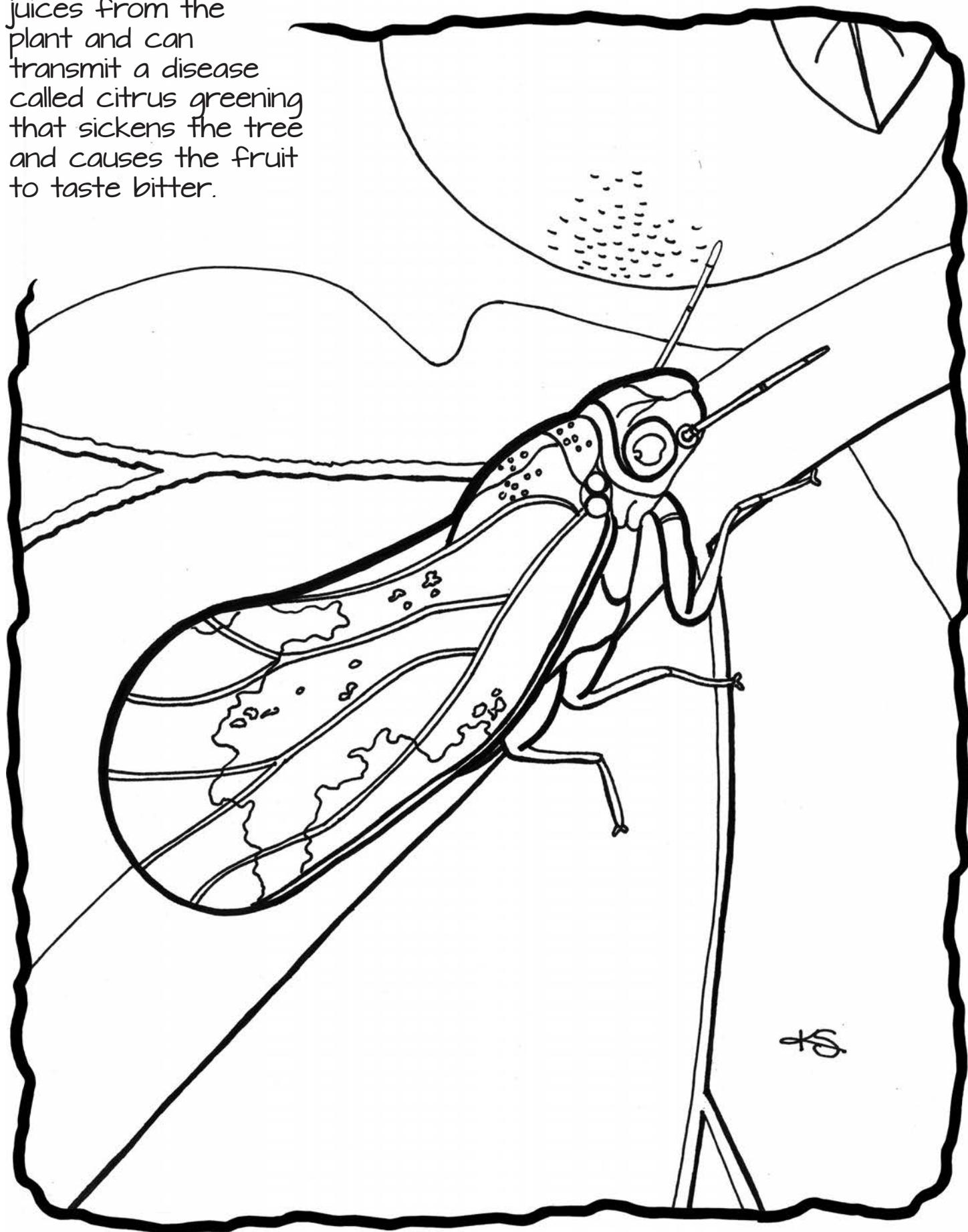


Apple snail  
AQUATIC  
NATIVE and  
INVASIVE SPECIES

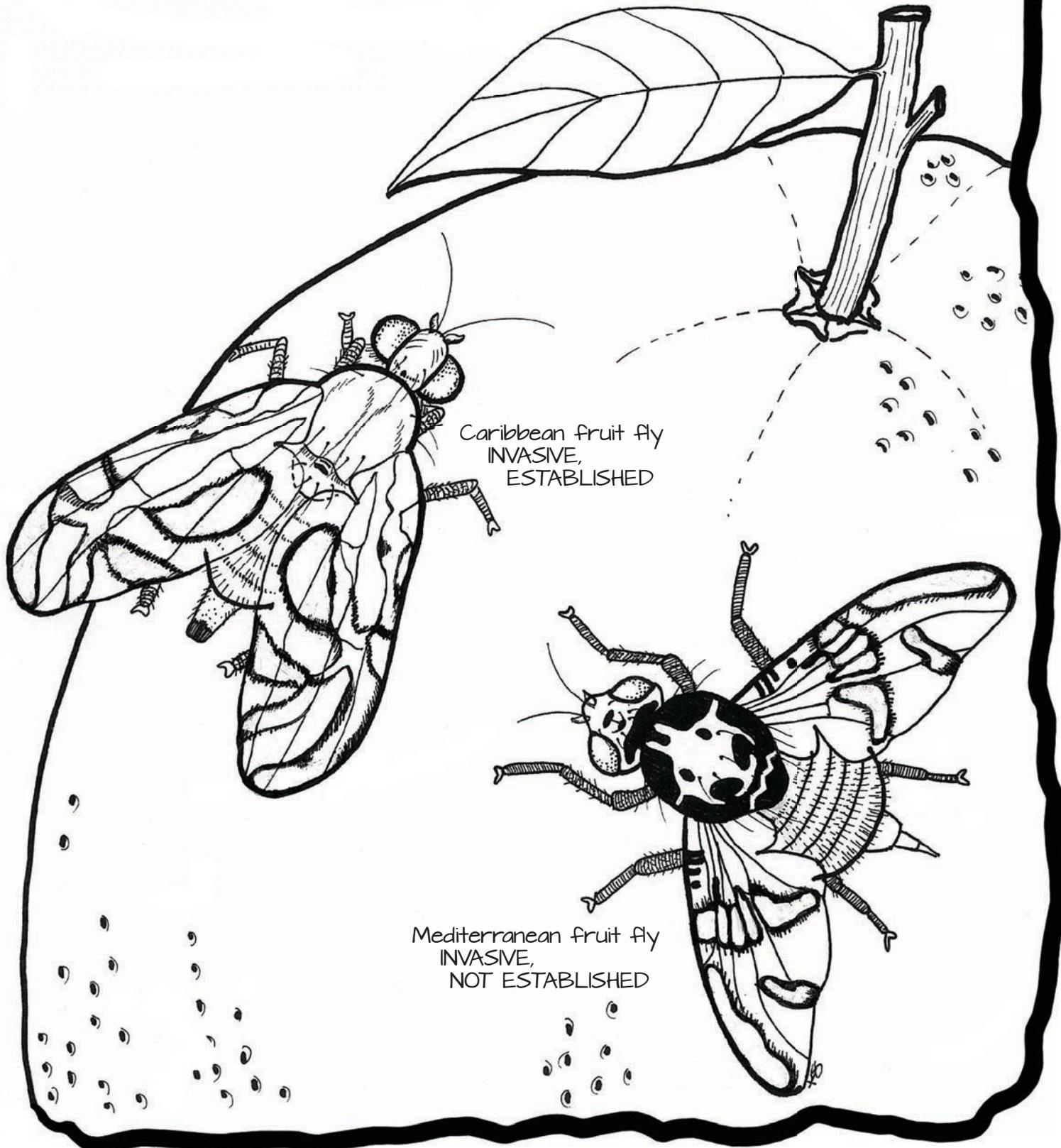


Rosy wolf snail  
INVASIVE,  
PREDATOR

The Asian citrus psyllid is one of the most serious citrus pests in the world! This insect sucks juices from the plant and can transmit a disease called citrus greening that sickens the tree and causes the fruit to taste bitter.



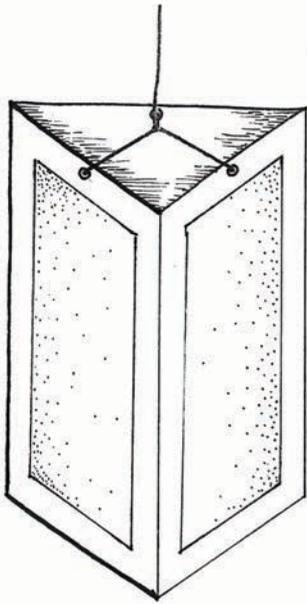
Mediterranean and Caribbean fruit flies are among the world's most destructive pests. Together they attack over 200 kinds of fruits, vegetables and nuts, including citrus, an important Florida crop.



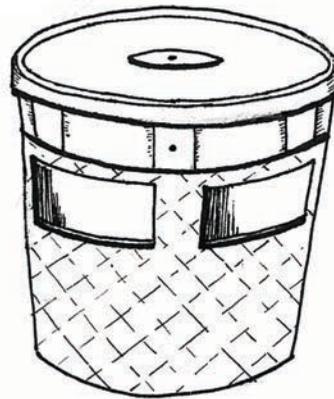
Caribbean fruit fly  
INVASIVE,  
ESTABLISHED

Mediterranean fruit fly  
INVASIVE,  
NOT ESTABLISHED

# Traps for monitoring insects

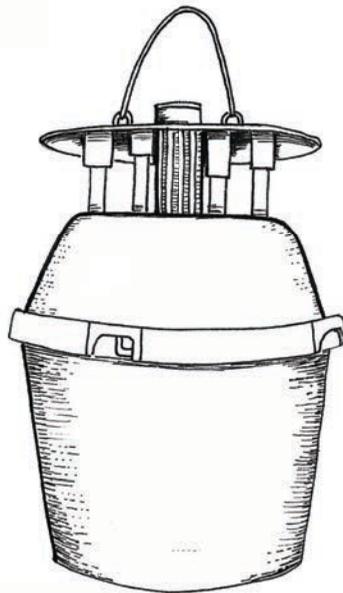


Emerald ash borer prism trap



Red palm weevil bucket trap

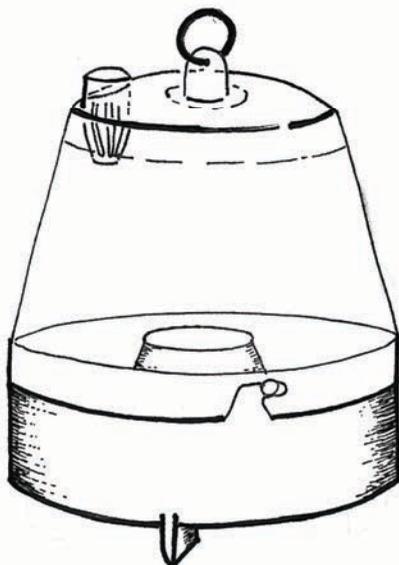
Moth bucket trap



Beetle funnel trap



McPhail fruit fly trap



Delta trap

## Activities

List some of the invading insects pictured in this book.

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red palm weevil, conehead termite, giant African land snail, Asian citrus psyllid, Mediterranean fruit fly, Caribbean fruit fly

List where giant African land snails are found in the picture on page 6.

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potted plants, flower pots, trees, sides of houses, under roof eaves, near air conditioners, bird baths, fences, plants and shrubs, window boxes, under leaves or other plants

What did you learn about what is done to protect Florida agriculture?

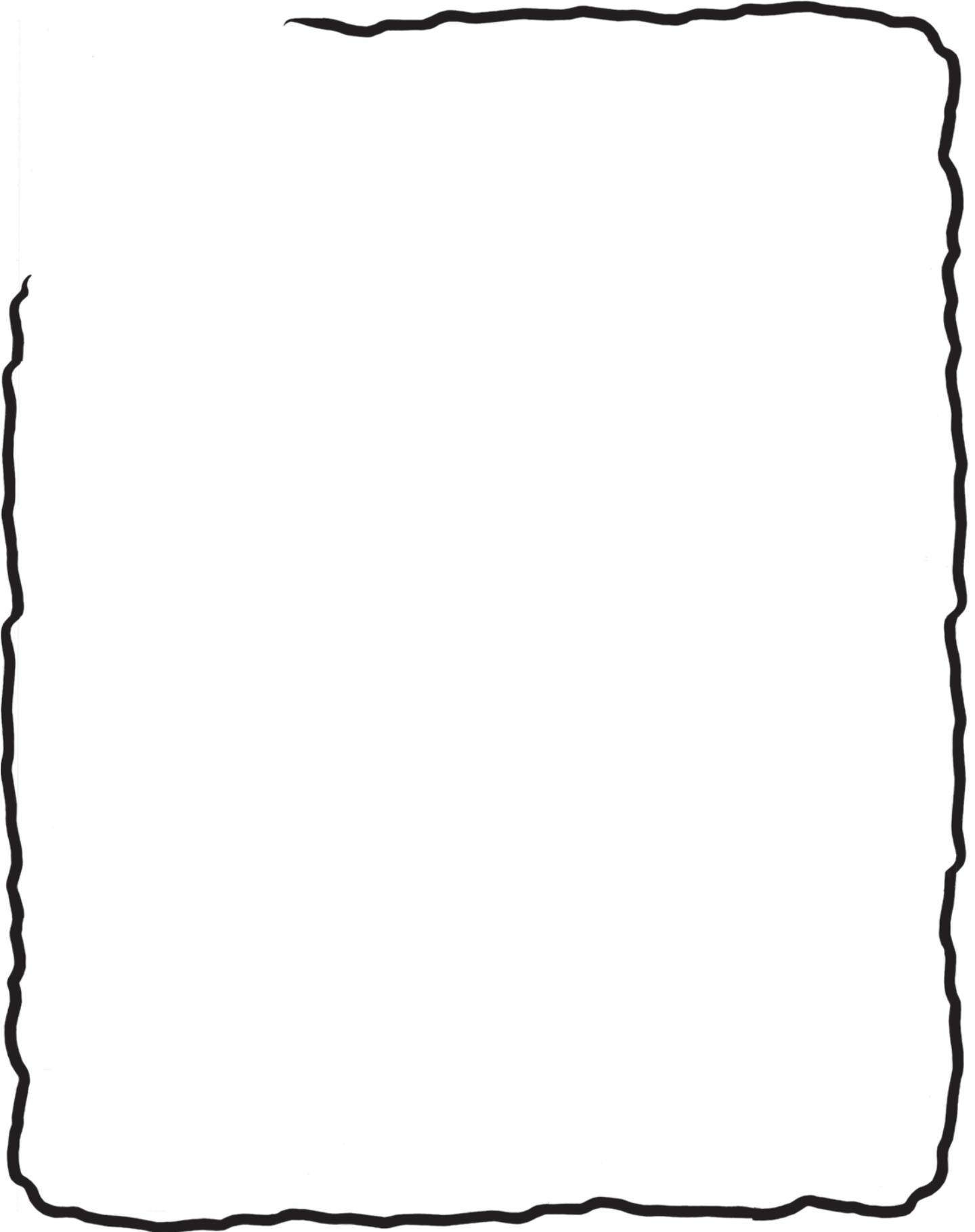
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traps monitored, plants inspected, food inspected, waterways monitored

Draw and color an insect you see in your yard.



# Glossary

- Aquatic:** growing or living in water
- Exotic:** originates from another region
- Inspect:** to examine closely
- Invasive:** tending to spread
- Larva:** a young wingless often wormlike form that hatches from the egg of many insects
- Monitor:** to watch or check over a period of time
- Native:** living or growing naturally in a particular region
- Non-native:** living or growing in a place that is not the region where it naturally lives and grows
- Organism:** a living person, plant or animal
- Originates:** where something comes from
- Predator:** an animal that lives by killing and eating other animals

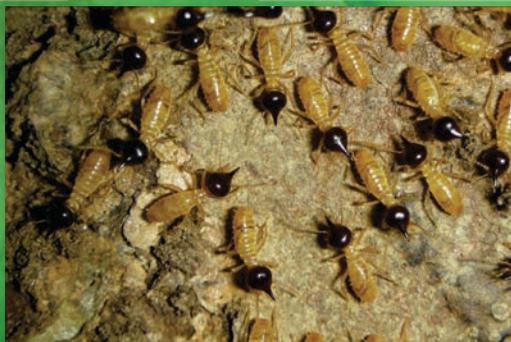
**Learning About Florida Invaders** is sponsored by the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS), a group of state and federal inspectors that monitor Florida for unwanted exotic invasive pests. To learn more about CAPS, visit [FreshFromFlorida.com/CAPS](http://FreshFromFlorida.com/CAPS)



**Red palm weevil**  
Grows to two inches  
Photo: Wikipedia



**Giant African land snail**  
Grows to eight inches  
Photo: FDACS



**Conehead termites**  
(soldiers)  
Grow to  $\frac{1}{16}$  inch  
Photo: FDACS



**Asian citrus psyllid**  
Grows to  $\frac{1}{6}$  inch  
Photo: FDACS



**Mediterranean fruit fly**  
Grows to  $\frac{1}{3}$  inch  
Photo: FDACS



**Caribbean fruit fly**  
Grows to  $\frac{1}{3}$  inch  
Photo: FDACS

**For more information:**

**1-888-397-1517**

**[www.FreshFromFlorida.com](http://www.FreshFromFlorida.com)**



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