



MICHAEL MERCHANT, Ph.D., BCE – Texas A&M University Research and Extension Center

Dr. Merchant has served as urban entomology specialist at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center at Dallas since 1989. He earned his B.S. degree in Environmental Science from Huxley College in Bellingham, WA., and MS and PhD degrees in entomology from Purdue and Texas A&M Universities, respectively. Dr. Merchant works with county Extension offices, pest control companies, schools and municipalities to identify and promote safer, more effective pest control methods for insect pests of structures and landscapes. He maintains a website at <http://citybugs.tamu.edu>, writes a blog for the pest control industry <http://insectsinthecity.blogspot.com>, and helps coordinate the Master Volunteer Entomology Specialist Training Program, which provides a week-long training opportunity for Master Naturalists at <http://agrifeweb.tamu.edu/insectspecialist/>. He was the first entomologist to recognize and coordinate the identification of crapemyrtle bark scale as a new pest of crapemyrtle, and has three field seasons screening insecticides for control of this pest. Current control recommendations are based on Dr. Merchant's work.

