

Maine Pesticide Structural Licensing Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. Which is an acceptable method for disposing of live captured mice?**
 - A. Drowning**
 - B. Releasing onto another site**
 - C. Cervical dislocation**
 - D. Leaving on a glue board**
- 2. As of 2009, which animal was more likely to be rabid in Maine?**
 - A. Fox**
 - B. Skunk**
 - C. Raccoon**
 - D. Bat**
- 3. Which is a venomous snake that is native to Maine?**
 - A. Eastern milk snake**
 - B. Northern water snake**
 - C. Timber rattlesnake**
 - D. None of these**
- 4. Which characteristic is not associated with silverfish?**
 - A. Feeding on glue**
 - B. Lifespan up to five years**
 - C. Habitat in wet areas**
 - D. Ability to live without food for extended periods**
- 5. Which insect is attracted to yellow sticky cards and may even be controlled by placement of enough cards?**
 - A. moth flies**
 - B. fungus gnats**
 - C. German cockroaches**
 - D. phorid flies**

- 6. How do spiders quickly colonize such a wide variety of habitats each year?**
- A. Carried on birds**
 - B. Ballooning on the wind**
 - C. Crawling**
 - D. Flying**
- 7. Do rats possess excellent vision?**
- A. True**
 - B. False**
- 8. Which cockroach has the highest potential for becoming a persistent pest?**
- A. American cockroach**
 - B. brown-banded cockroach**
 - C. German cockroach**
 - D. Oriental cockroach**
- 9. Which insect buzzes like a bumblebee and can emit a pungent odor when handled?**
- A. Millipede**
 - B. Centipede**
 - C. Western conifer seed bug**
 - D. German cockroach**
- 10. Daddy longlegs and spiders are both arachnids but daddy longlegs are not spiders. True or False?**
- A. True**
 - B. False**
 - C. Only in certain regions**
 - D. Depends on the species**

Answers

SAMPLE

1. C
2. C
3. D
4. C
5. B
6. B
7. B
8. C
9. C
10. A

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Explanations

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1. Which is an acceptable method for disposing of live captured mice?

- A. Drowning**
- B. Releasing onto another site**
- C. Cervical dislocation**
- D. Leaving on a glue board**

Cervical dislocation is an acceptable method for euthanizing live captured mice because it is considered a swift and humane way to ensure the animal's death. This method is scientifically recognized as causing immediate brain death, minimizing suffering. In pest control and management, using humane methods is essential to ensure ethical treatment of animals, even those viewed as pests. The other methods presented are inhumane or inappropriate for various reasons. Drowning is widely regarded as a cruel and inhumane practice because it causes prolonged suffering. Releasing mice onto another site can lead to ecological imbalances and issues related to the survival of these animals in unfamiliar environments. Leaving captured mice on a glue board is also inhumane, as it can cause severe distress and suffering over an extended period. Ultimately, the choice of cervical dislocation aligns with humane standards in pest control and animal treatment.

2. As of 2009, which animal was more likely to be rabid in Maine?

- A. Fox**
- B. Skunk**
- C. Raccoon**
- D. Bat**

The correct choice identifies the raccoon as the animal more likely to be rabid in Maine as of 2009. Raccoons are known to be significant carriers of the rabies virus in many regions, including the northeastern United States. Their population density, behavior, and tendency to come into contact with human habitats contribute to their role in rabies transmission. In Maine specifically, raccoons are often found in both urban and rural environments, which increases the risk of encounters with humans and domestic animals. This, combined with the patterns of rabies spread observed in wildlife populations, establishes raccoons as a primary rabies vector during that time period. While other animals like bats, skunks, and foxes can also carry rabies, the epidemiological data often indicate that in certain areas like Maine, raccoons present a higher incidence of rabies cases. Knowledge of local wildlife behavior and rabies prevalence is critical for understanding potential risks to humans and pets.

3. Which is a venomous snake that is native to Maine?

- A. Eastern milk snake**
- B. Northern water snake**
- C. Timber rattlesnake**
- D. None of these**

The question revolves around identifying whether there is a venomous snake native to Maine. The correct response indicates that there are no native venomous snakes in the state. Maine has diverse wildlife, but its snake population primarily consists of non-venomous species. The timber rattlesnake, while known as a venomous snake in other regions, is not commonly found in Maine anymore, as it has become very rare and is considered threatened. Additionally, the eastern milk snake and the northern water snake are both non-venomous. Thus, the assertion that there are no venomous snakes native to Maine is accurate. This highlights the importance of understanding local wildlife and the classifications of species according to their venomous status. Such knowledge is crucial for ensuring safety and promoting conservation efforts.

4. Which characteristic is not associated with silverfish?

- A. Feeding on glue**
- B. Lifespan up to five years**
- C. Habitat in wet areas**
- D. Ability to live without food for extended periods**

Silverfish are small, wingless insects known for their unique body shape and silvery color. They are primarily nocturnal and are often found in dark, moist areas of homes, including basements, attics, and bathrooms. This preference for humid environments is a significant characteristic of their habitat. While it is accurate that silverfish thrive in wet areas, the characteristic that is not associated with them is the notion that they prefer these environments over dry areas. In fact, silverfish are more adaptable and can live in various conditions, not exclusively in wet habitats. The longevity of silverfish, with a lifespan that can extend up to five years, is noteworthy, as is their ability to survive for lengthy periods without food—sometimes for up to a year. They feed on a variety of substances, including glue, paper, and starches, which are abundant in many household items. In summary, the characteristic of habitat in wet areas does not fully encapsulate the true adaptability of silverfish in their choice of living spaces, making it the one that does not apply to their overall characteristics.

5. Which insect is attracted to yellow sticky cards and may even be controlled by placement of enough cards?

A. moth flies

B. fungus gnats

C. German cockroaches

D. phorid flies

The correct answer is that fungus gnats are attracted to yellow sticky cards and can be managed through their strategic placement. These insects are often found in moist soil and decaying organic matter, which makes them a common pest in greenhouses and indoor plant situations. Yellow sticky cards provide a visual cue that attracts the adult fungus gnats, as they are drawn to the yellow color. By placing sufficient numbers of these sticky traps in areas where fungus gnats are prevalent, you can physically capture them, reducing their population and minimizing the potential damage to plants. The simplicity of this control method makes it effective for monitoring and managing fungus gnat infestations in a non-chemical way, which is especially beneficial in settings where pesticide use is limited or undesirable. In contrast, other insects listed do not respond to yellow sticky cards in the same manner or do not rely on visual cues for attraction. For instance, German cockroaches typically seek out darker environments and would not be effectively managed with this approach. Moth flies and phorid flies have different environmental preferences and behavior patterns that do not align with the effectiveness of yellow sticky traps for control. Thus, the focus on fungus gnats highlights their unique attraction to this control method.

6. How do spiders quickly colonize such a wide variety of habitats each year?

A. Carried on birds

B. Ballooning on the wind

C. Crawling

D. Flying

Spiders have a fascinating method of dispersal known as "ballooning," which allows them to quickly colonize a wide variety of habitats. During this process, small spiders release silk threads that catch the wind, enabling them to be lifted off the ground and carried over potentially great distances. This aerial dispersal mechanism is particularly effective for spiderlings (young spiders), which can traverse various terrains and reach isolated or new locations that may be suitable for their habitation. The ability to travel through the air means that spiders can colonize areas that are otherwise inaccessible through crawling or ground travel. This capability allows them to rapidly occupy niches and exploit new resources, contributing to their presence in diverse ecosystems. Additionally, ballooning is often triggered by environmental factors such as temperature and humidity, making it a seasonal strategy to maximize dispersal opportunities. While other methods like being carried on birds, crawling, or flying may play roles in the life cycles of various organisms, they do not provide the same effective means of widespread colonization that ballooning does for spiders. This specialized adaptation highlights the unique evolutionary strategies that enable spiders to thrive across varied habitats globally.

7. Do rats possess excellent vision?

A. True

B. False

Rats do not possess excellent vision. Instead, they have relatively poor eyesight compared to many other animals. Their vision is adapted for seeing in low-light conditions, which is beneficial for their nocturnal lifestyle. While they can detect motion and have a wide field of view, their visual acuity is limited, meaning they cannot see fine details very well. This limitation is partly due to the structure of their eyes and the fact that they rely more on other senses, such as smell and touch, to navigate their environment. Therefore, stating that rats have excellent vision is inaccurate, making "B. False" the correct choice.

8. Which cockroach has the highest potential for becoming a persistent pest?

A. American cockroach

B. brown-banded cockroach

C. German cockroach

D. Oriental cockroach

The German cockroach is recognized as having the highest potential for becoming a persistent pest due to its biology and behavior. This species thrives in environments where food and moisture are readily available, making it particularly well-suited for human dwellings. German cockroaches reproduce rapidly, with females capable of producing multiple egg cases containing dozens of eggs each, leading to swift population growth. Moreover, they often hide in small, dark places in kitchens and bathrooms, which enables them to avoid detection and treatment. In addition to their reproductive capabilities, German cockroaches have developed resistance to various insecticides, complicating control efforts. Their tendency to gather in large numbers can lead to significant infestations that not only cause discomfort but also pose health risks through the potential transmission of allergens and pathogens. Other cockroach species may also create issues as pests, but none exhibit the same level of adaptability and rapid reproduction as the German cockroach, making it the most concerning species in terms of pest persistence in residential and commercial settings.

9. Which insect buzzes like a bumblebee and can emit a pungent odor when handled?

- A. Millipede**
- B. Centipede**
- C. Western conifer seed bug**
- D. German cockroach**

The Western conifer seed bug is known for its distinctive buzzing sound that resembles that of a bumblebee, which can occur when it is disturbed or threatened. This buzzing is produced by the insect's wings and is often a surprising characteristic of this pest, as it can lead people to mistakenly identify it as a more benign creature. Additionally, when handled or threatened, the Western conifer seed bug can release a pungent odor as a defense mechanism. This odor is a way for the insect to deter predators, making it an interesting example of chemical defense behavior in insects. In contrast, the other options do not have these characteristics. Millipedes, while sometimes producing chemical defenses, do not emit a buzzing sound. Centipedes are predatory but are also not known for buzzing. German cockroaches might emit an odor, particularly in large numbers, but they do not buzz and their odor isn't specifically pungent like that of the seed bug. Thus, the Western conifer seed bug is correctly identified for its unique sounds and defensive odor.

10. Daddy longlegs and spiders are both arachnids but daddy longlegs are not spiders. True or False?

- A. True**
- B. False**
- C. Only in certain regions**
- D. Depends on the species**

The statement is true because while both daddy longlegs and spiders belong to the class Arachnida, they are distinct in their taxonomic classifications. Daddy longlegs, also known as harvestmen, belong to the order Opiliones, whereas spiders belong to the order Araneae. This differentiation highlights that even though they share some similarities as arachnids, they are classified into different groups and exhibit different biological and ecological characteristics. Thus, the assertion that daddy longlegs are not spiders is accurate, reinforcing the understanding of arachnid diversity.