



November 2010

Arthropod Identification Services

To Health-Care Providers:

Effective immediately, **Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP) Public Health Laboratories (PHL)** will no longer identify arthropods from non-human or environmental origin.

Please refer arthropods of interest obtained from non-human or environmental sources – including food – to the **Pest Diagnostic Clinic** at the **University of Guelph**. This Clinic will identify arthropods on a fee-for-service basis (see weblink below).

Examples of arthropods that should now be sent to the Pest Diagnostic Clinic include:

- Arthropods of concern from gardens, households, or sandboxes;
- Non-parasitic biting or stinging arthropods such as spiders and bees/wasps;
- Arthropods found in, or on, food.

The following specimens will be identified at PHL:

- Ticks removed from a human;
- Suspected lice, fleas, bed bugs, maggots, or mites removed from a human or vicinity.

For further information:

- Refer to the University of Guelph Pest Diagnostic Clinic at:
http://www.guelphlabservices.com/AFL/submit_samples.aspx
- Parasitology Laboratory at **(416) 235-5722**, or contact your local OAHPP laboratory.
- For the OAHPP Specimen Collection Guide and previous Labstracts, refer to
<http://www.oahpp.ca/publichealthlaboratories.php>