CLOVER SAFE #25  BITING AND STINGING INSECTS

Information available from the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases indicates more than 40 fatalities annually can be attributed to severe venom allergic reactions (called anaphylaxis) from insect bites or stings. Common California biting and stinging insects include ticks and chiggers, centipedes, mosquitoes, black, deer, and horse flies, spiders including black widow and brown species, fire ants, midges, scorpions, bees including Africanized honey bees, wasps, and hornets.

Aside from allergic reactions, biting and stinging insects cause nuisance bites and stings that can result in tissue swelling, infections of bite and sting sites, skin lesions, itching, dermatitis, and pain or burning sensations.

For additional information about biting and stinging insect safety, go to the Clover Safe note at: http://ucanr.org/cloversafe.

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