

Pest Profile



Photo credit: David Shetlar, The Ohio State University, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Hairy Chinch Bug

Scientific Name: *Blissus leucopterus hirtus*

Order, and Family: Hemiptera; Blissidae

Size and Appearance:

	Adult	Egg	Larva/Nymph	Pupae (if applicable)
Length (mm)	3.5-4	0.84	0.9-3	
Appearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Black bodied with folded white wings that cover the white band the nymphs had - Legs are orange 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bean shaped - Eggs are white to start - Orange before hatching - Eggs are laid at the base of the plant (grasses) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emerge as being bright red in color - Eventually will darken (deep red, grey, or brown) during later instars - White band across abdomen 	

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Piercing, sucking for both adults and nymphs

Host plant/s: Red fescue, perennial ryegrass, bentgrass, and Kentucky bluegrass are host plants, however the most damage occurs in turfgrass.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Infestations are most common from July to August when chinch bugs (nymphs and adults) are aggressively feeding on plants. They do so by using their piercing-sucking mouthparts to remove plant sap and leave a toxin in exchange. Symptoms include discoloration (yellow to red to brown) and necrosis/patches in turf.

References:

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