

## Pest Profile



**Photo credit:** Kansas Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org

**Common Name:** English Grain Aphid

**Scientific Name:** *Sitobion avenae*

**Order and Family:** Hemiptera, Aphididae

**Size and Appearance:**

	Length (mm)	Appearance
<b>Egg</b>		Black and oval in shape
<b>Larva/Nymph</b>		Green or red color
<b>Adult</b>	1.3-3.3mm	Displays color polymorphism- green and brown are the predominate colors. Black legs, cornicles, and antennae
<b>Pupa (if applicable)</b>		

**Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):** Piercing/sucking mouthparts for feeding on plant juices

**Host plant/s:** Primarily feeds on cereals and grasses. Will also infest rice and maize.

**Description of Damage (larvae and adults):** Damage from feeding affects the wheat kernels when these insects feed on the head of the wheat. The biggest issue is that English grain aphids are vectors of Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus, which causes yellowing and stunted growth in affected plants. These aphids overwinter as eggs, which are freeze resistant.

**References:**

Dransfield, B., & Brightwell, B. (N.D.). *Sitobion avenae*-English Grain Aphid. Influentialpoints.com.  
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