

Pest Profile



Photo credit: Tom Murray, BugGuide.net

Common Name: Dogwood Spittlebug

Scientific Name: *Clastoptera proteus*

Order and Family: Hemiptera: Clastopteridae

Size and Appearance:

	Adult	Egg	Larva/Nymph	Pupae (if applicable)
Length (mm)	2-4mm		1-3mm	
Appearance	-Brown to green and yellow in color -Have a black band across its head -2 mock eyes on its thorax	-Overwinter under bark	-Light to dark brown or yellow in color -Do not have an exoskeleton -Found in spittle masses to keep moist	

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Sucking

Host plant/s: Dogwoods, Blueberries, and Buckeyes in the Midwest and Gambel Oaks in the Rocky Mountain Region

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): The dogwood spittlebug nymphs and adults cause little damage to trees; however, they do feed on the sap from dogwood trees.

The damage is usually unattractive, foam-like spittle masses formed by nymphs that are located in the junctions between stems or between stems and leaves.

The damage caused by adults is the unsightly occurrence of blackened foliage produced by sooty molds colonizing on the spittle that is flicked onto the leaves from the adults.

In severe infestations there may be stunted tree growth, malformed development of plant tissue, darkened foliage, branch dieback, or fungi and bacterial diseases.

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