

Pest Profile



Photo credit: United States National Collection of Scale Insects Photographs, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Ground mealybug

Scientific Name: *Rhizoecus kondonis*

Order and Family: Hemiptera; Pseudococcidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		
Nymph	< 1 mm	-Similar to adults
Adult	~1-2 mm	-White -Pill-shaped fleecy bodies

Type of feeder: Piercing/sucking

Host plant: Alfalfa

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Ground mealybugs feed on alfalfa roots by sucking out plant juices, which causes stunting and yellowing of plants. The infestations generally start in small circular areas near the field borders and gradually increase in size up to an acre or so.

References:

Ground Mealybugs. (n.d.). Retrieved February 25, 2016, from <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/r1301311.html>