

Pest Profile



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Common Name: Redheaded Pine Sawfly

Scientific Name: *Neodiprion lecontei*

Order and Family: Hymenoptera, Diprionidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	1.8 mm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• oval• smooth• shiny• translucent white
Larva/Nymph	0.6 – 25.0 mm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• yellow to green in color• four to eight rows of black spots lengthwise along the body• red to reddish-orange head
Adult	5.0 – 10.0 mm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• two pairs of membranous wings• sexually dimorphic with females being up to 2/3 larger than males• females are black and have a reddish brown head• males are entirely black and have feathery antennae
Pupa (if applicable)	8.5 – 12.0 mm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• reddish-brown paper-like cylinder• rounded ends

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

Host plant/s: Prefers two and three needled pines, Scotch, Jack, shortleaf, loblolly, slash, red, mugho. Prefers to oviposit in hard pines and usually infests trees under 15 ft. tall.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults):

The larvae are gregarious feeders and known to feed in large groups of up to 100 individuals or more. Young larvae consume the softest part of the outside of the pine needles, leaving a telltale pattern of reddish-brown straw like remains. Older larvae completely consume the whole needle. When the needle supply is exhausted, the larvae move onto the soft bark of the pine tree. Severe defoliation may kill young conifers, while light defoliation will result in unmarketable trees.

References:

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