

Common Florida Turfgrass Pests



Southern Chinch Bug

Turf: St. Augustine, Zoysia, Bermuda

Active: March - October

Found On: The crowns, stems, and stolons of turf

Conditions: Dry, warm, sunny

Damage: Large, dead patches where the soil is exposed



Mole Cricket

Turf: Bahia, Bermuda, St. Augustine, Zoysia

Active: March - October

Found On: Grass roots and leaf blades

Conditions: At dusk, after rain or irrigation

Damage: The tunnels leave surface mounds on the surface and dead patches in turf



Grub Beetle

Turf: St. Augustine

Active: Late Summer to Fall

Found On: Grass roots

Conditions: Warm, moist soil

Damage: Turf appears spongy with scattered brown patches; increased digging activity from birds and armadillos



Tropical Sod Webworm

Turf: Bermuda, Zoysia, St. Augustine, Bahia

Active: September - November

Found On: The upper grass blades

Conditions: Dusk

Damage: Leaf blades are browned and appear chewed; some silk webs appear on turf



Fall Army Worm

Turf: Bermuda

Active: Spring to Fall

Found On: Leaf blades

Conditions: Early morning and late evening

Damage: Holes in foliage, turf is ragged and browns