

Grasshoppers in the Yard and Garden

- Grasshoppers are becoming an issue around the state.
- Once grasshoppers are adults and have entered the yard and garden, management is extremely challenging.
- Consider focusing on the most vulnerable trees and plants for management (and those of importance).
- Management options are available but several applications might be necessary (following the label).



Figure 1. Two-striped grasshopper, *Melanoplus bivittatus*. Photo by J. Berger, Bugwood.org

Life Cycle

- Most grasshoppers overwinter in the egg stage in the soil. After egg hatch in mid- to late spring, the nymphs (immatures) immediately begin feeding.
- There are at least five or six stages of nymphs before the grasshoppers reach adulthood.
- The adult grasshoppers can live for several months into late summer/early fall.

Management

- Many plants and flowers will be hard to protect.
- Screen the garden and sensitive areas with metal window-type screening, as they easily chew through fabric.
- Be prepared early next year for possible grasshopper issues.

Several insecticides are available and labeled for use on grasshoppers.

Organic Insecticides & Biological Controls

-Neem oil (products such as AzaGuard)

-Pyrethrins (products such as PyGanic)

-Nosema locustae (brands such as NoLo Bait) <http://nolobait.com/nolo-bait>

(Nosema locustae is a protozoan/fungus that is selective to grasshoppers and applied with a bran that the grasshoppers have to consume. Only effective when grasshoppers are in their 1st and 2nd nymph stages (when the grasshoppers are 1/4-1/2" long))

Non-Organic Insecticides

-Bifenthrin & zeta-cypermethrin (products such as Ortho Home Defense Insect Killer for Lawn and Landscape and Ortho Bug B Gon Insect Killer for Lawns and Gardens)

-Cyfluthrin (products such as Bioadvanced Complete Insect Killer)

-Carbaryl (Eco Bran bait or Sevin)

-This link might also be helpful

<https://extension.colostate.edu/topic-areas/insects/grasshopper-control-in-gardens-small-acreages-5-536/>



Figure 2. Differential grasshopper, *Melanoplus differentialis*. Photo by E. Manigault, Clemson Univ.,

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