

Problem: Flatid Planthopper



Hosts: Too numerous to mention.

Description:

These small, hopping insects can cause concern among gardeners because they are so conspicuous. What people often notice first is not the insect but the filaments of white, wool-like wax they leave behind. Nymphs are also coated with this white, powdery wax, but adults of the species are more of a grayish color with a darker rear end. Only the adults have wings that are held over the body like a pup tent. Nymphs are more flattened and may not appear to be insects at first due to the waxy coating.

Recommendations:

Plant injury due to this insect is usually minor. Feeding by large populations may cause death of seedlings or small twigs of larger plants to wilt. Control is usually not recommended because flatid planthoppers are usually kept in check by natural enemies. If control is warranted, a number of insecticides may be used including malathion, permethrin (38 Plus Turf, Termite & Ornamental Insect Spray; Hi-Yield Garden & Farm Insect Control; Eight Yard & Garden RTS) and bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin).

References:

1. [Flatid Planthoppers](#), BugwoodWiki

Last Update: 10/26/2023

Brand names appearing in this publication are for product identification purposes only. No endorsement is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products not mentioned.

“Knowledge for Life”

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service