

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 these 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 carbaryl (Sevin), malathion, permethrin (numerous trade names), cyfluthrin (Bayer Vegetable & Garden Insect Spray), and bifenthrin (Bug Blaster Bifenthrin).

References:

1. [Flatid Planthoppers](#), Forest Pests of North America,

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