

Pest Profile



Photo credit: Wim Rubers, Waarneming.nl (adult); Chiswick Chap, Wikimedia (nymph)

Common Name: Masked Hunter

Scientific Name: *Reduvius personatus*

Order and Family: Hemiptera: Reduviidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	1 mm (long) 0.4 mm (wide)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Oval in shape. ● Shiny brownish-yellow.
Larva/Nymph	2 - 3 mm (1st instar) 3.5 - 4.5 mm (2nd instar) 6 - 7 mm (3rd instar) 8 - 9 mm (4th instar) 12 - 14 mm (5th instar)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nymphs covered in dust and other particles. ● Dark setae on legs and antennae. ● 1st instar white, color darkens in subsequent instars. ● Five dark spots on margins of abdominal segment 2-6 on the 4th instar.
Adult	17 - 21 mm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shiny brownish - black color. ● Dark setae on legs and antennae. ● Antennae 4 segmented and filiform.

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Piercing-sucking

Host/s: Masked hunter nymphs and adults feed on larvae and adult arthropods including Syrphidae, *Calliphora* spp., *Rollenia rudis*, dermestids, ticks, and Lepidopterans.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Masked hunters do not typically cause damage, but are capable of inflicting a painful bite if mishandled.

References:

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- Scudder, G. G. E. (1992). The distribution and life cycle of *Reduvius personatus* (L.)(Hemiptera: Reduviidae) in Canada. *Journal of the Entomological Society of British Columbia*, 89, 38-42.
- Smith, E. H., & Whitman, R. C. (1992). *NPCA field guide to structural pests*. Dunn Loring, VA: NPCA.