

Pest Profile



Photo credit: Jim Kalisch, UNL Entomology Extension

Common Name: False chinch bug

Scientific Name: *Nysius raphanus* Howard

Order and Family: Hemiptera, Lygaeidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	1.5 x 0.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• have a pinkish hue
Larva/Nymph	<3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• small• wingless• abdominal orange markings• becomes larger and darker mottled brown with each successive instar (5 nymphal instars)
Adult	3 – 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• grey with some brown markings• forewings are thick and leathery, and hindwings are clear and membranous

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

Host plant/s: The false chinch bug is a pest of beets, potatoes, cabbage, and other crucifers and is sometimes found on cotton, tobacco, grape, corn and sorghums.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): The false chinch bug uses its piercing-sucking mouthparts to puncture stems, or fruits, then suck the sap out of plants. When the chinch bug occurs at low densities, plant damage is rarely reported. However, when large aggregations occur on plants, feeding damage can result in wilting, curling, and death of leaves, particularly newer growth. Though feeding damage from

false chinch bugs is rarely a concern for fruit and vegetable producers, unusually high aggregations have been reported to result in the death of young orchard seedlings.

Reference:

Davidson, R. H., & Lyon, W. F. (1987). *Insect pests of farm, garden, and orchard* (No. Ed. 8). John Wiley & Sons.

Panthi, B., B. Evans, and J. Renkema. (2018). False Chinch Bug *Nysius raphanus* Howard (Insect: Hemiptera: Lygaeidae). Gulf Coast Research and Education Center. Department of Entomology and Nematology. University of Florida. EENY-706. Retrieved from <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdffiles/in/in121200.pdf>

Whitworth, J. F., B. McCornack, and H. Davis. (2012) *False Chinch Bugs*. Kansas Crop Pest. Kansas State University. Retrieved from <https://entomology.k-state.edu/doc/extension-crop-pests/mf3047fcb.pdf>