Pest Profile

Photo credit: Cheryl Moorehead, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Blue-green Sharpshooter

Scientific Name: *Graphocephala atropunctata*

Order and Family: Hemiptera, Cicadellidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		
Larva/Nymph	1st instar: 0.52 5th instar: 1.43	Nymphs are whitish with a yellow tinge along their sides.
Adult	Male: 1.52mm Female: 1.64mm	Green or bright blue in color on wings, head and thorax. Underside of legs and abdomen are yellow.
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Piercing/sucking mouthparts for feeding on plant juices.

Host plant/s: Blue-green sharpshooters prefer woody plants and vines on which to feed and lay eggs.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): The blue-green sharpshooter can invade ornamental gardens around structures and cause notable plant damage if numbers are high enough. As with many plant feeding true bugs, the build up of honeydew can cause sooty mold. Primary damage from this sharpshooter is its ability to transmit pathogens. The most notable pathogen, *Xylella fastidiosa, is a* bacterium that causes Pierce's disease in grapevines. Pierce's disease symptoms include chlorosis, leaf scorch, and eventually whole vine death.

References:

Bethke, J. A. (2010). Floriculture and Ornamental nurseries- Leafhoppers and sharpshooters. UC Pest Management Guidelines. University of California. http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/r280301711.html

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Severin H. (1949). Life history of the blue-green sharpshooter, Neokolla circellata. Hilgardia 19(6):187-189. DOI:10.3733/hilg.v19n06p187

About Pierce's Disease. http://www.piercesdisease.org/