

Pest Profile



Photo credit: [Sonia Martinez](#)

Common Name: Garden Centipede

Synonyms: Garden Symphylan, Greenhouse Centipede, Pseudocentipede

Scientific Name: *Scutigera immaculata*

Order and Family: Symphyla: ScutigereLLidae (not insects)

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	varies	Small; round; white becoming tan; covered with hexagonal shaped ridges; laid in groups of 10-12 in soil.
Larva/Nymph	6 – 12 mm	6-11 pairs of legs; white, covered with fine hairs; look similar to adult – smaller size and leg number.
Adult	< 13 mm	15 body segments; 11-12 pairs of legs; elongated; slender; white; long-beaded antennae; life span of 1-2 years.
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Chewing, have mandibles, long first maxillae and second pair of maxillae fused to labium

Host plant/s: Garden symphylans feed in soils with high organic matter content and good structure. They can be found on most field crops.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Sprouting seeds may be damaged, as well as seedlings both before and after emergence. Older plants also have damage, although the injury decreases as a plant gets older. Garden symphylans feed on root hairs and rootlets primarily. Entryways for pathogens into older plants may be caused through pitting of older roots. Feeding on new roots can cause stunting in transplants.

References:

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