

Pest Profile



Photo credit: [Andy Reaggo & Chrissy McClarren](#)

Common Name: Bluegrass webworm

Scientific Name: *Parapediasia teterrella*

Order and Family: Lepidoptera: Crambidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		
Larva/Nymph	15mm – 20mm	Dark gray head and greenish-gray body with a series of spots forming a ring around each abdominal segment.
Adult	Wingspan 21mm	Adult moth has mouthparts that project forward from the head to form a snout. The forewing is pale brown with light-colored veins and silvery scales on the tip.
Pupa (if applicable)		

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

Host plant/s: Bluegrass, tall fescue, and Bermuda grass throughout Northern US and Southern Canada.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): The larvae feed on bluegrass, tall fescue, and sometimes Bermuda grass, which thins lawns and produces a ragged appearance. Severely pruned plants may be killed. Early stage larvae are located within the leaf fold at the base of the plant and feed on the leaf surface. As they get older they move to the base of the plant. The females drop eggs randomly during flight, producing a spring and summer generation. Mature larvae overwinter in silk-lined tunnels in the soil or thatch. Most egg-laying occurs just after sunset. Each generation lasts 4-10 weeks depending on the temperature.

References:

Cranshaw, W. (2004). *Garden Insects of North America: The Ultimate Guide To Backyard Bugs*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Species *Parapediasia teterrella* – Bluegrass Webworm Moth. (2016). Iowa State University Department of Entomology. Retrieved from <http://bugguide.net/node/view/69913>