

Pest Profile



Photo credit: David Cappaert, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Dog-day cicada

Scientific Name: *Tibicen canicularis*

Order and Family: Hemiptera, Cicadidae

Size and Appearance: Adult bodies are either green, black, or reddish brown. The wings are translucent, with dark to light wing veins. The adults with green and reddish brown bodies have black markings. The adults who are considered black are actually green with heavy black markings. The larvae first develop underground, then come up to the surface, latch onto trees, and molt from the shells of the younger nymphs. Once hatched, they are small and light green. The nymphs emerge in June to August.

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		Eggs laid in twigs and branches in clusters; 20-28 eggs laid in pockets in the twig; pearly white color; elongate shaped.
Larva/Nymph		Brown and wingless; resemble adults with no wings; front legs large for tunneling; develop for 2-5 years underground feeding on roots.
Adult	23-27 mm	Variable; can have green, brown, or black body color; bulging greenish black, grey, or green eyes; white underbelly; black markings on the thorax; translucent wings with green veins; females have a long saw like ovipositor (egg laying device at rear of insect); males sing to attract females.
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Larvae and adults: Piercing sucking

Host plant/s: Pines and conifers

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Adults suck out juice from twigs and nymphs suck tree sap out of the roots from pine or oak trees. Female egg laying activity can split the bark where the egg was

inserted and result in damaged tissue in the white wood and bark. The twigs can die, fall off the tree, and leaves can turn brown as a result of egg laying damage. But the damage is minimal because there are usually only a few dog-day cicadas in any area.

References:

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