

Pest Profile



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Common Name: Field Cricket

Scientific Name: *Gryllus spp.*

Order and Family: Orthoptera: Gryllidae

Size and Appearance: The name Field Cricket refers to roughly 25 species present in the United States. Members of the genus are about 13-30 mm in length, dark or black in color, have threadlike antenna, flat wings, tibial spines on legs, and females have a long ovipositor at the abdomen base.

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	< 0.1 mm	Females can lay 150-400 eggs in moist soil where they overwinter. Usually white in color.
Larva/Nymph	1-30 mm depending on instar	Nymphs look like adults with distinction of lacking wings and ovipositors. Males go through 8 while females go through 9 instars.
Adult	13-30 mm	Dark coloration, long antennae, compound eyes, chewing mouthparts, tibia spines on legs, ovipositor on female abdomen, flattened wings.
Pupa (if applicable)		

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

Host/s: *Gryllus spp.* feed on field crops, vegetable crops, and some ornamental plants. Favored plants seem to be alfalfa, oats, wheat, tomatoes, peas, and cucumbers. They have also been known to feed on fabrics when infestations are heavy.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Crickets, in general, are messy eaters and will chew holes in plant leaves and fabrics, leaving behind debris.

References:

Smith, E.H. and Whitman, R.C. (2007). Occasional Invaders- Field Cricket. In *NPMA Field Guide of Structural Pests*. (7.11.1). National Pest Management Association International.

Walker, T.J. (2014). Field Crickets. University of Florida Agricultural Extension Service. Retrieved on July 2nd, 2016 from <http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/misc/crickets/gryllus.html>