

Chinch Bugs

If you have a St. Augustine lawn you have no doubt heard of the infamous Chinch bug and the damage it can do to your lawn. In the past this pest was fairly easy to control and was not much of a nuisance to home owners but, as times change and more and more chemicals are taken off the market the job keeps getting harder. At the present time there are a few chemicals that can be used but there is no guaranty of control.

The best thing that can be done to control Chinch bugs is to control why they appear in your lawn. The most common reason for a Chinch bug outbreak in your lawn is water stress. This is caused by either too much water or lack of water. The home sprinkler system needs to be checked on regular basis to ensure that there is proper coverage of the lawn. If there is a clogged head or a stuck head, that area of turf would become very susceptible to a chinch bug outbreak.

Most Chinch bug problems will occur from early spring to late fall. During the winter months the Chinch bugs will become dormant in the areas where they are active. Many times in the spring the chinch bugs will reoccur in the same place they did the year before and should be inspected for on a regular basis.

There are a lot of things that can affect your lawns health and most of the symptoms look alike. The chinch bugs will take advantage of a lawn that has fungus (usually caused by too much water) or, a dry lawn (caused by too little water) and may not be the primary problem. For more information go to the link listed here.

http://creatures.ifas.ufl.edu/orn/turf/southern_chinch_bug.htm

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