Lawn Insect Pests

Today on Gardening in a Minute: lawn insect pests.

It’s not just people who like a nice green lawn. Several insects and mites feed on grass, and can ruin a perfectly good yard.

Your best defense against lawn pests is to have a healthy lawn and to inspect it every seven to ten days for pest activity.

In your St. Augustine lawn, look for yellow or brown chinch bug-damaged areas found first in the hotter, drier parts of your landscape.

In a Bahia lawn, tunnels may indicate the presence of mole crickets.

Other common lawn pests include hunting billbugs, fire ants, tropical sod webworms, and fall armyworms.

Insects aren’t the only cause of lawn damage. Make sure you correctly identify the problem before applying any treatments. Spot-treat only the infected areas, and remember to follow all label instructions.

For more information about lawn pests and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.