Lawn Shrimp

Today on Gardening in a Minute: lawn shrimp.

Lawn shrimp truly are crustaceans that live on land!

These terrestrial shrimp-like creatures are about half an inch in length. They look a lot like marine shrimp, with long bodies and flattened backs. Lawn shrimp range in color from pale brown to brownish black when alive, but often turn red when they die.

Lawn shrimp can be found in moist areas in the landscape, such as under groundcovers and leaf litter. They’re typically active at night.

Lawn shrimp are only noticeable when it’s especially wet or dry, because that’s when they tend to migrate into garages or into homes.

If they become a problem around your home, dry out any nearby mulch or groundcover areas by reducing irrigation. Or add weatherstripping to doorways to keep them from entering structures.

For more information about lawn shrimp 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.

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