

Technical Bulletin for: Western Conifer Leaffooted Bug

Leptoglossus occidentalis (Heidemann) • Hemiptera, Coreidae • LEPOCC



DISTRIBUTION	Native to Western United States and Canada, now spread throughout Eastern North America, Europe, Middle East Asia and Argentina.
HOSTS	Pest of most conifer seeds: Douglas-Fir, Pine, Spruce, Fir, Cedar, Juniper and also Pistachios.
DESCRIPTION	
ADULT BUGS	Adult are 1.5-2 cm in length, greenish to golden brown in color with darker diamond shape posterior, with leaf-shaped hind legs.
NYMPHS	There are five nymphal instars. First instar nymphs feed on needles and young cone, later instar feed on seeds.
EGGS	Eggs are golden-brown and laid needles of host plants.
LIFE HISTORY	Adults emerge late May to early June. They feed on young and mature seeds. If not controlled in seed orchards they can cause 80% or higher seed loss. In most areas there is one generation per year. In Southern US and Mexico they can have up to 3 generation. Adults overwinter in protected areas – under tree bark, in animal nests, humane shelters and homes.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENT, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	Leptotriene on Gray Rubber Septum. Field life: thirty (30) days.
TRAP TO USE	Yellow Panel Trap painted with Teflon
MONITORING STRATEGY	Place the traps within tree rows close to the edge of the plantation. Hang the trap from shepherd hook so the collection cup is 30 cm above the ground. Placing more traps can result in lowering bug population. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	The best method of control is to prevent them from entering a building in the first place through mechanical exclusion. Building false shelters and removing overwintering bugs could contribute to lowering bug population.
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