

SOD WEBWORM IN HOME LAWNS

ED SMITH, CHEMICAL AND QUALITY CONTROL SUPERVISOR

There are several species of caterpillars called sod webworms that can be highly destructive pests of Ohio home lawns. Damage to grass is caused by the feeding of the larval or "worm" stage. The adult moth does not cause damage to turf, other plants or clothing.

The damage shows up as small dead patches of grass among the normally growing grass. The summer generation may cause general turf thinning or even irregular dead patches in mid-July into early August. Sod webworms prefer sunny areas and the larvae are often found on south facing, steep slopes and banks, where it is hot and dry. Heavily shaded turf is seldom attacked by the larvae.

The most severe damage usually shows up in mid July and August when the temperature is hot and the grass is not growing vigorously. In fact, most sod webworm damage is mistaken for heat and drought stress. Sod webworm-damaged lawns may recover with light fertilization and an application of an insecticide.



Lawn damage caused by webworm

Turf grass Attacked

Sod webworms appear to feed on all the common turf grass used in Ohio. However, common Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass and fine fescues are the ones showing damage the most.

Recognizing Sod Webworm Injury

The sod webworm caterpillars live in tunnels constructed in turf thatch or extending to the soil under the turf. These tunnels are silk lined and the webbing joins soil particles and leaves together. The larvae emerge from these burrows to chew grass blades off just above the thatch line, usually at night.

In thick, green turf, injury appears as small brown patches about the size of a quarter to three inches in diameter. When many larvae are present in mid-summer, the small brown patches run together and form large irregular, thin and brown areas.

The surest way to tell if you have sod webworms is to find a suspected area of infestation (brown patches). Get down on your hands and knees, take your two index fingers and part the grass blades in the area between dead and live grass and look for an area with small green pellets. The pellets, called frass, are the excrement of the larvae and indicate that a larva is close by.

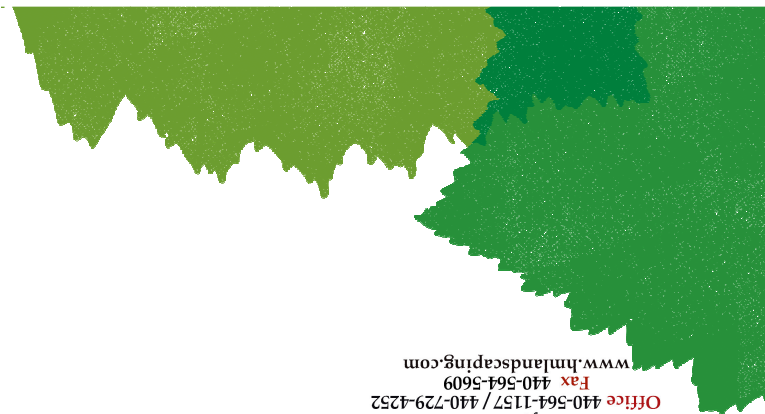
The adult moths fly mainly in late June and again in July. Seeing these moths fly up while mowing or walking around the lawn does not confirm that damage is, or will be done by the larvae. The adult moths can fly considerable distances and may be coming from other infested areas.



Controls

The best way to control sod webworm and if your lawn had a past history of insect problems would be to apply a preventive insect application to your lawn in early July. Most webworms are easily controlled if the pesticides are ingested when the larvae feeding. I would recommend a preventive application to your lawn if you want to make sure your lawn insect free.

Please don't hesitate to call H&M Landscaping for any lawn problems or questions that you might have about your lawn.



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JULY 2013

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A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT.

Our Experienced Design Professionals Will Bring Your Visions Into Reality

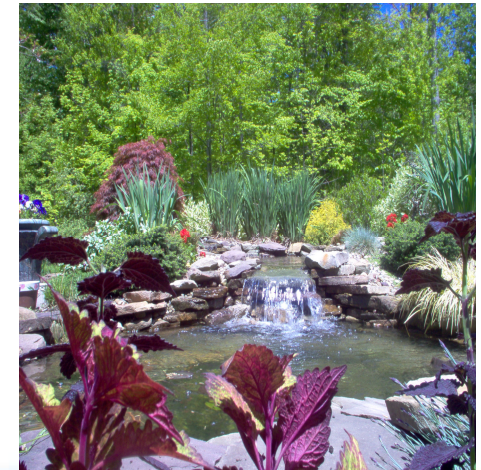
This event is put together to showcase our talents as landscapers and artists through friendly competition. I also believe that this event is a celebration of the people that make up the H&M Family.

From the initial concept that Karine Gomez created, to the implementation of our carpenters that constructed our display and of course, I would be remiss if I did not mention the staff that stayed out late to remove the display at Landerhaven at 10 PM and then showed up the next day at 7 AM to continue to service our clients. The commitment to excellence was all around me on April 27th and that is the reason why H&M Landscaping is the Best of the East. Not because we create and develop unbelievable outdoor spaces, but it's the people that come to work every day and work tirelessly striving to improve our company, our product and "Exceed Our Customers Expectations, The First Time"

My hat goes off to our staff. You truly are the best of the best!

Mark Mazzurco

Mark Mazzurco, Company President



THE H&M INSIGHT

HONORABLE MENTION

LEE WISE
CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISOR

I know it's hard to believe but the summer is nearly half over already, and there is still so much to do! It has been a remarkable season thus far considering the late start out of winter and the overly wet spring continuing into this summer. Site conditions have been poor at best, and often times simply impassible.

Despite these difficult conditions there are always those that rise to the top and accomplish great things and we'd like to recognize some of our people who have done just that by performing their duties above expectations and moreover, making our customers happy, which is the number one goal.

Finally, congratulations to Eddie Murillo on his recent promotion to Maintenance Supervisor. For the last 2 years, Eddie has worked for H&M Landscaping as a Maintenance Foreman on many of our premiere Residential Maintenance accounts and has done a fantastic job. Eddie brings to the table 15 years experience in the industry, excellent work ethic, a passion for his trade and he is focused on customer satisfaction. We are truly excited to add him to our management staff. Welcome to the team, Eddie!



Employee of the Month:
Jaime Delgado



Maintenance Crew of the Month:
Oscar Rocha, Ivan Huerta,
Jose Gomez

Construction Crew of the Month: (not pictured)
Rodrigo Rea, Jesus Rea, Lupe Lopez



Eddie Murillo
Maintenance Supervisor

SUMMERTIME HOME DAYS

MICHEAL MAZZURCO

From us here at H&M Landscaping, we hope that you are having a fantastic summer. It's that time of the year for family parties, graduations, weddings and reunions. Here at H&M we can help you beautify your yard by providing the do-it-yourselfers the right materials.

From topsoil, mulch, leaf humus, stone aggregates, boulders, natural wall stones, seeds and fertilizers, we can supply you what you need to keep your biggest investment looking beautiful.

Looking for plant material? We have competitive pricing on plants. For your low voltage needs, we can provide you with lights, wire, bulbs and transformers.

So please call and ask for Mike Mazzurco, I will be happy to assist you in any way possible. Have a great summer and hope to hear from you soon.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR H&M TEAM MEMBERS

Jerry Wilthew, July 4th

Amanda Mazzurco, July 11th

Mike Eppich, July 19th

Ciriaco Rangel, August 8th

Jose Garcia, August 15th

Eric Peck, August 18th

Jose Ortega Diaz, August 24th

Stan Deweese, August 24th

Frank Mulanax, August 28th

John Mascaro, August 29th

Enjoy your day!

SHAPE UP YOUR LANDSCAPE

ANTHONY COMELLA
MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

The best time to prune any plant is usually when it is dormant. This can vary greatly among different plants. Still, there are some rules of thumb to follow "the three D's" anytime you see them: dead, diseased and damaged wood. You also should never remove more than 25 percent of the green leaves of a plant at any one time.

Other guidelines include:

- Maximum pruning: 10%-15% max is suggested for mature trees in less than ideal circumstances, 20% for vigorously growing trees in fairly ideal circum-

stances and 25% for saplings and other small, vigorous trees that often need training

- Structural work: summer is also a great time to do some structural work. Suckers, water-sprouts and crossing branches can be easily removed during the summer and energy will be directed toward more strategically located branches and flowers and/or fruit production. By cutting back to lateral buds, you can promote more branching as well as decide the direction new growth will take.
- Keep a canopy: It is important not to allow too much sun exposure to trunk and scaffold branches, which can scaled the living cambium layer just under the bark and create large wounds that can open up the wood to decay organisms as well as jeopardize the strength of the wood. This can be avoided by leaving enough canopy to shade the bark. Care should be taken not to cut back tender plants too late. As pruning can invigorate new growth, it is important that any hard pruning gets done early enough for the resulting new growth to harden off before colder weather sets in.

For more information regarding trimming your trees and shrubs, contact your H&M Landscaping representative.



“ The Road To Success
Is Always Under
Construction ”

DID YOU KNOW?

NICK TINIK

MAINTENANCE PRODUCTION MANAGER

- There is growing evidence that horticulture is important on a human level. Plants lower blood pressure, reduce muscle tension related to stress, improve attention and reduce feelings of fear and anger or aggression
- A dense cover plants and mulch holds soil in place, keeping sediment out of lakes and streams, storm drains and roads and reducing floods, mudslides and dust storms.
- A study cited in Smart Money Magazine indicated that consumers value a landscaped home up to 11.3% higher than its base price and that landscaping investment is nearly always recovered and can help reduce time on the market.
- Well maintained trees and shrubs can increase property value by up to 14%
- Each average sized tree provides an estimated \$7 savings in annual environmental benefits, including energy conservation and reduced pollution



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