

Alfalfa X-1

Alfalfa Insects

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Introduction

Because it is a protein-rich, densely growing perennial crop, alfalfa is home to many species of insects, some of which are economic pests. In the high plains region, alfalfa weevil is usually the most damaging insect, but others, such as grasshoppers, cutworms, armyworms, alfalfa caterpillars, webworms and aphids, also negatively affect production at times. Blister beetles may occasionally become a concern when present at high densities. With careful surveying and decision making, host plant resistance and cultural controls together with insecticides can prevent these insects from causing economic losses. Since alfalfa is highly attractive to honey bees and other pollinators, refer to the **Pollinator Protection** section for information to help avoid non-target exposure to insecticides.

Categories: Alfalfa, Insects, Introduction

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