



# LAWN INSECTS

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# Lawn insects: an Overview

Thank you for downloading our Lawn Insect guide, we hope it will shed some light on the nasties attacking your lawn and give you the confidence to treat them.

It's important to realise that while conditions remain favourable for disease development you will continue to have problems with disease. This is why we recommend both a treatment option as well as cultural practices you can put in place to remove these conditions in the aim of prevent further infection.

Don't forget if you have further questions to check our blogs or contact us.

This guide has been developed with the most common lawn insects in mind and does not include all insects that affect all grasses. If you have any questions it is recommended you contact us before purchase or application.

## African Black Beetle



**Scientific Name:** *Heteronychus arator*  
Root feeding insect in its larval stage, some foliar feeding as an adult.

**Look for:** White grubs with orange heads located in the root zone. Turf pulls out easily due to root destruction.

**Treatment:** Larvae: Acelepryn, Spectrum  
Adult: Sentinel

Courtesy of Bayer

## Ants



**Scientific Name:** *Lasius niger*

Ants are actually a beneficial insect, eating the eggs and larvae of many caterpillars. Due to their mounds they are sometimes viewed as a pest

**Look for:** Small soil mounds where the soil spills out from a central location. Not to be confused with earthworms where the castings are more formed.

**Treatment:** Sentinel

## Argentinian Scarab



**Scientific Name:** *Cyclocephala signaticollis*

A root feeding insect that is often harder to treat, limited coverage though with populations in SA, VIC, QLD and coastal NSW

**Look for:** White grubs with orange heads located in the root zone. Turf pulls out easily due to root destruction.

**Treatment:** Acelepryn

## Couch Mite



**Scientific Name:** *Aceria cynodoniensis*

As a mite, this pest is actually an Arachnid not an insect and therefore requires some pretty special treatment options. Sucks nutrients and water from the stem.

**Look for:** Grass that has a witches broom look, tightly bunched leaves as in the photo.

**Treatment:** Contact us, this is a difficult pest which requires a detailed plan of attack.



# Cutworm



**Scientific Name:** *Agrotis ipsilon*

A leaf feeding insect that is found throughout most of Australia and similar to other caterpillars is very fast feeding in its late larval stage.

**Look for:** A central hole from which the caterpillar emerges from at night and feeds. Check for them at night or use a soapy water treatment.

**Treatment:** [Acelepryn](#) (larvae)

# Lawn Armyworm



**Scientific Name:** *Spodoptera maurita* (pictured), *Leucania convecta*, *Persectania ewingii*, *Spodoptera exempta*

While there is a few of them, they all eat the leaves and they all move quickly across the lawn in a destructive pattern.

**Look for:** Brown/green/grey grubs in the lawn feeding at night. Lawn stripped of leaves.

**Treatment:** [Acelepryn](#), [Sentinel](#), [Spectrum](#)

# Mole Cricket



**Scientific Name:** *Gryllotalpa* spp. (pictured) and *Scapteriscus didactylus*

A root feeding insect with a that name describes it well, it looks a lot like a common cricket with shovel like front legs for digging like a mole.

**Look for:** Mole like trenches along the turf. A blue ant (wasp) which is a common pest of the mole cricket.

**Treatment:** Fipronil

# Acelepryn



**Active Ingredient**  
Chlorantraniliprole

**Pests treated**

- African Black beetle Larvae
- Argentinian Scarab Larvae
- Argentine Stem Weevil Larvae
- Caterpillars including
  - Black Cutworm
  - Lawn Armyworm
  - Sod webworm

**Tips for use**

Identify the pest and follow the label.

**Why we love it**

It treats a wide range of lawn grubs, moves through the plant which means good results. It also comes in a range of pack sizes and both liquid and granular for ease of use.

# Spectrum



**Active Ingredient**  
Imidacloprid

**Pests treated**

- African Black beetle Larvae
- Argentinian Scarab Larvae
- Billbug Larvae

**Tips for use**

Identify the pest and follow the label.

**Why we love it**

It offers a cost effective product solution for common lawn pests including the destructive African Black Beetle and Billbug.

