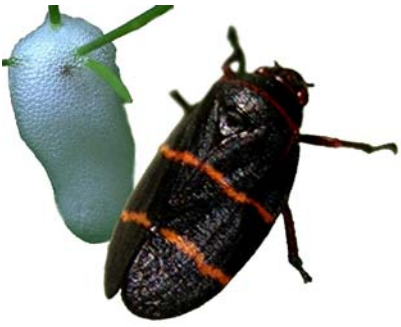


Dealing With Spittlebugs



Spittlebugs are common insects that can be found in Centipede lawns and on holly trees and shrubs in our area. The adult insects can be easily recognized by having two orange-red stripes across their black bodies. The immature insects cover themselves with a mass of frothy small bubbles; most of the spittle masses are hidden near the soil surface or in a thatch layer. Every lawn in our area has at least a few of these pests-control is needed when their population is high enough to start causing red streaking, fading of the green of grass blades, yellow tips, and dying grass. High populations peak in June and again in early August to early September. Hollies can be sprayed with Ortho Systemic Insect Control (formerly known as Isotox) to control Spittlebugs hiding on the undersides of the leaves. To control immature Spittlebugs in the lawn we recommend-

1. Place 4 ½ tablespoons of Acephate 75 into a Gilmour 6 gallon hose attachment sprayer and fill with water to the top, shake well then attach to a garden hose.
2. Spray the contents onto an area of 1,000 square feet (50' x 20' or 100' x 10'). Walk backwards as you spray to avoid getting wet with the chemical. Keep pets and children off of the lawn until dry.
3. Re-apply 10 to 14 days later. During rainy weather apply a granular insecticide product containing Deltamethrin, Permethrin or Bifenthrin to reach immature insects that are low in the lawn close to the soil level .
4. Inspect your lawn weekly for spittle masses, large numbers of adults flying, lawn discoloration. Re- treat as needed.