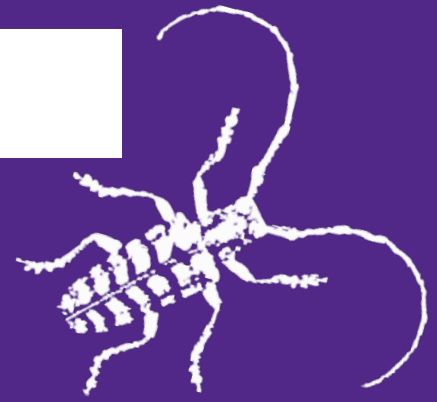


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July 26, 2024, No. 19

News Corner

- Green June Beetle Adult

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- Heartworm prevention for cats and dogs

NEWS CORNER

Green June Beetle Adult

Green June beetle, *Cotinis nitida*, adults are flying around in landscapes and gardens, and over managed and unmanaged grassy areas. Green June beetle adults are erratic flyers and occasionally bump into people and objects. Adults are 3/4 to 1 inch (1.9 to 2.5 centimeters) long, velvety green, and tinged with yellow brown coloration. Green stripes with yellow orange margins extend lengthwise on the front wings (Figure 1). The underside of the body is shiny and metallic green or gold. Adults fly around for several weeks from July through August. Green June beetle adults are sometimes mistaken for Japanese beetle, *Popilla japonica*, adults although they really do not look alike.

Green June beetle has a one year life cycle, overwintering as a mature larva or grub in the soil. Adults typically emerge from late June through early July and are active during the day, resting at night on plants, in thatch, or in compost. Adults produce a sound



Figure 1. Green June beetle adult (Raymond Cloyd).



Figure 2. Green June beetle adults feeding on apple fruit (Raymond Cloyd).

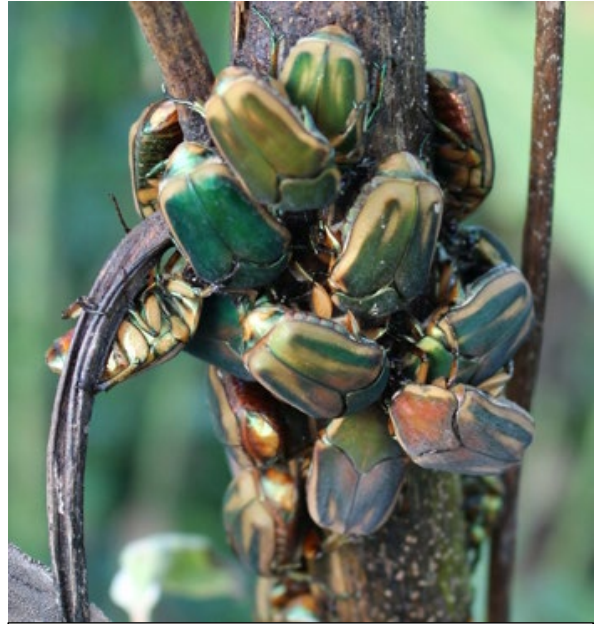


Figure 3. Green June beetle adults feeding on the stem of a sunflower plant (Raymond Cloyd).

when flying that is similar to bumble bees. Adults feed on ripening fruits (Figure 2) and corn tassels, the leaves of oak and maple trees, and on the stems of sunflower plants (Figure 3). Male green June beetles swarm in the morning, flying around just above managed and/or unmanaged grassy areas where females are located. The females emit an odor or pheromone that attracts the males. Male beetles cluster on the soil surface or in grassy areas with several males attempting to mate with a single female. After mating, females lay clusters of 10 to 30 eggs in moist soil with a high organic matter content. The larvae emerge (eclose) from eggs in approximately two weeks and feed near the soil surface. The early instar larvae are $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch (0.95 centimeters) in length and the later instar larvae are $1 \frac{1}{2}$ (3.9 centimeters) inches long. Green June beetle larvae have the distinct characteristic behavior of crawling on their back (Figure 4). The larvae primarily feed on organic matter in thatch or grass clippings.



Figure 4. Green June beetle larva crawling on back (Raymond Cloyd).

For more information on how to manage green June beetle adults and larvae you can refer to the following extension publication:

Green June Beetle: Insect Pest of Turfgrass (MF3600 March 2022)

<https://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/MF3600.pdf>

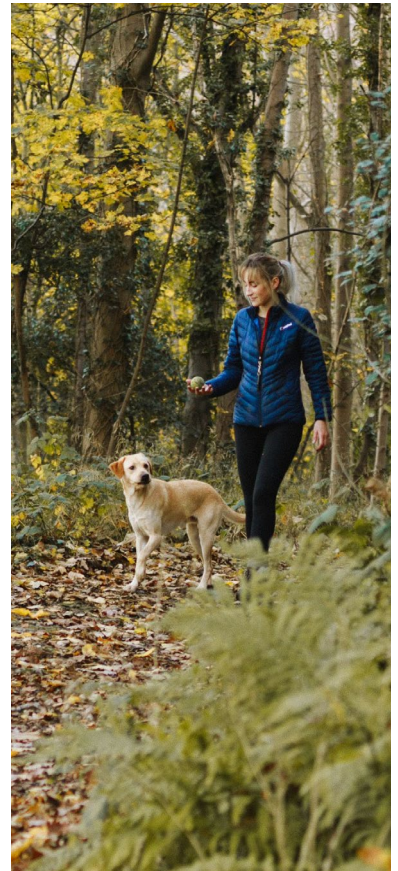
Raymond Cloyd – Horticultural Entomology/Plant Protection

HOME

LEARNING CORNER

Heartworm prevention for cats and dogs

Heartworm disease in dogs is a serious and potentially fatal condition caused by parasitic worms (*Dirofilaria immitis*). Worms are transmitted between dogs by the bites of infected mosquitoes. When a mosquito bites a dog that is infected with heartworms, it picks up the immature stage of the worms (microfilariae) from the dog's bloodstream. These microfilariae develop into the infective stage within the mosquito. When the infected mosquito bites another dog, it deposits the infectious larvae on the skin surface near the feeding site where they enter the dog. Over the next 6-7 months, these larvae mature into adult worms, residing primarily in the heart, lungs, and associated blood vessels of the infected dog. In the early stages, dogs may show no symptoms of infection however, as the disease progresses, symptoms such as coughing, difficulty breathing, fatigue, and weight loss may appear. Severe cases can lead to heart failure and potentially death. While treatment is available, it is both costly and risky as complete cure may not be possible. Because of this, preventative medication prescribed by veterinarians should be administered to dogs. Once monthly oral or topical doses can be given at home, while longer acting injectable formulas are now available at some veterinary clinics. Testing your dog annually is recommended to ensure that no infection occurred through lapse in treatment. Cats can also be infected by heartworms and unfortunately, once the worms have matured within the cat, no treatment options are available. Any cats which are exposed to the outdoors are at risk of acquiring heartworm. Prophylactic treatment for cats is available through veterinary prescription.



Cassandra Olds – Veterinary Entomology

HOME

Kansas Insect Newsletter

July 26, 2024, No. 19

Sincerely,

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