

Grasshopper Management Taun Beddes

Grasshoppers have posed a significant challenge in many regions this year, requiring proactive management strategies to mitigate their impact. Understanding their lifecycle and preferred control methods can greatly improve effectiveness in combating these pests.

Timing is Key

The optimal time to tackle grasshopper populations is during their nymph stage. Nymphs are more vulnerable to control measures such as baits and insecticides than adult grasshoppers. Acting early when nymphs first appear can prevent larger outbreaks later in the season.

Cooperative Efforts

Given grasshoppers' migratory nature, coordinating control efforts with neighbors across a broader area can enhance effectiveness. Collaborative action helps reduce the grasshopper population and minimize their spread from one property to another.

Plant Preferences

In individual yards, grasshoppers tend to favor certain plants over others. Identifying and treating these preferred plants first can help concentrate control efforts where they are most needed. This approach optimizes the use of resources, potentially reducing the need for widespread treatment.

Areas 5 acres or More

Contact the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) for possible assistance. Those owning less than 5 acres do not qualify for this.

Treatment Options

When dealing with larger infestations, using baits or sprays becomes necessary. Here are some effective options:

Baits:

- EcoBran (carbaryl): Available online and at local farm stores, EcoBran has shown promising results in suppressing grasshopper populations based on user feedback in Utah County.

Sprays:

- Gordons Bug-No-More: Suitable for larger properties, covering up to 3 acres, and effective across various plants, including fruit trees, vegetables, and ornamentals.
- GardenTech Sevin Insect Killer: This product is not carbaryl-based, but it is effective against grasshoppers and has a broad application label covering fruits, vegetables, and ornamentals.
- Bonide Eight Vegetable, Fruit and Flower Insect Spray: Provides effective control and is versatile in application.
- Ortho Home Defense Mosquito and Bug Killer: While primarily targeting mosquitoes and bugs, it also offers some control for grasshoppers on listed fruits and vegetables.

Availability and Considerations

It's important to note the availability of specific products can vary. For instance, due to regulatory reasons, NoLo and certain OMRI-listed products may not be currently available or suitable for use. Spinosad is not effective, and pyrethrin, while effective, only lasts for a day or two.

If you would like more detailed information on grasshopper control strategies, including product specifics and updates on availability, you can refer to resources such as the Utah State University Extension's research on grasshoppers [here](#).

By adopting these proactive measures and choosing appropriate control methods, homeowners can effectively manage grasshopper populations and protect their gardens and landscapes from significant damage. Working together with neighbors and staying informed about available options are critical steps toward successful grasshopper management.