

Three-Cornered Alfalfa Hopper



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The three-cornered alfalfa hopper is a green, wedge-shaped sap-feeding insect that causes distinct physical injury. Adults and nymphs girdle stems, lateral branches, or petioles as they feed on

legumes and a variety of other plants. Symptoms include yellowing and wilting above the callus tissue that develops at the injury site. Damaged plants also may break or lodge.

Low numbers of three-cornered alfalfa hoppers are probably present in many Kentucky fields in late summer but can

reach damaging levels during late summer in alfalfa and double-cropped or late-planted soybeans. Generally, an insecticide application is not needed at this point in the season. Δ

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Figure 2. 3-cornered alfalfa hopper adult (UCIPM).



Figure 1. Girdled alfalfa stem (brown band). Photo by S. Osborne.