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Managing Mole Crickets: Developing a Strategy for Success

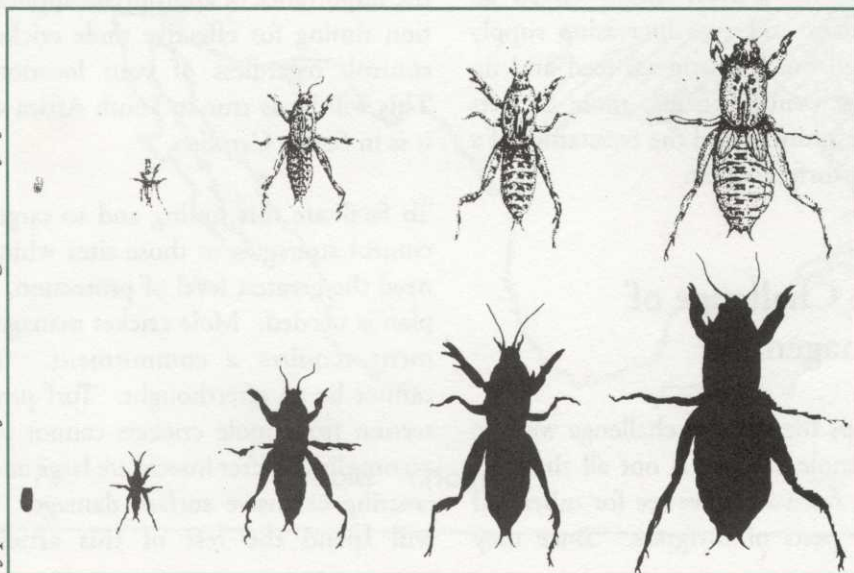
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Mole Crickets: The Problem

Mole crickets have firmly established themselves as a major turfgrass pest, not only in the Southeastern United States, but throughout the world. Concerns over the potential damage from this pest range from Spain and Italy in Europe to South Africa and Southeast Asia. While different species are responsible for these infestations, they all-regardless of where they occur-are capable of causing severe damage and are difficult to control.

The consistent themes of serious damage and expensive control measures have moved this pest to the number one status for many turfgrass managers in affected areas. In the United States, the problem extends from eastern Texas across Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida and north up the coast through South Carolina and North Carolina. Small pockets of infestation have been reported in other southern states further to the west.

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