terial, and apparently there is no survival through the following winter.

Contrasts between the adult Big-eyed Bug and the chinch bug are clearly evident in the accompanying illustration. Since these insects are about the same size, and both very small (to 1/5 inch long), a hand magnifying lens is most valuable. An inexpensive 10x hand lens (for \$1.50 or less) will suffice. In the illustration note the huge eyes of the Big-eyed Bug, giving the insect body a "chopped off" appearance in contrast to the tiny eyes and small triangular head of the true chinch bug.

Adults

Big-eyed Bug (Geocoris bullatus)

A rather robust appearance Large protruding eyes Body color—generally a pithy black, a reddish yellow tinge on the under or vertical surface

Blackish leg color A rather rapid mover

Chinch Bug
(Blissus hirtus)

A more slender body shape
Eyes smaller, not nearly so
bulging
Characteristic whitish wings
and black body
Reddish leg color
Moves much slower in contrast to Geocoris.

Both insects about 1/6 to 1/5 inch in length.

Nymphs

Similar to adults in appearance but not winged.
First two instars have charac-

To date, the Big-eyed Bug can not be blamed for any turf dam-

teristic banding.

age. Thus it will behoove anyone who is to embark on an expensive spray program to learn what these insects look like. It may save some time and, to be sure, some money. But don't jump to conclusions! Some chinch bugs aren't but there are a lot of chinch bugs that are!

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