

# Common Lawn Pests



## Billbugs

*Sphenophorus*

**Problem:** Grass turns brown and dies in patches between June and August. Grass pulls out easily sometimes revealing white grubs. Also, birds may be observed feeding on the lawn.

**Description:** Billbug larvae damage the lawn by eating grass blades and roots. The adults lay eggs in May which hatch later in the summer.

**Solutions:** For small infestations, let the birds feed on the larvae in the lawn. For bigger infestations, use **Bayer Complete**. **Complete** is more effective than other lawn insecticides because it not only kills surface insects, but it also controls soil insects for up to 3 months. **Bayer Complete** is effective on most common lawn bugs including billbugs, sod webworms, ants, fleas and more. Normally, one application is enough. Affected areas usually recover after the bugs are gone. Be sure to water and fertilize the lawn to stimulate new growth.



Info and pictures from Ortho Problem Solver



## Grubs

*Many different species*

**Problem:** Late in the season, from August to October, grass begins to wilt and turn brown in large patches. Brown grass will roll up easily like a carpet. Birds and other animals may be seen feeding in the lawn. Skunks and raccoons especially love grubs. During the night, they dig for them in the lawn, leaving ragged holes in the morning.

**Description:** Grubs are the larvae of beetles. Adult beetles do no harm, but grubs eat grass roots and can destroy entire lawns. They also attract other unwanted animals that can be destructive.

**Solutions:** Healthy lawns can withstand some grubs, so make sure to keep your lawn maintained. Apply **Bayer Complete Insect Killer** or **Grub Killer Plus**. **Grub Killer** is faster acting, killing grubs in 24 hours, while **Bayer Complete** kills soil bugs for up to 3 months. It may take several applications to completely kill all grubs. Afterwards, water and fertilize lawn to encourage new growth in affected areas.



Info and picture from Ortho Problem Solver