

Hunting Billbug Control



A billbug is a weevil or snout-beetle that can cause damage to your lawn and is often misdiagnosed as drought stress. The hunting billbug has a coarsely punctuated area behind its head that looks like small holes. It also has a smooth, black, Y-shaped area down the middle.

Hunting Billbug Adolescents

Billbug larvae are white or cream-colored, legless and brown-headed. When fully developed, they too are about ¼–½ inches long and cause the most damage to grass. Their bodies are curved in a C-shape. Another sign to look for in the thatch layer is the excrement (frass) of larvae, which looks like saw dust.



Signs of Damage

Billbug larvae damage looks similar to drought-stressed turf. Rule out poor irrigation by conducting the “tug” test. Drought-stressed turf will not pull up very easily. If the sod is easy to roll up, this may instead be an indication of grub worms, a different species of pests.

Adult billbug damage looks like holes or punctures in the grass blades.



Hunting Billbug Treatment

Best Controlled with Active Ingredients Chlorantraniliprole and Bifenthrin.

