

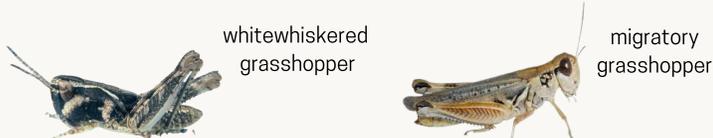
## NEWSLETTER

### SNOW, RAIN, THEN COMES GRASSHOPPERS

The 2020 Goshen county grasshopper survey showed high populations of four different species. With high densities recorded, this raises concern for landowners. Those who struggled with grasshopper infestations this past summer, we encourage you to contact GCWP. We can help you stay on top of the infestations and monitor the areas for problematic species. Treating grasshoppers in their early growth stages is key for economical control, spring 2021 will be here soon enough and it is never too early to start thinking about potential risks.

**Melanoplus sanguinipes** (*migratory grasshopper*) has adapted especially well to western agriculture. The unplanned introduction of weeds, harvesting sandy loam soils for crop land, and overgrazing has created a especially favorable habitat. This grasshopper has the ability to fly with the help of wind and may go as far as 10 miles. Meanwhile causing concern for larger infestations.

**Phoetaliotes nebrascensis** (*large-headed grasshopper*) prefers a habitat of tall, lush grasses, feeding primarily on western wheatgrass. These adult grasshoppers develop short wings unsuited for flying, not allowing for long distance dispersal or migration. Hatches can begin as early as June 13 in southeastern Wyoming, hence the importance of treating grasshoppers in early growth stages.



whitewiskered  
grasshopper

migratory  
grasshopper



large-headed  
grasshopper

narrow-winged  
spur throated  
grasshopper

**Ageneotettix deorum** (*whitewiskered grasshopper*) is a pest of rangeland grasses and is one of the smaller rangeland grasshoppers. While feeding on attached green leaves, this grasshopper often severs them from the plant, wasting vegetation. Hatch begins in mid to late May and can continue hatching for about two weeks after.

**Melanoplus angustipennis** (*narrow-winged spur throated grasshopper*) lives in vegetated sand dunes, banks of streams, livestock trails and disturbed habitats, while it is absent in surrounding mixedgrass areas. Their long wings allow for evasive flight ranges from 2 to 8 feet. In eastern Wyoming, hatching begins in early to late May, best time for treatment.

### GCWP MOSQUITO PROGRAM

Goshen County Weed & Pest is able to offer a mosquito program with funding from the Emergency Insect Management Grant administered by the Wyoming Department of Agriculture. The program is focused on the West Nile virus (WNV) carrier, which is known as the Culex mosquito. Although elimination would be key, it is not a realistic goal. Our mosquito program consists of monitoring and applying insecticide in areas that show high populations of Culex mosquitoes. *The goal is to build awareness within the county, while we monitor and treat densely populated areas with a high-risk factor of contracting WNV.* Throughout the summer we attend the Torrington Farmer's Market, Third Thursday's and other public events to provide information on mosquito control methods and prevention of WNV. Rental foggers, adulticides, and larvicides (control methods for standing water) are available to Goshen county residents.



#### Where does the funding go?

- Monitoring mosquito populations
- Rental equipment
- Providing residents with larvacides & adulticides
- ULV (fogging) applications
- Aerial applications  
(applied each summer in densely populated areas)

Learn about our West Nile virus testing and collection processes on our website.  
[www.goshenweedandpest.com/mosquito-program.html](http://www.goshenweedandpest.com/mosquito-program.html)

#### STAY IN THE KNOW

- February 15th closed for President's Day
- Prairie dog bait available Oct 1 - March 15