

Pest Profile



Photo credit: [G. Oldfield](#), USDA, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Beet leafhopper

Scientific Name: *Eutettix tenellus* Baker

Order and Family: Hemiptera; Cicadellidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		
Larva/Nymph		Similar to adults but smaller and wingless, becoming spotted with red and brown as they mature.
Adult	3 mm long	Wedge shaped and can range from pale brown, tan, pale green to green, or gray in color with black or brown markings on the forewings, head, and thorax. Long slender legs used for jumping away when disturbed.
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Piercing-sucking mouthparts

Host plant/s: Mainly beets, but can also feed on tomatoes, peppers, beans, and cantaloupe.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Beet leafhoppers remove plant nutrients from leaves and stems with their piercing-sucking mouthparts, causing shriveled and burned leaves referred to as “hopper burn.” Most important damage is not caused by the feeding itself, but the transmission of Curly Top Virus.

References:

Beet Leafhopper. (n.d.) Retrieved from <http://uspest.org/pdf/reb26.pdf>

Cranshaw, W. (2004). Chapter 6: Sap suckers – Miscellaneous Leafhoppers. In *Garden insects of North America: The ultimate guide to backyard bugs*. (pp. 364). Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

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