

# A Bug's Life

# Phlox plant bug

*Lopidea davisi*

## Fun facts

- Difficult to see because they hid on underside of leaves and in mulch
- Feed on leaves, buds, and flowers
- Two generations: Spring, summer
- Overwinters as eggs in dead stems

## Host plants

- All phlox, but mainly tall phlox and creeping phlox

## Identification

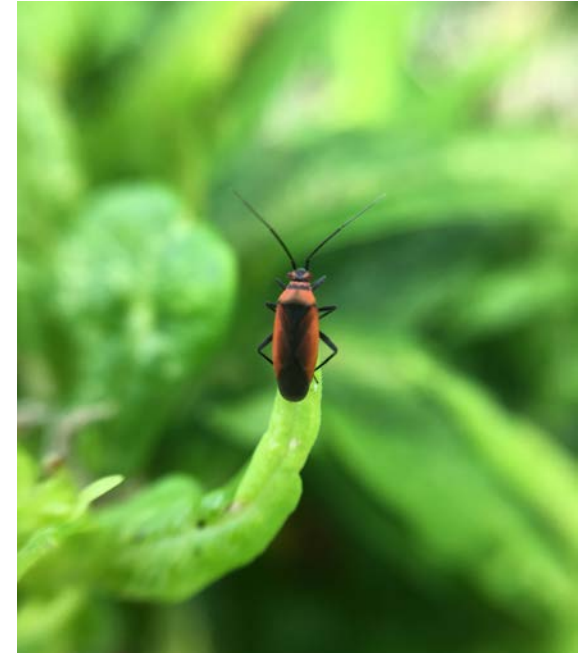
Damage: White or yellow flecking injuries, leaves turn brown, curl and drop, stunting and plant death

Nymph: Tiny red, orange, yellow, brown, or orange bugs, no wings

Adult: 1/4" long, reddish-orange with black running down the back/wings, black legs and antennae

## Management

- Practice good sanitation: Cut back infested vegetation and leaf litter, discard before spring
- Scout early for nymphs
- Apply contact insecticides to both upper and underside of leaves
- Options include insecticidal soap, horticultural oil, pyrethrins, and permethrin products



Photos: J. Green