

UC Pest Management Guidelines

AVOCADO FALSE CHINCH BUG

Scientific Name: *Nysius ericae*
 (Reviewed: 7/01, updated: 7/01)



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DESCRIPTION OF THE PEST

The false chinch bug is a small, light or dark gray bug, about 0.12 inch (3 mm) long. Pale gray nymphs have reddish-brown abdomens and swarm from dry grasslands into adjacent cultivated areas. There are from four to seven generations per year.

DAMAGE

On a number of occasions, young avocado trees have been attacked and severely injured by these insects, which suck sap from stems. Affected plants wither and die suddenly after attack. Avocado orchards adjacent to grasslands are particularly vulnerable in May and June when grasses dry out.

MONITORING and MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

Mature trees are little affected by false chinch bugs and orchards distant from grasslands are rarely affected. Young trees near foothills can be severely affected and may require treatment, especially along the borders.

TREATMENT

Pesticide (commercial name)	Amount/Acre	P.H.I.+ (days)
A. MALATHION 8	4-9 pt	7
COMMENTS: Restricted entry interval: 12 hours. Apply as a foliar spray. Use of this material will disrupt biological control of other pests such as scales, thrips, mites, and whiteflies.		

+ Preharvest interval. Do not apply within this many days of harvest.

PRECAUTIONS

PUBLICATION

UC IPM Pest Management Guidelines: Avocado



UC ANR Publication 3436

Insects and Mites

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