

PEST: Pasture Mealybug (*Heliococcus summervillei*)

BASIC PROFILE: The pasture mealybug is native of Australia and has recently been found in Texas causing moderate to severe damage on pastureland. The nymphs are the damaging stage of the pest. Early infestation symptoms are yellowing and discoloration progressing into reddening or purpling of the leaves. The host list is broad and includes Bermudagrass, rice, sugarcane and St. Augustine grass.

LDAF ACTIVITY: As this is a new pest, no quarantine action has been taken as of January 2026. Farm equipment should be cleaned thoroughly before moving into another area or field as this is likely a pathway to spread the pest.

