

# *Oxycarenus hyalinipennis*

## The Cotton Seed Bug SCREENING AID



Adult cotton seed bugs are brown or black insects with clear or whitish wings.

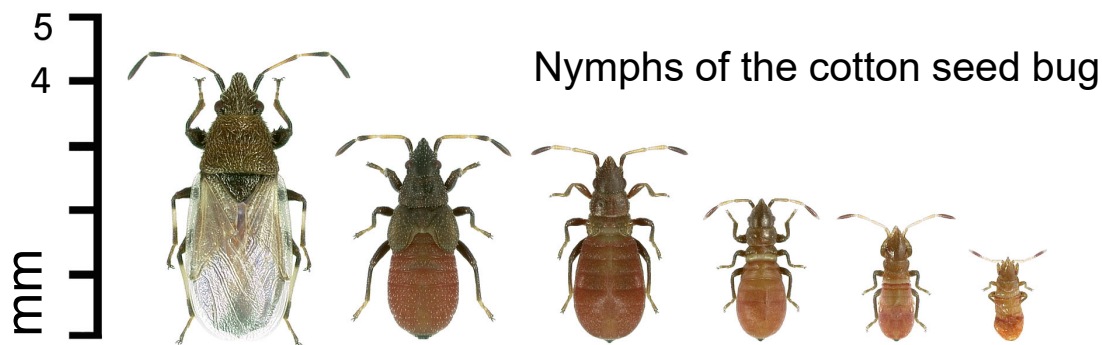
They have a triangular head and appear pointy anteriorly (notice the arrow).

The bugs range from 4.0 to 4.3 mm (~1/8 of an inch) in length from the tip of the head to the rounded apex of the wings.

The dorsal surface is somewhat flat and has a dense cover of short setae.

Nymphs have a reddish, pinkish or orange abdomen.

**NOTE:** Any mature cotton boll with small, actively moving brown or black insects could be infested with the cotton seed bug. Those specimens should be collected and submitted for identification.



Nymphs of the cotton seed bug

*Oxycarenus hyalinipennis* (Costa) (Heteroptera: Lygaeoidea: Oxycarenidae) is similar to other lygaeoid bugs in North America. For final identification it is necessary to dissect the male genitalia. This handout was prepared by Julieta Brambila (USDA/APHIS/PPQ) for CAPS (Cooperative Agriculture Pest Survey program). It was reviewed by Susan Halbert and Leroy Whilby (FDACS/DPI). Natasha Wright (FDCAS/DPI, now at Braman Termite & Pest Elimination) provided the photographs.