

GROUND PEARLS

in Lawns and Turf

Ground Pearls are small insects that live in soil and feed on grass roots. They are related to Scale insects.



WHERE ARE THEY FOUND?

Ground Pearls are found in parts of Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia.

They are likely to be found in other regions too.



WHY THEY ARE A PROBLEM

Ground Pearls live underground, hidden in hard, round cysts. They damage turf by sucking sap with a straw-like mouthpart.



HOW TO TELL IF YOU HAVE GROUND PEARLS

Look for shiny, pearl-like cysts and small pink or cream adult females.

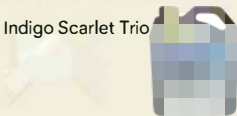
Rule out scarab grubs as a common cause



TREATMENT AND CONTROL

The only registered insecticide to control this pest

Indigo Scarlet Trio



Eggs hatch and the crawlers then seek out roots

WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE

Adult female ground pearls

3–5 mm long
pink or cream
bead-shaped
insects

Tiny crawler
first instar nymph:



LIFE CYCLE

1 Adult female
3–5 mm long

2 Eggs hatch and
the crawlers
then seek out

3 Second instar nymphs

