

Halyomorpha halys

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

**NOT KNOWN TO
OCCUR IN IDAHO**



HOSTS

Ornamental plants, such as lilac, butterfly bush and princess tree as well as many fruits and vegetables including apples, peaches, apricots, cherries, pears, grapes, blackberries, raspberries, tomatoes, corn, soybeans, green beans and peppers.

LIFE HISTORY

Eggs: Barrel-shaped, 1.6 x 1.3 mm, and white, light yellow or pale green. They are attached to the underside of leaves and laid side-by-side in clusters of 20 to 30 eggs.

Nymphal: While immature they pass through five nymphal instars. After emerging from the egg, the first instar is about 2 mm in length, tick-like in shape, with black head, thorax and legs, and a red to orange abdomen marked in black. Later instars are predominantly black marked with off-white and some red or yellow. A white band is prominent on the tibia of each leg. Eyes are a deep red. Spines are found on the lateral margins of the thorax and in front of each eye.

Adult: Approximately 17 mm long, with the typical “shield” shape of other stink bugs, almost as wide as long. They are mottled in various shades of brown, dark on the upper surface and very pale beneath with patches of black and metallic blue/green punctures on the underside of the first two thoracic segments. Antennae have alternating dark and light bands on the last two segments and the exposed edges of the abdomen are also marked with alternate bands of brown and white. Margins of the pronotum are smooth with a single “tooth” directly behind each eye.

DAMAGE

Adults and young feed by piercing the host plant tissue with a needle-like proboscis, sucking plant juices and injecting saliva into the plant material which responds with localized necrosis and a characteristic dimpled distortion referred to as “cat facing” that renders the produce unmarketable as fresh product. Chemicals produced by the scent glands can produce allergic reactions or dermatitis in some individuals. BMSB are also nuisance pests when they congregate in human dwellings in large numbers to hibernate during fall and winter.

Photo by Susan Ellis, bugwood.org



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