

Stink Bugs

Several species (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)

(Origin: Native or Exotic)



Adult Green Stink Bug

Primary Hosts: Tomatoes, Soybeans

Damage: Stink bugs damage soybeans by piercing pods and sucking fluid from the developing beans causing the pods to form hardened, knotty spots or to drop from plants, or seeds to be smaller, shriveled, and/or discolored. Tomatoes are damaged by developing hard, white spots just under the skin where stink bugs have fed.

Management: Soybeans can be scouted by sweep net sampling.

Biocontrols: A Tachinid fly attacks stink bugs.

Cultural Controls: Avoid planting near brambles. Stink bug populations build up in berries and migrate to nearby gardens.

Physical Controls: Remove crop debris to eliminate overwintering sites.

Chemical Controls: Contact your local Penn State County Extension Agent for more information. <http://www.extension.psu.edu/extmap.html>

Insect Description:

Adults: Flattened, shield-shaped bug with piercing mouthparts. A triangular-shaped plate partially covers its wings. Most species feed on plants, but a few species are predatory.

Nymph: Resemble wingless adults but are frequently marked with different colors and lack the triangular plate.

Eggs: Clusters of barrel-shaped eggs.

Life History: Overwintering adults become active in late spring, laying eggs which hatch into nymphs. As nymphs grow, they increase in size and become more like the adult until wings have developed in the last stage. Both adults and nymphs suck juices from the host plants, causing damage.



Green Stink Bug Nymph