



Photo: Jack Rabin



Brown Marmorated Stink Bug



An adult brown marmorated stink bug. Photo: Susan Ellis, Bugwood.org

What Is It?

The brown marmorated stink bug (*Halyomorpha halys*) is native to East Asia and was first noticed in the United States in the late 1990s, possibly having arrived in a shipping crate. It will attack a large variety of plants (more than 170 species) including many fruits and vegetables. It leaves small dead patches on any plant matter it eats, making produce inedible. Homeowners likely will notice an invasion before anyone else, because the brown marmorated stink bug initially will attack vegetable gardens and landscaping plants while spending the winter in homes and other human-made structures.

Is It Here Yet?

Yes. By 2020, it had been found in twenty-nine counties.

Why Should I Care?

With its varied appetite, the brown marmorated stink bug poses a big threat to both gardens and agriculture. The damage it does to crops and the efforts to control it are costly.

What Are Its Characteristics?

- Adults are mottled brown and shield-shaped, 1/3 to 2/3 inches long.



A newly-hatched egg mass on a leaf. Photo: Gary Bernon, USDA APHIS, Bugwood.org

 **Report Sightings**



[Invasivespecies.wa.gov](https://invasivespecies.wa.gov)

- Antennae, abdomen, and legs have alternating dark and light bands.
- The edge of the shoulder is smooth when looking down at the insect.

How Do I Distinguish It From Native Species?

There are a few native species that look similar to the brown marmorated stink bug. Use this guide to distinguish between natives: <https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/pest-watch-brown-marmorated-stink-bug-home-garden-series>

How Can We Stop It?

Pesticides may control it, but also may hurt beneficial species such as ladybugs. Pheromone and light traps are other control options for outdoor and indoor use.

What Should I Do If I Find One?

Report immediately via the WA Invasives mobile app or reporting web form at <https://invasivespecies.wa.gov/report-a-sighting/>.



Brown marmorated stink bug nymph. Photo: Brian Little, The University of Georgia, Bugwood.org