

BROWN MARMORATED STINK BUG

Hemiptera: Pentatomidae

Halyomorpha halys

Bug
of the
Month



© Camilo Florez 2022

The brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB) is an invasive insect pest that feeds on a variety of host plants, including ornamental plants and crops including peaches and grapes. In vineyards, they can cause direct injury to grapes by piercing and feeding on the berries, leading to mold and sour rot infections, which reduce fruit quality and yield. This species has one generation per year in Pennsylvania, although warmer

conditions may permit the development of two generations. Adults overwinter and emerge in the spring to mate and lay eggs, which hatch into nymphs that go through five molts before becoming adults. The adults are approximately 17 mm long and have a shield shape, shades of brown on both the upper and lower body surfaces, and patches of coppery or bluish-metallic

colored rounded depressions on the head and pronotum. The eggs are elliptical and light yellow to yellow-red, while nymphs range in size, with protuberances and spines located on various parts of their bodies. The stink bug gets its name from the scent glands located on the dorsal surface of the abdomen and the underside of the thorax. You can read more about BMSB in this [PSU Extension note](#).

By Laura Laiton Jimenez

Apr 2023



PennState



This publication is available in alternative media on request.

Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status. U.Ed SCI 19-93