

You can help stop a new pest by recognizing and reporting it.

# Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

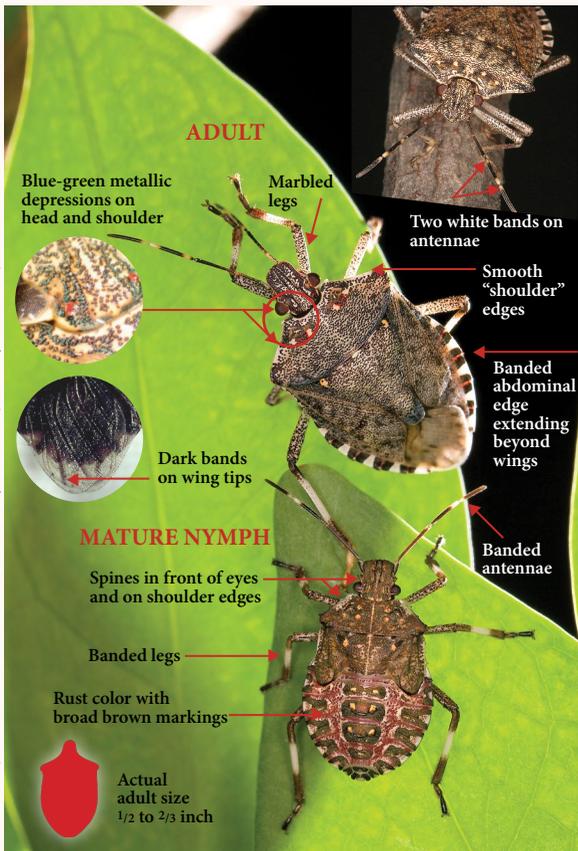
The invasive brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB), *Halyomorpha halys*, has been found in numerous locations in California. Where BMSB takes up residence, it can **cause severe crop and garden losses** and become a **nuisance in and around homes** and other buildings. The ability of BMSB to hitchhike in vehicles and planes has allowed it to **spread rapidly** to new areas. Since it was introduced to the United States from Asia in the 1990s, BMSB has become established in the mid-Atlantic states as well as states along the Pacific.

## How to Identify BMSB



**EGGS:** Laid in clusters of 20 to 30 on underside of leaves, barrel-shaped, white to pale green

**YOUNG NYMPHS:** Abdomen orange with brown markings



**ADULT**

Blue-green metallic depressions on head and shoulder

Marbled legs

Two white bands on antennae

Smooth "shoulder" edges

Banded abdominal edge extending beyond wings

Dark bands on wing tips

**MATURE NYMPH**

Spines in front of eyes and on shoulder edges

Banded antennae

Banded legs

Rust color with broad brown markings

Actual adult size  
1/2 to 2/3 inch

## Similar Stink Bugs (also known as shield bugs)

**BMSB adults look similar to other brown stink bugs.** Here are some tips for telling adults apart.



**RED SHOULDERED STINK BUG:** Edge of abdomen concealed; antennal bands, if present, are not white; less than 1/2 inch long (right)



**ROUGH STINK BUG:** Distinctive teeth jutting out from shoulder; no antennal bands; 2/3 inch long



**CONSPERSE STINK BUG:** Legs dotted with dark spots; no antenna bands; 1/2 inch long

## Impact of BMSB on Crops and People

**CROP DAMAGE:** BMSB may reach very high numbers, and since one bug can feed on many fruit, losses can be severe. Adults and nymphs suck juices from fruit and seeds, creating pockmarks and distortions that make fruit and vegetables unmarketable. Damaged flesh under the skin turns hard and pithy. BMSB damages fruits (e.g., apple, pear, citrus, stone fruits, and fig), berries, grapes, legumes, vegetables, and shade trees.



BMSB damage to tomato (left), peach (center), and pear (right)

**NUISANCE TO PEOPLE:** BMSB seeks winter shelter, and large numbers may congregate on outside walls or invade homes by entering through small openings. It is also a pest in home gardens. These insects stink when disturbed.

## How it Spreads

**BMSB travels long distances** by hitching rides in vehicles or as stowaways when furniture or other articles are moved, often during winter months. As a result, most new infestations are found in urban areas.

## Report any Sightings

If you find a stink bug that you suspect might be a BMSB, place it in a container and carefully note where and when you collected it. Take the sealed container to your county agricultural commissioner or local UC Cooperative Extension office.

## For more information, visit [ipm.ucanr.edu](http://ipm.ucanr.edu).



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