

Pest Profile



Photo credit: [Russ Ottens](#), University of Georgia, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Southern green stink bug

Scientific Name: *Nezara viridula*

Order and Family: Hemiptera: Pentatomidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	1.25mm	Eggs are white to light yellow, turning pinkish with age. Barrel shaped, flat topped with a disc shaped lid, deposited in masses of 30 – 130 on the underside of leaves.
Larva/Nymph		First instars: light yellowish, red eyes, transparent legs and antennae; they stay clustered near the eggs and do not feed. Second instars: black head, thorax, legs, and antennae. Abdomen is dark red with white spots, thorax has a yellow spot on each side. Third and fourth instars: Green color becomes more apparent. Fifth instar: Wing pads become noticeable, abdomen is yellowish green with red spots.
Adult	12mm – 13mm	Green in color, eyes dark red or black, sides of abdomen have small black dots.
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Piercing-sucking

Host plant/s: Soybeans, peas, cotton, and other crop plants.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): All plant parts are likely to be fed upon, but growing shoots and developing fruit are preferred. Attached shoots usually wither or, in extreme cases, may die. The damage on fruit from the punctures appears as hard brownish or black spots. These punctures affect the fruit's edible qualities and decidedly lower its market value. Young fruit growth is retarded and the fruit often withers and drops from the plant. In addition to observable damage, the mechanical transmission of tomato bacterial spot may also result.

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