

Pest Profile



Photo credit: David Cappaert, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Green Stink Bug

Scientific Name: *Acrosternum hilare*

Order and Family: Hemiptera, Pentatomidae

Size and Appearance: The green stink bug is flattened and shield-shaped. The adult is bright green and measures from 1/2 inch to 3/4 inch in length and 1/2 inch in width. It has a distinct triangular-shaped plate that covers part of its wings. The nymphs are wingless and black in color with red or orange markings. They don't have the triangular plate of adults. The nymphs range in size from approximately 1/8 inch to 1/2 inch in length. The green stink bug can produce a strong odor.

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	1.4x1.2mm	Barrel shaped eggs; yellow to green in color changing to pink or gray; laid on leaves or stems in clusters.
Larva/Nymph	3mm-12.7mm	Similar to adults with no wings; black with red or orange markings; lack triangular plate; turn green when older; have 5 instars.
Adult	14mm-19mm	Green in color; flattened shield-shaped body; distinct triangular-shaped plate covering part of wings; 1-2 generations a year.
Pupa (if applicable)		

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

Host plant/s: Hosts include most vegetables, many fruit trees, native and ornamental trees, shrubs, vines, weeds, soybeans, and several other plants.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Green stink bug adults and nymphs cause injury with their piercing-sucking mouthparts. Damage to soybeans is done by puncturing the seed pods and sucking out the fluid from the beans. As a result, pods can form hardened knotty spots and fall off the plant. Developed pods may be smaller, shriveled, and even discolored if they were fed on by green stink bugs. Feeding may reduce yields especially if the seeds were damaged when young. Feeding on flowers can cause the flower or developing fruit to abort. Fruits that are mature have depressed lines and corky areas which gives the fruit a gnarled and blotchy look. Fruits might also have blackened areas that reduce fruit quality.

References:

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