

# Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

## *Halyomorpha halys* (Stal 1855)

### (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)

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A pest control operator, Phil Hagen, brought a single specimen of a brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB) to my office on October 31, 2013. He had correctly identified the specimen and this was confirmed by Reynold Ito, USDA-APHIS, Hawaii, on December 17, 2013, based on an image posted on the Pacific Plant Diagnostics and Recommendation System web site (Sample number 539). The pinned specimen (UGUAM-ESUG-AM20131204.001) was sent to Rich Zack, Washington State University, who confirmed the species determination on January 3, 2014 by comparison to specimens in his collection.

#### DESCRIPTION

The adults are approximately 1.7 centimetres (0.67 in) long and about as wide, forming the shield shape characteristic of other stink bugs. They are various shades of brown on both the top and undersides, with gray, off-white, black, copper, and bluish markings. Markings unique to this species include alternating light bands on the antennae and alternating dark bands on the thin outer edge of the abdomen. The legs are brown with faint white mottling or banding. The stink glands are located on the underside of the thorax, between the first and second pair of legs, and on the dorsal surface of the abdomen. (Wikipedia [2013])

#### HOST PLANTS

BMSB is polyphagous and is a pest of several important crops in its native range. In Japan, it attacks shade and fruit trees, vegetables, and leguminous crops. In southern China, it feeds on flowers, stems and pods of various legumes. IFAS



Fig. 1. The first brown marmorated stink bug collected on Guam.

## PEST STATUS

In addition to being a agricultural pest attacking tree fruits and legumes, BMSB has become a nuisance pest on the US Mainland because it overwinters in homes. Since its detection in the northeastern United States a decade ago, the BMSB has earned the distinction of being classified as the top invasive insect of interest by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (Durham and O'Brien 2013).

## DISTRIBUTION

Distribution on Guam is unknown. A single specimen of the brown marmorated stink bug was collected in a hotel room. Presumably this insect was a hitch-hiker in the luggage of a visitor to Guam from Boston. This report can be considered to be a post quarantine interception. However, it is likely that many individuals of this species have arrived on Guam and possibly established 'in the wild'.

*H. halys* is native to China, Japan, Korea and Taiwan (CABI 2007). Since its detection in the northeastern United States a decade ago, the BMSB has been detected in 38 states (Durham and O'Brien [2013]). To date, it has not been detected in Hawaii.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thanks to Phil Hagen as first detector of this invasive species, and to Reynold Ito and Richard Zack for confirming identification.

## REFERENCES

- CABI. Crop protection compendium, 2007.
- S. Durham and D. O'Brien. Ars works toward control of brown marmorated stink bug. *Agricultural Research*, January 2013.
- Wikipedia. Brown marmorated stink bug — wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, 2013. URL [http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Brown\\_marmorated\\_stink\\_bug&oldid=587979279](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Brown_marmorated_stink_bug&oldid=587979279). [Online; accessed 7-January-2014].