

BROWN MARMORATED STINK BUG

IDENTIFICATION

Stink bugs are small, shield shaped insects most identifiable by the odor they release when disturbed or crushed. They are a brownish grayish marbled color with a white underside. Stink bugs measure $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in length and have six legs and antennae.

HABITS

Originally located in Asia, the stink bug was first seen in the United States in 1996 and is most commonly found in the eastern half of the United States. They feed on various fruits, plants, and crops. Due to their growing population, stink bugs can pose a threat to the agricultural industry by feeding off of and destroying crops. Like other insects, stink bugs seek warmth in the winter and are often found inside in the fall and winter months. As the weather gets warmer, they re-emerge and become more active. Stink bugs are not harmful to humans, but they can be nuisance when they are found indoors.



CONTROL

A simple way to control an infestation is to vacuum both alive and dead stink bugs. Seal and dispose of the bag to avoid their

pungent odor and to keep them from re-entering the structure. Pesticides and insecticides can be used around window sills and attics to control and prevent stink bugs.

ENVIRONMENTAL ALTERATIONS

Stink bugs find their way inside buildings through cracks in windows, door frames, utility pipes, siding, and other openings. To prevent stink bug invasion, these cracks should be sealed with silicone caulk. Screens on open doors and windows will keep stink bugs from entering homes and buildings. These screens should be repaired if they have rips or holes. Garage doors and outside doors need to be fitted with weather stripping and tight fitting sweeps.

PROVIDED SERVICES

Speed Exterminating provides various services when it comes to dealing with stink bugs. Technicians can treat for stink bugs in the late summer and early fall months to prevent entry. If stink bugs are still active inside buildings in late spring, techs can treat areas such as window sills, attics, cracks and other harborage areas to eliminate the remaining bugs. Do-it-yourself products are also available in the retail store.

For more information:

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