

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development We're working for Western Australia.

Priority pest: Brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB)



Brown marmorated stink bug (Halyomorpha halys)

The pest and its impacts

Brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB) is a serious agricultural pest. Originally from Asia, it is now established across North and South America and Europe.

BMSB is not found in Australia but its tendency to hitchhike in cargo, freight, electronics, and luggage makes it a high biosecurity risk.

Feeding on a wide range of more than 300 plant species, BMSB causes major damage to fruit and vegetable crops and ornamental plants. If the bugs became established in Australia, BMSB infestations could impact growers, affecting both crop yield and marketability of crops including sweet corn, tree nuts, and pome fruits such as pears and apples.

BMSB looks like other brown stinkbugs present in Australia, except it is larger and has distinctive markings. Adult BMSB are mottled brown, shield shaped, with distinctive black and white banding around the outer edge of the abdomen and white bands on the antennae.