
Jhalendra Rijal and Roger Duncan

University of California Cooperative Extension, 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite A, Modesto, California 95358 USA

The brown marmorated stink bug, *Halyomorpha halys* (Stål), is an economically damaging, invasive insect pest native to East Asia. Since its accidental introduction in Allentown, PA, in the late 1990s, *H. halys* has spread to 43 U.S. states and has become a severe agricultural and nuisance problem in much of the country. A sudden occurrence of a high population in the Mid-Atlantic states in 2010 resulted in significant crop losses (~$37 million by the apple industry alone) in tree fruits and other crops (Leskey et al. 2012, Psyche: J. Entomol. doi:10.1155/2012/535062). *Halyomorpha halys* was first reported in California in 2002 (Lara et al. 2015, California Agric. 70: 15–23) but, until now, established populations have not been reported within agricultural fields.

*Halyomorpha halys* is a polyphagous insect with a wide host range (>179 plant species) that includes agricultural, ornamental, and landscape plants. Major reported host crops include apples, peaches, nectarines, pears, peppers, tomatoes, corn, beans, and soybean (www.stopbmsb.org, accessed: 10 May 2017). Because there has been limited exposure of *H. halys* to major nut crops, including almonds, walnuts, and pistachios, which are grown almost exclusively in California, its potential impact on these crops is unknown. Direct damage of *H. halys* to fruits is characterized by the presence of a depressed area, a discolored surface, and necrotic spots typically beneath the fruit surface (Acebes-Doria et al. 2016, Crop Prot. 89: 58–65; Joseph et al. 2015, J. Econ. Entomol. 108: 592–599). Feeding can cause significant damage on young and mature peaches by developing discolored necrotic areas inside the fruit (Joseph et al. 2015; Leskey et al. 2012), which results in unmarketable fruits for both fresh and canning purposes.

---

1Received 02 June 2017; accepted for publication 05 June 2017.
2University of California Statewide IPM Program, 2801 Second Street, Davis, CA 95618 USA.
3Corresponding author (email: jrijal@ucdavis.edu).