

Damage to Vegetables and Fruit by “True Bugs”



Squash Bug

Anasa tristis

Hemiptera: Coreidae





Adults are the wintering form and find refuge in the vicinity of the field of the previous year.

They emerge in spring prior to the emergence of pumpkin and squash crops.



Squash bug eggs are laid in small clusters





Early stage nymphs are generally grayish or grayish-green





**Molting of a
squash bug
nymph**





Wing pads become increasingly visible on late stages.





Feeding is done in a
“lacerate and flush”
manner that kills cells
at the feeding site





Massed feeding on stems can produce plant collapse



Later in the season they concentrate more on fruit and produce wounds on the fruit surface



Gumming at squash bug feeding wounds on zucchini



Fruit scarring of the skin of a kabocha squash



Squash Bug Lesson #1

Mild winter temperatures allow squash bug to occur over a broader area



Squash Bug Lesson Borrowed #2

Insecticide treatments should be done early in the year

Suggested applications are made at *first appearance of eggs* and about 2 weeks later



Squash Bug Lesson Learned #3

Direct treatments around the base of the plant

Squash bugs seek shelter around the base of the plant during hot weather



Squash Bug Lesson Learned #4

Mulches *are not* a good idea where squash bug is a problem



Harlequin Bug

Murgantia histrionica

Hemiptera: Pentatomidae





Adults are brightly colored and highly patterned stink bugs



Egg mass



Multiple egg masses



Nymphs at egg hatch



Nymphs settled around egg mass after egg hatch



Harlequin bug injuries

Cloudy, spotted areas develop around the feeding site on mature leaves





Harlequin bug injuries

Severe injury results in areas of dead tissue. Injuries may also distort growth, particularly when affecting the new growth.





Photograph by Scott Bauer, USDA-ARS



Plant Bugs

Hemiptera: Miridae

Tarnished Plant Bug Life Cycle



UGA2722028



Fourlined Plant Bug Injury



**Feeding injury is by
“lacerate and flush”
method**



Garden Fleahopper

Halticus bractatus

Hemiptera: Miridae



Photographs courtesy of Jim Kalisch,
University of Nebraska



Leaf damage to squash

Photographs courtesy of Jim Kalisch,
University of Nebraska



Leaf damage to tomato

Plant Bug Injury to Fruit and Flowers





***Lygus* spp. Plant Bugs**



***Lygus* injury to
flower petals**



Plant Bug Injury to Growing Fruit





**Catfacing Injury
to Apple and
Pear**

Catfacing Injury to Peach

