

## Big-eyed Bug

The **big-eyed bug** (*Geocoris punctipes*) is a generalist predator of insects and is a common resident of many cultivated crops grown in the region. It is a fairly small insect, only about 1/6-inch when full grown, generally grayish with a dark marking on the center of the back. Nymphs are smaller and lack wings. (Note: Several other *Geocoris* species occur in North America and many of these can be expected to be found in hemp.) The large eyes that extend from the sides of the head distinguish this insect from false chinch bugs, which are a plant feeding species.

In hemp big-eyed bugs are likely feeding on aphids, nymphs of Lygus bugs and leafhoppers, young caterpillars and other small insects associated with the crop.

Hemiptera: Lygaeidae



**Big-eyed bug adult feeding on a small insect.**  
Photograph courtesy of Russ Ottens, University of Georgia/Bugwood.org.



**Nymph of a big-eyed bug.**