

Spined Assassin Bug

The **spined assassin bug** (*Sinea diadema*) is perhaps the largest insect predator that one may find in Colorado hemp crops, although it is not commonly encountered. Using piercing-sucking mouthparts it feeds on wide variety of insects, but has been reported to favor small bugs (e.g., Lygus bugs) and beetles.

It is unlikely that this insect will reproduce within hemp fields. Winter is spent as eggs, laid in the form of masses glued to plants and the first generation likely develops in sites where there are perennial plants, including shrubs and trees. Migration into hemp by adults from these off-field sites then occurs in early summer. However, the spined assassin bug does produce two generations a year and reproduction within the growing hemp crop potentially could occur.

Hemiptera: Reduviidae



Adult spined assassin bug.