

Northeastern IPM Center Partnership Grant Final Report

A. Grant Data

- **Grant #**
- **Title:** *Regional Pest Alert on the Brown Marmorated Stinkbug*
- **Type:** Regional Publications
- **Lead investigator:**
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- **State(s) Involved:** MA, MD, NJ, NY, PA
- **Funding Year:** 2004
- **Funding Amount:** \$3000

B. Non-technical Summary

Halyomorpha halys (Stal) (Heteroptera: Pentatomidae), the brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB), is a pest in eastern Asia on soybeans and woody plants, including broadleaved trees and fruit trees. A population was discovered in Allentown, Pennsylvania in 2001 but had been established since 1996. It is documented as a nuisance pest in this area emitting an unpleasant odor as it invades homes and landscapes. BMSB is now reported in several states in the Northeast, as well as South Carolina and Oregon. Infestations are limited so far to landscaped urban areas where woody plants, including ornamentals and trees, are primary hosts. However the probability is high that BMSB could become a significant agricultural pest in the United States as the population expands through natural and artificial means. This project funded a regional Pest Alert to advise stakeholders in the northeast region of the risks presented by BMSB as both a nuisance and agricultural pest, to reduce artificial spread, to raise awareness among growers, and to help extension specialists and government regulators identify research and regulatory priorities for this emerging pest.

C. Objective

“To produce an informational regional Pest Alert to advise stakeholders in the northeast region of the risks presented by *H. halys* as both a nuisance and agricultural pest, to reduce artificial spread of *H. halys* in the United States, to raise awareness among growers potentially impacted by *H. halys*, and to help extension specialists and government regulators identify research and regulatory priorities for this emerging pest.” The objective was achieved – 75,000 Brown Marmorated Stinkbug Regional Pest Alerts, designed in the style of the North Central IPM Center National Pest Alerts, were

produced and are being distributed. The alert was reviewed by nine stakeholders in five states.

D. Results

- 1) *New websites:* <http://northeastipm.org/bmsb.cfm>
Publication attached, Stink_Bug_Pest_Alert.pdf.
- 2) Complimentary copies were sent to all reviewers. The pest alert is being offered for the cost of shipping to interested parties. Additionally, copies have been and will continue to be distributed at regional and national meetings, including the Maryland Invasive Species Council, Eastern Plant Board, Eastern Branch of the Entomological Society, and Eastern Region CAPS meeting.
- 3) Feedback form attached, pubs_guidelines_h_halys.pdf.

E. Impacts

- 1) Over 20,000 of the alert have been distributed to Extension Specialists, state and federal regulators, and stakeholders throughout the Northeast and other states. A pdf version of the alert is also available for free and posted on many Internet sites.
- 2) Preparation and preemption are the first steps in IPM. If even a small percentage of individuals who pick up the pest alert actually read and understand it, thousands of “first detectors” will be deployed regionally to help delimit populations and potentially preempt an outbreak or host shift.
- 3) Because of this pest alert and other sources of information on BMSB, trapping and other survey methods are being employed in many states. Additionally, reports of new populations and new host associations will assist specialists in targeting areas at risk for BMSB and researchers with identifying deficiencies in management strategies.