

## Brown Marmorated Stink Bug News

Information and updates for Oregon



Vol. 1, Spring 2013

### Spring is in the air, and soon stink bugs will be too

With warmer temperatures and longer days ahead, brown marmorated stink bugs (BMSBs) will soon be emerging from their overwintering sites. While most spend winter in aggregations inside structures, they can also use natural refuges. Although BMSBs have been in the adult stage since last season, they are just beginning sexual maturation. Once they emerge, they seek host plants where they will feed and mate. Favorite spring hosts include English holly, maples, lilac, and fruit trees.

### Outlook for 2013

The predictions from the East Coast are that BMSB populations will be higher this summer compared with 2011 and 2012. We expect an increase in Oregon as well. Last year we had an extended growing season, which allowed many additional stink bug nymphs to reach the adult stage. This means a greater number of BMSB were able to fly to protected overwintering sites. Winter temperatures have been relatively mild, and that means that the overwintering survival rate was high. BMSB began appearing on Oregon farms in 2012 and we expect more growers will encounter it in 2013. Nuisance problems for homeowners will continue to worsen.

### How can you help with BMSB research?

We are relying on your observations to help us more accurately document overwintering and spring activity of BMSB. Please let us know if you have seen BMSB outdoors this past winter. We also want your observations on when you first notice BMSB away from buildings this spring. You can also help by collecting live BMSB for us to pick up or allowing us to collect them! We need BMSB for our research. Its best to place BMSB in large (quart sized) ventilated containers and don't pack too many in a single container. Unsalted peanuts, slices of apple, or foliage from arborvitae or other trees such as maples or English holly (with berries) are good choices for food.

### Reporting

Please consult our website (<http://BMSB.hort.oregonstate.edu>) for more information. Please report BMSB sightings to [BMSB@oregonstate.edu](mailto:BMSB@oregonstate.edu) along with a photo and address. Cell phone photos are usually sufficient to verify the species identity of BMSB. The next newsletter will discuss BMSB egg laying and nymphs.