

P-Patch Community Gardening Program

NEZARA viridula

Tip

PP410

3/14/16

P-Patch TIPS are reference documents that address topics related to the development and ongoing management of P-Patch Community Gardens.

Introduction

The Southern Green Stink Bug (in the UK referred to as Shield Bug), *Nezara viridula*, new to Seattle (Summer 2014) and really showing up in larger numbers this year. They seem to have been first sighted and established themselves in Central Seattle. *Nezara viridula* is native to Africa, tropical Asia, South America and Southwestern Europe.

Educate yourself and others

Organic pest controls revolve around knowledge of the pest.

- What is the life cycle of *Nezara viridula*?
- What are *Nezara viridula*'s habits, preferred habitat and food sources?

Below are some good resources:

http://www.britishbugs.org.uk/heteroptera/Pentatomidae/nezara_viridula.html

http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/veg/bean/southern_green_stink_bug.htm

<http://www.extento.hawaii.edu/kbase/crop/Type/nezara.htm>

<http://idtools.org/id/citrus/pests/factsheet.php?name=Southern+green+stink+bug>

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/in142>

Information that can help in organic control

- Trap crops are referenced in some of these fact sheets. Beans in the summer and brassicas in the spring and fall.
- *Nezara viridula* seem to like to hang out in marigolds and calendula when not feeding and for egg laying so look there to find and destroy.
- You might be best served removing all the plants they are on and destroying them.



Life cycle drawing: www.britishbugs.org.uk

- Two types of insects can parasitize *Nezara viridula*, *Trichopoda pennipes*, a fly and *Trissolcus basalus*, a small wasp but they most likely are not residents in this area. The PNW most certainly has other species that may in time discover *Nezara viridula* as a resource.
- *Nezara viridula* prefer wild host plants and can switch hosts. There is a wide range of types of host plants.
- *Nezara viridula* LOVE legumes, peas and beans
- All P-Patch gardeners should be alert to this new population of garden pests! It will have to be a communal effort for us to control this new insect pest in Seattle.

As we learn more about their habits in the northwest we will be able to manage them better. For now it is really all about

Identify-Search-Destroy!

HAZEL HEIGHTS P-PATCH - *NEZARA viridula*-
SEPTEMBER 27, 2015

ALL OF THESE *N. viridula* ARE NYMPHS**



CAN YOU IDENTIFY WHAT INSTAR*** OF THEIR LIVES THEY ARE IN?

**NEZARA viridula* is the Latin name for a specific kind of Stink or Shield Bug. You may find other types of stink bugs as well.

****Nymph** *noun* \ˈnim(p)fl (Greek: νύμφη, nymphē)
1- any of the minor divinities of nature in classical Greek and Latin mythology represented as beautiful maidens dwelling in the mountains, forests, trees, and waters. Merriam Webster Dictionary
2- the immature form of some invertebrates, particularly insects, which undergoes gradual metamorphosis (hemi metabolism) before reaching its adult stage. Unlike a typical larva, a **nymph's** overall form already resembles that of the adult. Wikipedia

*****Instar** *noun* in·star \ˈin-,stär\ (Latin) 1- a stage in the life of an arthropod (as an insect) between two successive molts; *also* : an individual in a specified instar. Merriam Webster Dictionary

Report Sightings

Report all sightings to the Garden Hotline. This document was created with a partnership between the P-Patch Program and the Garden Hotline at help@gardenhotline.org. They are mapping sightings.



206-633-0224 www.gardenhotline.org