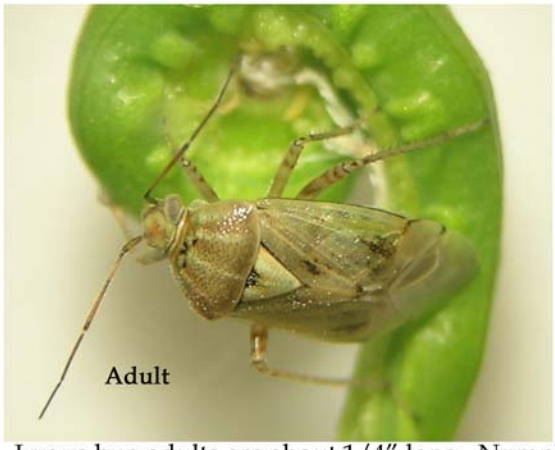
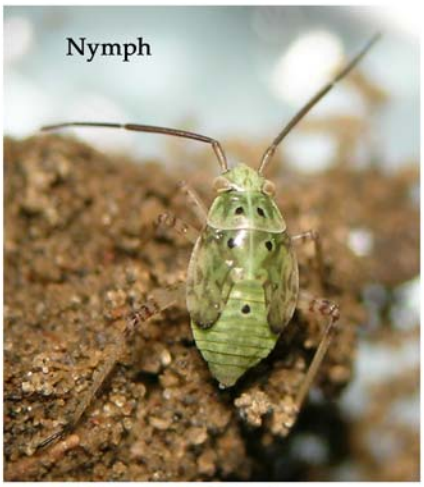
True Bugs: Lygus Bugs

See also: http://www.potatoes.com/research.cfm





Lygus bug adults are about 1/4" long. Nymphs and adults are both usually green, but can be shades of orange or red.

Lygus are active, often seen on leaves and flowers in potato fields.

Lygus feed by sucking plant sap through specialized mouthparts.

Lygus bug biology and damage

1. Lygus bugs can feed on many different plants. They can be found in potato fields throughout the season.
2. Damage associated with lygus includes flagging of leaflets. Potato fields often support large numbers of lygus without visible damage.
3. Lygus infestations in potatoes seem to rarely require insecticide treatment.
4. Lygus can appear suddenly when they move from neighboring crops such as freshly cut hay or seed crops.

Washington State Potato Commission (Phone: 509-765-8845)

True Bugs: Stink Bugs

See also: http://www.potatoes.com/research.cfm

Stink bugs in potatoes, belonging to the genus *Chlorochroa*.

Egg mass

Hatching eggs.

Partly grown nymph.

Stink bugs are often easy to see on the leaves and stems of potatoes.

Stink bugs like these, in the genus *Perillus*, are **predators** of Colorado potato beetle eggs and larvae.

Nymphs

Adult

Stink bug biology and damage

1. Stink bugs looking much like *Chlorochroa* pictured above feed on many different plants. They can be found in potato fields throughout the season, but most often move into potatoes from neighboring crops, weeds, and native plant communities.
2. Damage associated with stink bugs includes flagging of leaflets, whole leaves, and growing tips.
3. Stink bugs often seem to be clumped within fields. Treatment of entire fields for control of stink bugs is normally not required.

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