



Burrowing Bugs

Sehirus cinctus

Burrowing bugs are small ($\frac{1}{4}$ inch long), shiny, black, stinkbug-shaped insects with a white border around both sides of the thorax and abdomen. Unlike true stinkbugs, burrowing bug tibias (lower legs) are covered with easily seen spines.

Biology

Little is known about the biology of this insect. They produce one generation a year, overwinter as adults, mate in the spring, and lay eggs, which usually hatch in mid-May. These bugs are quite secretive but live and feed primarily aboveground. They are especially abundant on and under henbit and other mints and nettles in late spring, but adults can be found throughout the summer on these plants.

Damage

These bugs, both nymphs and adults, are often found in large numbers after herbicide treatment kills their natural host, most commonly henbit. This is usually about the same time as the burrowing bug populations peak and are composed of mostly nymphs with a few adults. As patches of henbit dry, the burrowing bugs move to nearby green vegetation, often soybeans. These large numbers are often a concern but do not result in crop injury.

Management

No management recommendations are justified for these pests.



Adult



Nymph

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