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Management of invasive insects in soybeans: kudzu bug and brown marmorated stink bug

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Invasive insect species pose a unique management problem when they become pests of crop production systems. Management recommendations must be developed quickly to allow producers to react to the presence of a novel pest. The kudzu bug, *Megacopta cribraria*, and the brown marmorated stink bug, *Halyomorpha halys*, are invasive species that have become pests of soybeans in the United States in recent years. Both are natives of Asia, and both are also nuisance invaders of homes in the fall. However, management recommendations for these insects in soybeans are quite different due to differences in life history, behavior, and the type of injury done to the plant. Kudzu bugs reduce soybean yields indirectly, while brown marmorated stink bugs feed directly on the seeds, and this injury has consequences for management. In addition, the host range of the kudzu bug is relatively narrow, while brown marmorated stink bugs feed on the fruits and seeds of a wide variety of plants. Integrated pest management recommendations for these pests rely on a solid understanding of their ecology, behavior, and damage potential.