NW Missouri Farmers Urged to Watch for Stink Bug

(KTNC) - Farmers in far northwest Missouri are being advised to watch out for a pest known to damage fruit, vegetable, and row crops.

The Holt County Extension office says the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug has spread to 41 states, including Missouri, and farmers in northwest Missouri should carefully scout their fields for the bug. According to University of Missouri Agronomist Wayne Flanary, the bug is an invasive insect from Asia. It has black legs and antenna with white banding. Early-stage nymphs have dark reddish eyes and a yellow-reddish underbelly with black stripes.

Flanary says the bugs can over-winter as adults and emerge in the spring, and are brown with alternating small white and black stripes on the rear section.

Flanary says the bug has a wide range of hosts on which it feeds, including many trees.

Contact Flanary at the Holt County Extension Office for more information.

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