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FALL BRINGS COOLER TEMPERATURES and STINK BUGS to YOUR HOME!

Stink bugs earned their name from the odor they emit when threatened or squashed. It is thought that this odor helps protect the bugs against predators. The smell has been compared to cilantro or coriander.

If you don't remember them growing up, that's because we didn't have them; they were introduced to the US from Asia in the mid-1990's and are now prevalent in the mid-Atlantic.



The females lay eggs in late summer and depending on the weather, we can have more than 2 generations in a year. They emerge in the spring to feed on plant tissue. The amount of damage will depend on the plant. In the garden, the Maryland Extension service recommends that you "Hand-pick and/or knock bugs into a container of soapy water to control them. In areas where populations are high, diligence is necessary because of constant migration into the garden from surrounding landscapes and wooded areas." In your house you can sweep them up. If you choose to vacuum them up you may want to change the bag to prevent the odor in your home.

As the weather cools and the outdoor vegetation dies back; they look for new sources of food – and your house looks like a good source. Your best prevention to prevent them from coming is by sealing up cracks with caulk and using weather stripping around doors and windows. Seems like even then the little buggers find a way in.