

Fact sheet: Yellow Spotted Stink Bug (YSSB)



The Yellow Spotted Stink Bug (YSSB) has a wide host range. YSSB causes cosmetic damage to fruit and vegetables resulting in produce that is unfit for sale. Like BMSB, YSSB is a known hitchhiker pest. In their native range in Asia there is limited information recorded about their host range or impacts on plants and trees, though impacts on timber trees and horticultural crops have been noted. YSSB is a known pest on kiwifruit in China.

Identification

YSSB is a large, shield-shaped bug with an adult length of about 18 to 23 mm (about the size of a 20 cent piece) which is larger than shield bugs currently found in NZ. The body is blackish brown in colour and covered entirely with many small yellow spots.



Signs and symptoms

The YSSB Adult bugs lay eggs on leaves in spring and summer and the juvenile stages develop through to adults before winter. Some adults overwinter under bark or in natural crevices and emerge when temperatures warm up to begin breeding.

Distribution and climate range

YSSB has increased in global spread the last few years, it is a strong flier (up to 3km). YSSB is present throughout parts of Asia, and more recently in Albania and Brazil. Recorded distributions are similar to that of BMSB spread, it can be assumed that YSSB has similar climatic preference to BMSB.



Control

There is little information around the management of YSSB but it is thought management techniques would be similar to BMSB. Exclusion netting, trapping, and the use of “softer chemicals” are likely options for managing YSSB on orchard.

What should you do if you think you have seen this pest?

Phone MPI on 0800 80 99 66 or KVH on 0800 665 825