

Redbanded Stink Bugs (RBSB) are more damaging to soybean compared with stink bugs we normally encounter in Georgia soybeans. Redbanded stink bug is a major pest of soybean in the Mid-South especially following mild winters. Redbanded stink bugs feed on legumes and are NOT a pest of cotton. Unfortunately, we are observing redbanded stink bugs in south Georgia soybeans. The threshold for RBSB is lower than that we use for commonly encountered stink bugs in Georgia. Insecticides needed for good control are also different for RBSB. Redbanded stink bugs are about half the size of southern green stink bugs. Adult RBSB are light green with a reddish band near the thorax. Older RBSB nymphs are green and somewhat flattened with black and red markings on the top of the abdomen. The primary characteristic to identify RBSB adults is a long spine that arises from the abdomen and protrudes between its hind legs.



Photo by Angus Catchot, Mississippi State University



Photo by Morgan Pinkerton, University of Florida.

Redbanded stink bug adult and nymphs (left) and photo illustrating the abdominal spine extending between the hind legs of a RBSB adult (right).

Proper identification of stink bugs will be important. Southern green, green, and brown stink bugs are the most common stink bugs observed infesting soybeans in Georgia (photos by Herb Pilcher, ipmimages.org).



Southern green stink bug adults



Southern green stink bug nymph



Green stink bug nymph



Brown stink bug adults



Brown stink bug nymph

Thresholds: Since RBSB is more damaging than other stink bugs infesting soybean, the threshold is lower.

Southern green, green, and brown stink bugs: 9 stink bugs per 25 sweeps or 1 per row foot.

Redbanded stink bug: 4 RBSB per 25 sweeps or 2 per six row feet using a drop cloth.

It is likely that fields which have RBSB will also have southern green stink bugs and potentially green and brown stink bugs. These mixed populations can be accounted for by counting RBSB twice and adding to other stink bugs present and using the 9 per 25 sweeps threshold.

The information below is from the 2022 Insect Control Guide from Mississippi State University Extension, found online at <http://extension.msstate.edu/publications/publications/insect-control-guide-for-agronomic-crops#soybeans>. Note that RBSB can damage soybeans much later than other stink bugs.

Redbanded Stink Bug

Insecticide	Amount of Formulation per Acre	Pounds Active Ingredient per Acre	Acres 1 Gallon or 1 Pound Dry Will Treat	PHI (days)	Comments
acephate (OP) Orthene 90S	0.56-1.1 lb	0.56-1.1	0.5-1.0	14	Do not harvest for hay or forage. Apply by air at 5-10 GPA and by ground at 10-50 GPA. Maximum AI per acre per season: 1.5 lb.
bifenthrin (P) Brigade 2EC Discipline 2EC Fanfare 2EC	2.1-6.4 oz 2.1-6.4 oz 2.1-6.4 oz	0.033-0.10 0.033-0.10 0.033-0.10	61-20 61-20 61-20	18 18 18	Do not apply more than one time per 30-day interval.
thiamethoxam (CN), λ -cyhalothrin (P) Endigo ZC 2.06CS	3.5-4.5 oz	-	37-28	30	
Tank Mix Options with Bifenthrin					
acephate (OP) Orthene 90S	0.56-1.1 lb	0.56-1.1	0.5-1.0	14	Do not harvest for hay or forage. Apply by air at 5-10 GPA and by ground at 10-50 GPA. Maximum AI per acre per season: 1.5 lb. Tank mix with 5.12 fl oz of bifenthrin (Brigade 2EC or generic) per acre. Tank mixes have proven to give superior control.
clothianidin (CN) Belay 2.13SC	3-6 oz	0.05-0.10	42.7	21	
imidacloprid (CN) Imidacloprid 4F Imidacloprid 2F	1.5 oz 3 oz	0.047 0.047	85.3 42.7	21 21	

THRESHOLD: Treat when numbers reach four bugs per 25 sweeps or two bugs per 6 feet of row with a drop cloth. Between R6.5 and R7: Treat when populations reach or exceed 10 bugs per 25 sweeps. Treatment for redbanded stink bugs can be terminated at R7 unless adverse environmental conditions exist that would promote poor seed quality. Redbanded stink bugs are capable of causing much more damage than green, brown, or southern green stink bugs. Damage from this pest can prevent plants and seed from properly maturing and can render seed unmarketable. Redbanded stink bugs can also damage soybeans much later than other stink bugs.