

PEST: Bean Plataspid Beetle (*Megacopta cribraria*)

BASIC PROFILE: BPB is a beetle of Asian origin first found in the U.S. in Georgia in 2009. It attacks kudzu and may be of some value in eating this weed; however, it also attacks leguminous crops such as soybean and can cause wilting and poor seed set. It is a known crop pest in China. Adults are 4-5 mm (<1/4") long and are brown with tan mottling. They tend to congregate on structures and they have a bad odor. BPB may hitchhike on vehicles or clothing as a means of spread.

LDAF ACTIVITY: LDAF may be conducting surveys for BPB in the future if warranted. Kudzu is the most likely plant where it may be found. Soybean fields also are likely survey sites. Its pest status in the U.S. is yet to be determined. There is no pheromone trap for this insect so survey is visual. There is no federal quarantine in place at this time although USDA is assisting Georgia in survey and response.

