

Biology/Phenology

display nocturnal activity, Aggregation activity

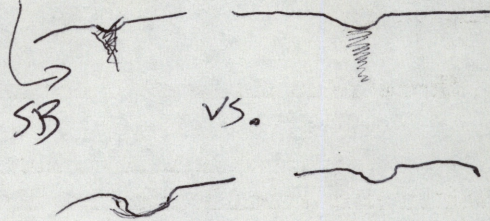
The growth and development of the consperse stink bug, *Euschistus conspersus*, on selected potential host plants present in orchard ground cover

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Abstract: The consperse stink bug, *Euschistus conspersus* Uhler, has emerged as an important pest of pome fruit production in north central Washington in the past decade. Fruit damage is primarily caused by the feeding of adult *E. conspersus* in late summer and early fall, often within a few days of harvest. Crop losses of greater than 10% have been reported from many orchards. While some fruit packing facilities have rated stink bug damage as being a more serious problem than codling moth, relatively little is known about the habits of this insect and as a result management has been difficult. We have developed information on host plants used by *E. conspersus* outside the orchard; however, there is little information on the role that plants present in the orchard ground cover might play in supporting populations that could contribute to damage of apple. We conducted a study to compare the development of *E. conspersus* from the egg stage to adult on the most common plants found in the cover crop of Washington orchards. This information is presented in conjunction with data documenting patterns of fruit damage within orchards and the significance of these findings to grower practices such as insecticide and herbicide treatment regimes is discussed.

Consperse Stink Bug - can be distinguished from  
Bitter pit by necrotic apple tissue penetrally  
from pit to center



- of Lamb's 1/4
- mullein
- maize
- zinnia
- white clover

good host  
SB nymphs die on  
corn as nymphs.

Damage Distribution  
1st Rows, diminish rapidly as go to  
orchard interior.