

# IMPACT OF ADULT LYGUS BUG, LYGUS ELISUS, ON SEED PRODUCTION IN BRASSICAS

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The effect of Lygus bug feeding on cabbage seed plants was determined in field-cage studies by exposing a fixed number of terminals, buds, flowers, and developing pods to 0, 1, 2, and 4 adult Lygus bugs for 24-h periods. Lygus caused the most damage to terminals, lesser damage to fully developed buds and little or no injury to open flowers and developing pods. One adult exposed to a developing terminal destroyed approximately 2 buds per day. Lygus had no adverse effect on the number of seeds per pod nor on seed germination. By extrapolation it was estimated that an average density of one bug per plant during the bloom period resulted in a loss of 2 lbs. of seed/A.