

# Differences between Leaf-footed Bugs and Stink Bugs

There are some differences between leaf footed bugs and stink bugs. Most stink bugs are harmful to plants just as leaf footed bugs are. One exception, the spined soldier bug, is described below.

While the life cycles are similar, the instar shapes are different and the adult shape is different. Stink bug nymphs and adults have a more rounded shape instead of the elongated shape of the leaf footed bugs. There is no leaf like extension on the hind legs of stink bugs. Stink bug eggs are usually laid in a cluster instead of a line.

Photo below is of the **Southern Stink Bug** which is common in our gardens.



<https://extensionentomology.tamu.edu/insect/southern-green-stink-bug/>

The **Spined Soldier Bug** is a predatory stink bug that we may see and should **welcome** in our gardens. It has elongated spines on the “shoulders” and interesting eggs with projections. The eggs may be laid in a line or a cluster.



<https://extensionentomology.tamu.edu/insect/southern-green-stink-bug/>

The Marmorated Stink Bug is an invasive species that has been seen in our area. Notice white markings along edges of body. Instars are orange and black. Eggs are laid in a cluster.



[Brown Marmorated Stink Bug - Extension Entomology \(tamu.edu\)](https://extensionentomology.tamu.edu/insect/marmorated-stink-bug/)