

A Bug's Life

Jagged ambush bugs

Family: Reduviidae; Genus: *Phymata*

Fun facts

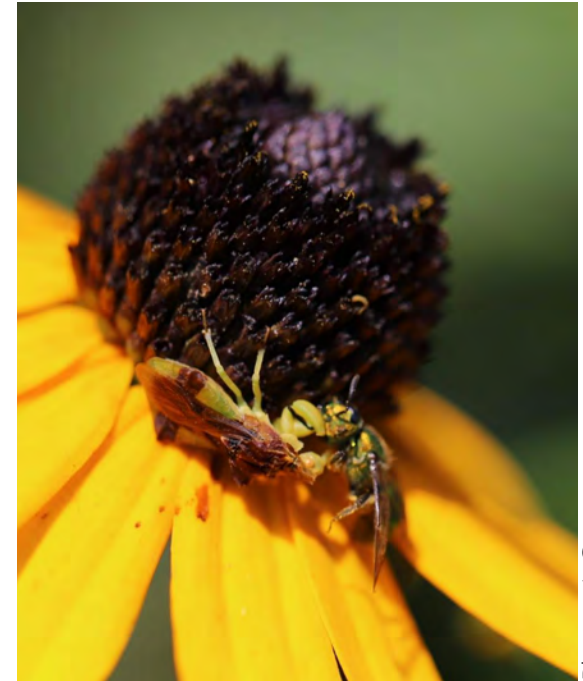
- Solitary insect predator of other insects and arthropods
- Sit-and-wait predator found on flowers, often camouflaged to match surroundings
- Overwinter as eggs on vegetation
- One generation per year

Identification

Usually less than 1/2" long, short and stout body, jagged contours, raptorial forelegs, coloration varies (yellow, green, orange), piercing-sucking mouthpart, abdomen flares out under folded wings, immatures resemble adults but without wings

Management

- No recommendation for control
- Considered beneficial predators, although pollinators may become prey
- Harmless to humans and do not bite or sting



Photos: J. Green