

Beneficial Garden Insects

True Bugs

UtahState
UNIVERSITY

SALT LAKE CO.
extension

True Bugs Fast Facts

- True Bugs are fluid feeding insects
- True Bugs feed on both plants and other insects
- Both the nymphs and the adults feed on the same prey

Examples of Beneficial True Bugs

• Assassin Bugs

• Minute Pirate Bugs

• Big Eyed Bugs

• Spiked Shield Bugs

• Damsel Bugs

• Stink Bugs

Prey Species

True Bugs feed on a variety of pest insects including:

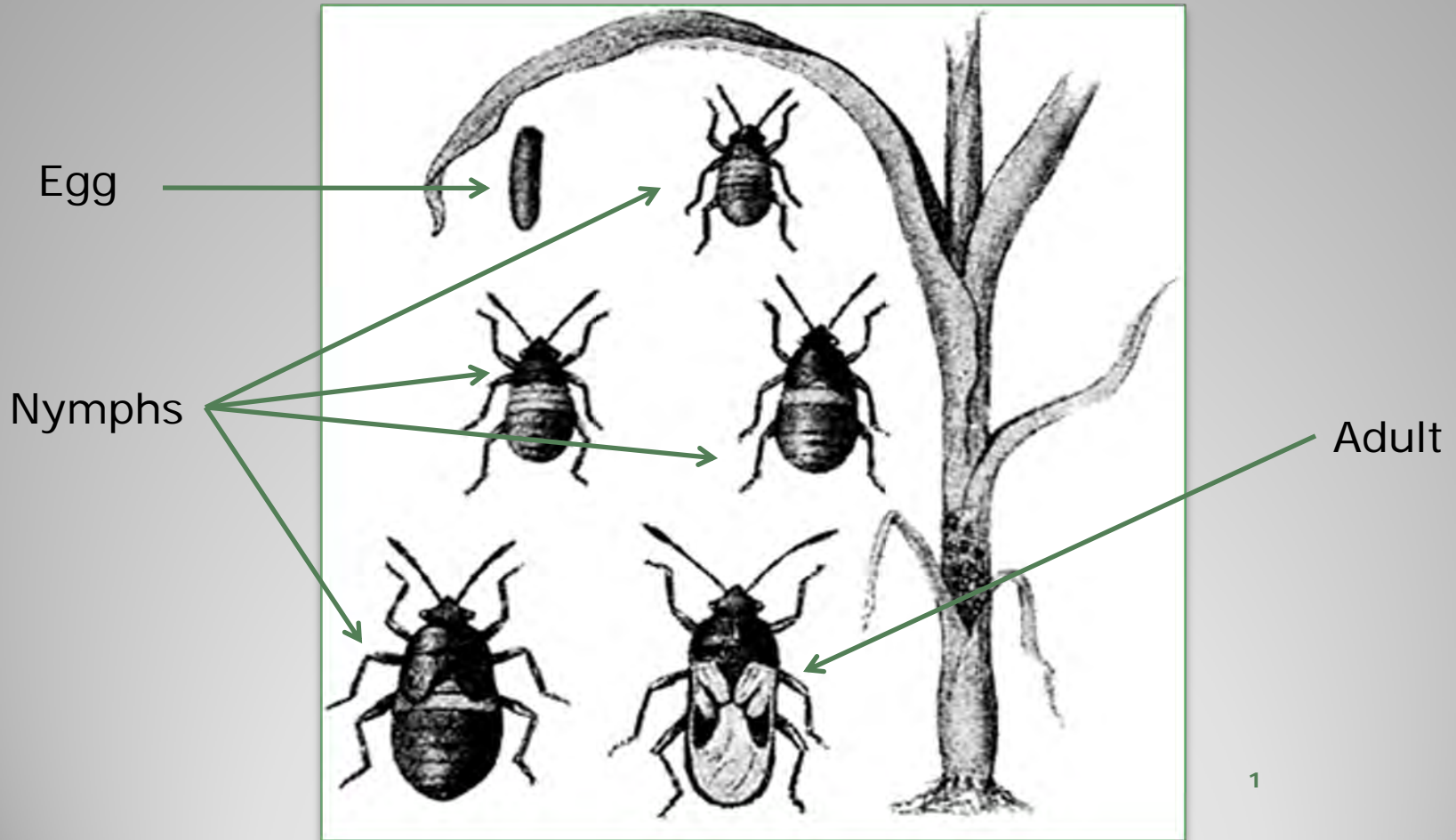
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Aphids•Beetles•Caterpillars•Flies•Grasshoppers•Leafhoppers | <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Mites•Scale•Spider mite•Thrips•Whiteflies |
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True Bugs Lifecycle

Simple (Incomplete) Metamorphosis

- **Egg**: The adult lays a mass of eggs
- **Nymphs**: Eggs hatch into a nymph that looks like a smaller version of the parent minus the wings.
- **Instar**: The nymph passes through several stages where they molt and grow larger
- **Adult**: The last stage of development where the adult develops wings and can now reproduce.

True Bugs Lifecycle



Stink Bug ₂



UGA2116060

Stink Bug feeding on larva ³



UGA1410052



**Stink
Bug
eating
larva₄**



Assassin Bug ⁴

UGA1252009

Assassin Bug eating its prey

5





Big Eyed Bug nymph ⁶

Minute Pirate Bug eating larva





**Damsel Bug nymph eating
an aphid** 8

G249-20



For more information:

<http://utahpests.usu.edu>

Department of Biology

Utah State University
5305 Old Main Hill
Logan, UT 84322-5305
FAX: 435-797-8197

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