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Stethorus punctum

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The adult black lady beetle, *Stethorus punctum*, is black with silvery hairs (about 1 mm). The larva is brown or black with short spines. Both feed principally on mites.

Stethorus overwinters within the orchard in leaf litter around the base of trees. The area in the herbicide strip near the trunk of the tree should not be disturbed from November to mid-April when adults become active.

Pyrethroid insecticide applications made after half-inch green adversely affect *Stethorus*.

Additional information

- For additional information see: <http://www.ipm.msu.edu/asianladybeetle.htm>
- About **natural enemies** (from *Fruit Crop Ecology and Management*)
- More about **ladybeetles** (From **Identifying natural enemies**)
- For more monitoring information and evaluation of available pesticides: **Michigan Fruit Management Guide**
- **A Practical Guide to Scouting Apple Orchards** – a DVD showing how to scout apple orchards.
- **MSU Diagnostic Services** for assistance in pest identification.
- **MSU Fruit Crop Advisory Team Alert** newsletters for current pest/crop conditions.

This information was developed from **A Pocket Guide for IPM Scouting in Michigan Apples** by David Epstein, Larry J. Gut and George W. Sundin. Purchase this in a pocket-sized guide for reference in the orchard from **MSU Extension** (publication E-2720).

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