ORIGINAL PAPER



Attraction of the invasive *Halyomorpha halys* in its native Asian range to traps baited with semiochemical stimuli

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Received: 17 May 2016/Revised: 7 November 2016/Accepted: 16 November 2016/Published online: 1 December 2016 © Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg (outside the USA) 2016

Abstract The brown marmorated stink bug, Halyomorpha halys, is considered a serious invasive species capable of causing significant agricultural and nuisance problems. Researchers in the USA recently identified the two-component H. halys aggregation pheromone from populations in North America and found that when it is combined with the pheromone synergist methyl decatrienoate (MDT), it resulted in reliable, season-long captures of H. halys throughout the USA. However, no study has assessed whether *H. halys* populations in the native range are attracted to and can also be reliably captured by the combination of these stimuli. In this study, our goal was to evaluate the response of H. halys adults, nymphs, and nontarget organisms to traps baited with the aggregation pheromone, MDT alone, or in combination at three locations in the native range. Traps baited with combined stimuli reliably captured the greatest numbers of H. halvs adults and nymphs, and traps baited with either lure treatment caught a unique community of non-target

Communicated by T. Haye.

Special Issue: The brown marmorated stink bug *Halyomorpha halys* - an emerging pest of global concern

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organisms. In addition, *Plautia stali* was cross-attracted to the *H. halys* aggregation pheromone. Overall, we demonstrate that the pheromone-based tools developed in the USA may be used for worldwide detection and surveillance programs for *H. halys* and *P. stali*.

Keywords Biosecurity · Cross-attraction · Brown marmorated stink bug · Aggregation pheromone · Integrated pest management · Behavioral manipulation

Key messages

- It is unknown whether the aggregation pheromone identified from the USA is effective in the native range of the brown marmorated stink bug, *Halyomorpha halys*.
- Our study is the first to demonstrate attraction by *H*. *halys* adults and nymphs in the native Asian range to pheromone-baited traps.
- This suggests that pheromone-based technology developed in the USA may be applicable in other parts of the world for the surveillance and management of this invasive species.

Introduction

The invasive brown marmorated stink bug, *Halyomorpha halys* (Stal) (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae), is a growing threat to worldwide agricultural production (Rice et al. 2014; Haye et al. 2015; Lee 2015). This species is both extremely polyphagous, feeding on over 150 economically important crops (www.stopbmsb.org), and also highly damaging,

causing \$37 million in damage to apples in the mid-Atlantic region of the USA alone in 2010 (Leskey et al. 2012b). Where *H. halys* has been introduced, it has led to the disruption of established integrated pest management (IPM) programs for many agricultural crops, and in some cases, as much as a four-fold increase in insecticide usage (Leskey et al. 2012b).

Halyomorpha halys is originally from Asia, specifically the Republic of Korea, Japan, Taiwan, and China (Hoebeke and Carter 2003). However, it is now established in the USA (Leskey et al. 2012a), Canada (Gariepy et al. 2014), and Europe (Wermelinger et al. 2008). When exotic species are introduced to new areas, often only a small propagule is transported or survives such that genetic drift is a large factor in founding populations (Baker and Moeed 1987; Dlugosch and Parker 2008). This has similarly been revealed as the case for the H. halys populations in the USA, which originates from Beijing, China (Xu et al. 2013). Invasive species that establish populations in new regions often experience different abiotic and biotic conditions such as reduced natural enemies (Vilà et al. 2005), leading to rapid life history change (Blossey and Notzold 1995; Zangerl and Berenbaum 2005; Phillips et al. 2010). Moreover, the strong effects of genetic drift on a small population may result in altered chemical perception of the environment, and differing responses to the same semiochemicals, as has been the case in the red imported fire ant, Solenopsis invicta (Hymenoptera: Formicidae), and the Argentine ant, Linepithema humile (Hymenoptera: Formicidae), which both lost the ability to chemically discriminate queens and other nestmates in their introduced range (Porter and Savignano 1990; Tsutsui and Case 2001). In fact, these founding events have contributed to their invasiveness in their introduced range compared to their native range. This suggests that populations in an introduced range may have different responses to behavioral stimuli than populations in the native range and that this may actually facilitate the invasion process.

In the USA, researchers have been characterizing the baseline biology and ecology of *H. halys* in the introduced range (e.g., Ioannidis et al. 2014; Jones et al. 2014; Lee and Leskey 2015; Rice et al. 2014), as well as developing effective monitoring (Leskey et al. 2012c, 2015a, b, c; Morrison et al. 2015; Nielsen et al. 2013) and management tactics (e.g., Blaauw et al. 2015; Lara et al. 2016; Leskey et al. 2014; Morrison et al. 2016b, d ; Short et al. 2016). In particular, there has been a large amount of work examining the chemical ecology of H. halys, including the identification of the two-component aggregation pheromone, a 3.5:1 ratio of (3S,6S,7R,10S)-10,11-epoxy-1bisabolen-3-ol and (3R,6S,7R,10S)-10,11-epoxy-1-bisabolen-3-ol (Khrimian et al. 2014). An investigation of the remaining stereoisomeric mixtures of the parent compound that exists in 16 stereoisomeric forms found that it was not critical to have a highly purified mixture of pheromone in order for lures to be effective in attracting H. halvs to traps (Leskey et al. 2015b), which contrasts with the case for many lepidopteran sex pheromones (e.g., Adati and Tatsuki 1999). Subsequently, it has been determined that combining the H. halys aggregation pheromone with methyl (E,E,Z)-2,4,6-decatrienoate (MDT) has a synergistic effect on trap captures (Weber et al. 2014a). Throughout the USA, H. halys exhibits season-long attraction to traps baited with the aggregation pheromone in combination with MDT (Leskey et al. 2015a). More recently, these semiochemicals have been used in a targeted attract-andkill approach for managing H. halys populations (Morrison et al. 2016b) and developing effective thresholds in apple orchards (Short et al. 2016).

Interestingly, little information exists regarding the chemical ecology of *H. halys* in its native range. In Asia, *H.* halys responds to the cross-attractive MDT, which is the male-produced aggregation pheromone of Plautia stali Scott (Sugie et al. 1996). The compound MDT has frequently been employed to attract H. halys to traps in its native (e.g., Adachi et al. 2007; Park et al. 2010) and introduced range (Aldrich et al. 2007; Khrimian et al. 2008). In these studies, captures of H. halys occur primarily between July and September (Funayama 2003, 2008). Importantly, though, it is unknown whether H. halys in Asia responds similarly to the aggregation pheromone, which was identified from individuals in the introduced range, or whether there is a synergistic response to traps baited with both its aggregation pheromone and MDT. If H. halys responds similarly across its introduced and native range, pheromone traps may easily be transferrable to other localities, thereby having worldwide implications for attempts at detection and exclusion of this pest.

One common concern with pheromone-based trapping is the abundance of non-target organisms captured in addition to the targeted taxon. Elevated amounts of non-target organisms may be problematic, as it can increase the time it takes to process samples (e.g., Kelly et al. 2013). Moreover, stink bugs are well-known for generally exhibiting cross-attraction to the pheromones of heterospecifics. For example, Piezodorus hybnei (Gmelin) (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) is cross-attracted to the pheromone of its main competitor, Riptortus pedestris (Endo et al. 2010), which is itself a large pest in the Republic of Korea (Son et al. 2000). Finally, it is known that tachinid flies are attracted to certain stink bug-produced pheromones, including methyl (2E,4Z)-decadienoate (Aldrich et al. 1991) and MDT (Aldrich et al. 2007). For instance, Trichopoda pennipes (Diptera: Tachinidae) is known to parasitize adult and late instar H. halys nymphs (Rice et al. 2014). The goals of the current study were to evaluate the response of H. halys adults, *H. halys* nymphs, and non-target insects to the aggregation pheromone and MDT synergist throughout the growing season in Republic of Korea using standard black pyramid traps (Morrison et al. 2015).

Materials and methods

Trapping study

The following experiments were performed in the Laboratory of Insect Pests and Natural Enemies at the National Institute of Agricultural Sciences in the Republic of Korea. Large black pyramid traps (Rural Development Administration, Wansan-gu, Jeonju, Republic of Korea) were used for this study to investigate the efficacy of semiochemical stimuli on H. halys across the Republic of Korea. Similar pyramid traps reliably capture H. halys adults and nymphs over the entire growing season across the USA (Leskey et al. 2015a). Traps were modified and made based on Leskey et al. (2012). The trap base consisted of two 1-cm-thick black wooden base triangular panels 1.07 m (height) \times 52 cm (width at base) \times 8.2 cm (width at top). These panels served as the base for the trap. At the top of the base, each trap had an inverted plastic collection jar $(16 \text{ cm} \times 10 \text{ cm height} \times \text{diameter})$ with a funnel inserted at the bottom of the jar top, containing an internal cone opening of 1.6 cm, and vented on all four sides with a 3-cm opening covered with vinyl-coated polyester screen (mesh size: $3 \text{ mm} \times 3 \text{ mm}$). Each jar top contained a lure treatment (see below) and an insecticide-infused kill strip containing 10% dimethyl 2,2-dichlorovinyl phosphate (DDVP) (Hot Shot No-Pest Strip, Spectrum Group, St. Louis, MO, USA), which was changed every 2 weeks in 2014 and every 4 weeks in 2015 to prevent captured insects from escaping. Traps were set in three representative sites in Republic of Korea: Paju-si, Gongju-si, and Jinju-si, from April 24 until October 28, 2014 and from May 29 to Oct 29, 2015, respectively (Table 1). Every 2 weeks, the number of H. halys adults and nymphs captured in a trap was brought back to the laboratory for identification. Non-target insects captured in traps were also identified and counted, and these taxa included: P. stali Scott (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae), Riptortus pedestris (Fabricius) (Hemiptera: Alydidae), Reduviidae (Hemiptera), Ichneumonidae (Hymenoptera), Tachinidae (Diptera), and all other non-target true bugs. Treatments were re-randomized after each sampling date in 2014, but not in 2015.

Lure comparisons

In 2014, three lure treatments were deployed in pyramid traps. These treatments included lures formulated with

2.67 mg of the 2-component H. halys aggregation pheromone alone on gray septa (PHER; details of formulation in Morrison et al. 2015), 66 mg of methyl (E,E,Z)-2,4,5decatrienoate alone in a green sachet (MDT; AgBio, Inc., Westminster, CO, USA), and an unbaited control. To prevent the escape of adults, each trap also contained a DDVP strip (Hot Shot No-Pest Strip, Spectrum Group, St. Louis, MO, USA) which was changed every 2 weeks in 2014 and every 4 weeks in 2015. Traps were placed in a >50-m transect containing each treatment, and spaced at least 25 m apart to reduce trap interference, and re-randomized every 2 weeks in 2014. There were a total of 4 or 6 replicate transects at the three sites (Table 1). The PHER lure was changed every 2 weeks, while the MDT was changed every 4 weeks, as prior research has shown these lures optimally dispense pheromone over a month (Joseph et al. 2013).

In 2015, four lure treatments were investigated: (1) 10 mg murgantiol lure formulated with the two-component *H. halys* aggregation pheromone alone (IP060, AgBio, Inc.); (2) 132 mg of MDT alone (2x lure, AgBio, Inc.); (3) both lures deployed together; or (4) an unbaited control. Again, lures were deployed in collection jars of pyramid traps arranged in a >50-m transect, with each trap spaced at least 25 m away from each other to minimize trap interference. Each transect was replicated 3 times per site at three sites (Table 1), for a total of 36 traps. In both years, transects were separated by 767 m \pm 198.3 (SEM).

Statistical analysis

In 2014, the season was split up into three sampling periods: early (April 24 to June 15, 2014), mid (June 16 to August 15, 2014), and late (August 16 to November 1, 2014). Because sampling started later in 2015, the season was split up into two time periods instead of three: mid (June 16 to August 15, 2015) and late (August 16 to November 1, 2015).

Four generalized linear mixed models were used to analyze trap captures of *H. halys*. Adult and nymphs were analyzed separately. Different lures were tested during 2014 and 2015, and thus years were analyzed separately. In 2014, the models used the abundance of each life stage as the response and used the lure treatment (*H. halys* aggregation pheromone (PHER), MDT and unbaited control), and sampling period (early, mid, and late) as explanatory variables. In addition, the interaction between sampling period and lure treatment was included, and sampling site was used as a random blocking variable for the analysis. The model employed an autoregressive variance/covariance matrix using sampling date as the repeated measure with an underlying negative binomial distribution and loglink function to account for overdispersion in the dataset.

Years	Site name	Coordinates		Number of	Site description	
		Latitude	Longitude	replication		
2014	Paju-A	37° 45′38.6″N	126°47′13.7″E	3	Broadleaf shrubs with beans and vegetables	
	Paju-B	37°45′50.7″N	126°48′19.4″E	1	Broadleaf shrubs with beans and vegetables	
	Gongju-A	36°34′19.9″N	127°09′36.5″E	2	Rice paddies and beans with chestnut trees	
	Gongju-B	36°33′08.5″N	127°09′11.6″E	2	Broadleaf shrubs on the hills	
	Jinju-A	35°10′36.1″N	128°10′43.1″E	2	Persimmon orchard near hills mixed with pine trees and small broadleaf shrubs	
	Jinju-B	35°09′09.6″N	128°10′05.5″E	4	Persimmon orchard near hills mixed with pine trees and small broadleaf shrubs, Altitude is ca. 100 m higher	
2015	Paju-C	37°45′38.6″ N	126°47′13.7″E	2	Broadleaf shrubs with beans and vegetables	
	Paju-D	37°45′50.7″N	126°48′19.4″E	1	Broadleaf shrubs with beans and vegetables	
	Gongju-C	36°33′08.5″N	127°09′11.6″E	3	Broadleaf shrubs on the hills	
	Jinju-C	35°10′36.1″N	128°10′43.1″E	2	Persimmon orchard near hills mixed with pine trees and small broadleaf shrubs	
	Jinju-D	35°09′09.6″N	128°10′05.5″E	1	Persimmon orchard near hills mixed with pine trees and small broadleaf shrubs	

Table 1 Summary of the sites used for capturing H. haly in pyramid traps baited with semiochemicals in 2014 and 2015 in Republic of Korea

To calculate the significance of the fixed effects, likelihood ratio tests were conducted in which the full model above was compared with a model that was missing the fixed effect term being evaluated for significance. A P value was calculated based on a Chi-square distribution. Upon a significant result for a given fixed effect in the model, Tukey's HSD test was used for pairwise comparisons. In order to evaluate whether the position of the lure in a transect affected the resulting captures of adults and nymphs due to lack of re-randomization, a preliminary ANOVA was performed for adults and nymphs. The position of the lure within each transect was nested within site and used as the explanatory variable. After eliminating possible positional effects, an identical full model to 2014 was used for the 2015 dataset, except the lure treatments included H. halys aggregation pheromone (PHER), MDT, both lures combined (PHER + MDT) and an unbaited control. All statistical tests were carried out in R Software (R Core Development Team 2015), with $\alpha = 0.05$.

To understand how lure treatment affected captures of non-target insect community in 2014 (non-target insects were not recorded in 2015), non-metric multi-dimensional (NMDS) ordination was employed to visualize the data. Season-long mean trap captures were calculated for each replicate trap. Subsequently, Bray-Curtis index values were calculated in a pairwise fashion among the replicates within and among treatments. Next, the data matrix was visualized using NMDS via the *metaMDS* function in the R package Vegan (Dixon 2003), using 35 random starts to find the most stable solution. Stress was calculated in the final solution, with stress values less than 0.13 typically being considered reliable and interpretable (Clarke 1993). To assess the significance of group differences in the ordination, an analysis of similarity (ANOSIM) was employed, with N = 10,000 permutations. This test also computes an *R* value, which represents a measure of similarity/dissimilarity, and the value for this ranges from 0 (identical) to -1 or 1 (completely different) (Anderson 2008).

In addition, non-target insect trap capture among lure treatments was compared using a multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) to test whether abundance of specific taxa varied. The abundance of each taxon (*Plautia stali*, *Riptortus pedestris*, Reduviidae, Ichneumonidae, Tachinidae, and all other bugs) was aggregated, and a model was created to explain their abundance by the lure treatment (unbaited control, MDT, and PHER), sampling period (early, mid, and late), and their interaction. Roy's maximum root approximation for the F-statistic was used. Upon a significant result of the MANOVA, individual univariate ANOVAs were performed for each taxon. After a significant result from the ANOVA, pairwise comparisons were performed using Tukey's HSD test.

Finally, to assess whether there is synergism between the combined stimuli in 2015, the following procedure was applied to adult and nymphal captures in each time period. Firstly, the trap captures with the *H. halys* aggregation alone and MDT alone were averaged across the time period for each life stage and then added together to create a theoretical threshold above which captures could be considered synergistic, and below which, they could be simply be considered additive. Secondly, a two-tailed t-test was performed between the average captures in traps with single stimuli and traps with combined stimuli. Lastly, if both the captures in traps with combined stimuli were above the threshold established for synergism, and these were significantly greater than captures in traps with single stimuli, then this was taken as evidence for synergism.

Results

2014 Trapping experiment

Adult captures

There were a total of 317 adults captured by traps, with our overall model explaining a significant amount of the variation in the data (likelihood ratio test: $\chi^2 = 99.1$; df = 10, 445; P < 0.0001; Fig. 1). Lure treatment significantly affected adult captures ($\chi^2 = 60.1$; df = 6, 445; P < 0.0001). For example, traps baited with MDT or the aggregation pheromone captured approximately 20 and 7 times more adults compared to unbaited controls, respectively. Moreover, trap captures varied with sampling period ($\chi^2 = 47.8$; df = 6, 445; P < 0.0001), with 2 and 10 times

Fig. 1 Captures of *H. halvs* $(\pm$ SE) adults (*black bars*) or nymphs (gray bars) in black pyramid traps checked once every 2 weeks in 2014 at three locations in Republic of Korea. The control remained unbaited, while MDT refers to lures containing the synergist methyl (2E,4E,6Z)-decatrienoate, and PHER indicates lures containing the H. halys aggregation pheromone. Bars with shared letters are not significantly different from one another (Tukey's HSD, $\alpha = 0.05$)

more *H. halys* adults captured in the mid- and late-season, respectively, compared with the early season. There was also a significant interaction between sampling period and the lure treatment ($\chi^2 = 21.8$; df = 4, 445; P < 0.0003). Importantly, traps with the aggregation pheromone showed greater sensitivity for capturing adults earlier in the season than with MDT (Fig. 2).

Nymphal captures

A total of 245 *H. halys* nymphs were captured, and the overall model described 61% of the variation in trap capture (likelihood ratio test: $\chi^2 = 85.3$; df = 10, 445; P < 0.0001). The lure treatment in the trap significantly affected the number of nymphs captured ($\chi^2 = 25.4$; df = 6, 445; P < 0.0003; Fig. 1). In particular, over 10 and 6 times more nymphs were captured in traps baited with MDT and the aggregation pheromone alone, respectively, compared with unbaited controls. Additionally, the sampling period also significantly affected trap captures ($\chi^2 = 53.8$; df = 6, 445; P < 0.0001), with almost 7 times more *H. halys* nymphs captured in the late season



Fig. 2 Season-long mean captures of H. halvs adults (right column) and nymphs (left column) in traps checked once every 2 weeks during 2014 in the early (top panel), midseason (middle), and late season (bottom) at three locations in Republic of Korea. The control remained unbaited, while MDT refers to lures containing the synergist methyl (2E.4E.6Z)decatrienoate, and PHER indicates lures containing the H. halys aggregation pheromone. The standard error bars have been removed from the line for the sake of clarity of presentation



compared with the mid- or early season. The interaction between the sampling period and lure treatment was not significant ($\chi^2 = 1.71$; df = 4, 445; P = 0.789). Overall, MDT-baited traps caught more nymphs than traps with the aggregation pheromone alone throughout the entire season (Fig. 2). This is likely due to the 6-times higher loading rate of MDT in the lure compared to aggregation pheromone.

2015 Trapping experiment

Adult captures

In total, 1012 adult *H. halys* were captured, with trap position not having a significant effect on the captures of *H. halys* (ANOVA: F = 1.71; df = 8, 361; P = 0.094). The overall full model significantly explained over 50% of the variation in trap capture (likelihood ratio test: $\chi^2 = 184.7$; df = 13, 359; P < 0.0001). The lure treatment affected adult captures ($\chi^2 = 129.8$; df = 9, 359; P < 0.0001), with over 13 and 36 times greater captures in traps containing either the aggregation pheromone alone or

in combination with MDT, respectively, compared with traps baited with MDT alone (Fig. 3). During the course of the entire season, unbaited traps captured no adults. The abundance of adults caught in traps was affected by sampling date ($\gamma^2 = 64.2$; df = 8, 359; P < 0.0001). Traps captured 24 times more adults in the late season compared to the mid-season. The interaction between the sampling period and the lure treatment was not significant $(\chi^2 = 4.91; df = 6, 359; P = 0.0.556)$. Traps baited with a combination of the aggregation pheromone +MDT captured more adults than any of the other lure treatment (Fig. 4). Finally, traps with the combined stimuli resulted in a synergistic effect on attraction of adults in both the mid- (t = 3.60; df = 106; P < 0.001) and late-season (t = 4.42; df = 160; P < 0.0001), capturing on average 2.38 and 2.51 times more individuals than one would expect if it were only an additive process.

Nymphal captures

A total of 1817 nymphs were captured in traps, with the position of the trap not significantly influencing trap

Fig. 3 Captures of *H. halys* $(\pm$ SE) adults (*black bars*) or nymphs (gray bars) in black pyramid traps checked once every 2 weeks in 2015 at three locations in Republic of Korea. The control remained unbaited. while MDT refers to lures containing the synergist methyl (2E,4E,6Z)-decatrienoate, and PHER indicates lures containing the H. halvs aggregation pheromone. Bars with shared letters are not significantly different from one another (Tukey's HSD, $\alpha = 0.05$). Because of later deployment. the early season has been omitted from the figure



Fig. 4 Season-long mean captures of *H. halys* adults and nymphs in traps checked once every 2 weeks during 2015 in the mid-season (*top panel*), and late season (*bottom*) at three locations in Republic of Korea. The control remained unbaited, while MDT refers to lures containing the synergist methyl (2*E*,4*E*,6*Z*)-decatrienoate, and PHER indicates lures containing the *H. halys* aggregation pheromone. The

Mean Weekly Capture (±SE) of *H. halys*

captures (ANOVA: F = 1.56; df = 8, 361; P = 0.121). The full model significantly explained a significant amount of the variation in the trap capture (likelihood ratio tests: $\chi^2 = 236.7$; df = 13, 359; P < 0.0001; Fig. 3). The lure

early season was not included in this graph because only one sampling date is represented due to delayed deployment of traps. The *standard error bars* have been removed from the line for the sake of clarity of presentation. Because of later deployment, the early season has been omitted from the figure

treatment significantly affected trap captures ($\chi^2 = 125.6$; df = 9, 359; P < 0.0001), with the aggregation pheromone- and aggregation pheromone + MDT-baited traps capturing 91 and 72 times more nymphs than traps with

MDT alone, respectively (Fig. 3, Tukey's HSD). Furthermore, trap captures varied significantly among sampling periods ($\chi^2 = 120.8$; df = 8, 359; P < 0.0001). Over 1200 times more nymphs were captured during the late season compared with the mid-season. There was a significant interaction between the sampling period and lure treatment ($\chi^2 = 1.25$; df = 6, 359; P = 0.974). Finally, traps with the combined stimuli resulted in an additive effect on attraction of nymphs in both the mid- (t = 1.41; df = 106; P = 0.399), capturing on average 1.27 times fewer individuals than one would expect if it were a synergistic process. However, traps baited with aggregation pheromone + MDT captured the most nymphs on each date throughout the season (Fig. 4).

Non-target insects in traps

In 2014, there were a total of 62 *P. stali*, 95 *R. pedestris*, 14 reduviids, 35 tachinids, and 66 other insects captured in pyramid traps. Lure treatment captured a unique community of insect taxa in traps (ANOSIM: R = 0.202; P < 0.047; Fig. 5). The overall model explaining the abundance of non-target insects was significant (MAN-OVA: Roy's approx. F = 2.86; df = 6, 449; P < 0.01). However, only captures of adult *P. stali* were significantly affected by the lure treatment (F = 4.95; df = 2, 453; P < 0.007), with MDT-baited traps capturing



approximately 12 and 2 times more individuals than either unbaited traps or traps baited with the *H. halys* aggregation pheromone alone, respectively (Fig. 6). Traps baited with *H. halys* aggregation pheromone consistently captured more adult *P. stali* than unbaited traps. Sampling period also affected *P. stali* captures with 2 and 4 times more adults captured in the early season compared with the midor late-season, respectively (Fig. 6). However, there was no significant interaction between sampling period and lure treatment (F = 0.8416; df = 2, 453; P = 0.499). The other non-target insects did not significantly vary with lure treatment in traps (range: F = 0.789-1.46; df = 2, 453; P = 0.234-0.455; Table 1).



Fig. 5 Non-metric multi-dimensional scaling ordination plot based on Bray–Curtis similarities between the non-target insect communities in large pyramid traps deployed in the Republic of Korea at three sites for traps baited with methyl (2E,4E,6Z)-decatrienoate (red), H. *halys* aggregation pheromone (*green*), or left unbaited (*black*) in 2014. Each dot represents the insect community in a replicate for each treatment. Stress = 0.09. (Colour figure online)

Fig. 6 Mean trap capture (\pm SE) of *Plautia stali* adults once every 2 weeks during the growing season at three sites in the Republic of Korea in 2014 with traps baited with methyl (2*E*,4*E*,6*Z*)-decatrienoate (MDT), the *H. halys* aggregation pheromone (PHER), or left unbaited (Control). *Bars* with shared letters are not significantly different from each other (Tukey's HSD, $\alpha = 0.05$)

Discussion

This is the first study to assess the response of H. halys adults and nymphs to its aggregation pheromone in its Asian native range. In the Republic of Korea, H. halys are most attracted to traps baited with a combination of the aggregation pheromone and MDT, which provided a synergistic influence on attraction for adults and an additive effect for nymphs. In 2014, traps baited with MDT were not attractive to *H. halys* in the early season, but were very attractive in the late-season. Conversely, H. halys adults were attracted to traps baited with the aggregation pheromone in the early and mid-season, but less so in the late season. Traps baited with MDT captured more nymphs and adults in the late-season compared with traps baited with the pheromone alone likely because of the difference in loading rates, leading to a dose-dependent response in captures. In the USA, MDT is generally not attractive to adults in the early season, but becomes more attractive in the late-season, while it is attractive to nymphs season-long (Leskey et al. 2015a, Weber et al. 2014a). While this study was not able to assess the combined stimuli in the early season, the pattern of captures for MDT and the aggregation pheromone alone in all parts of the season was similar to the responses found in the introduced range in the USA, and the combined stimuli also performed similarly in the native range in the mid- and late-season compared to the introduced range. In other words, the population-level pattern observed in the introduced range of the USA is essentially the same as that in the native range of H. halys in the Republic of Korea (Table 2).

In 2015, the attraction of *H. halys* adults and nymphs to traps baited with MDT alone was not as robust in the midand late-season compared with 2014. However, there was still enhanced attraction when traps contained the MDT combined with the *H. halys* aggregation pheromone on adult captures. Prior research suggests that only a small amount of MDT is required to create a synergistic effect on attraction (Leskey et al. 2015a; Weber et al. 2014a). Moreover, there are several factors that may have influenced the overall attractiveness of MDT lures in 2015. For example, the longevity of field-aged MDT lures used in a prior study showed significant attenuation in attraction of *H. halys* adults and nymphs to traps over a 7-week period deployment period. (Joseph et al. 2013). Specifically, 3-week-old MDT lures started to capture fewer *H. halys* than fresh lures, and lures that were 4–7 weeks old captured statistically equivalent numbers of adults to traps without an MDT lure. Other factors such as dose (Mason et al. 1990), air velocity and temperature (Van der Kraan and Ebbers 1990), and the underlying genetics of the behavioral perception of the pheromone (Roelofs et al. 1987) may affect lure performance.

Importantly, traps baited with a combination of the H. halys aggregation pheromone and MDT pheromone synergist should be useful for monitoring, and detecting H. halys worldwide. Adult captures indicated a statistically significant increase, i.e., synergism, when stimuli were combined, while nymphal captures indicated an additive response only, though nymphal captures may be less reliable for measuring synergy based on their dispersal capacity compared with adults and their tendency not to be evenly distributed, but instead to be aggregated or clumped on select host plants. Subsequently, nymphal captures are more dependent on sampling location and the specific native hosts surrounding crop production areas, which may have resulted in the premature depletion of local nymphal populations within the distance of attraction for H. halys to these semiochemicals. However, with demonstrated effectiveness in attraction both in the USA and now in the Republic of Korea, there is strong evidence that the pheromone-based monitoring and management developed in the USA could be applicable globally. This is a salient point, because in Asia, H. halys is one of the top five most serious stink bug pests, undergoing periodic outbreaks that are mostly managed through applications of pyrethroids and neonicotinoids (Lee et al. 2013). Production systems in Asia may benefit from the use of pheromone and MDT synergists in threshold-based (Short et al. 2016) or perimeter-based (Blaauw et al. 2015; Morrison et al. 2016b) management for *H. halys*. For other countries, such as New Zealand (MacLellan 2013) or Australia (Australian

Table 2Trap capture of non-
target insects in black pyramid
traps once every 2 weeks at
three sites in the Republic of
Korea during 2014 that
contained MDT alone (MDT),
the *H. halys* aggregation
pheromone alone (PHER), or
were left unbaited (Control)

Control		MDT	PHER	PHER	
Mean \pm SE		Mean \pm SE		Mean \pm SE	
0.34 ± 0.21	a^a	0.05 ± 0.02	а	0.24 ± 0.11	а
0.03 ± 0.01	а	0.01 ± 0.01	а	0.06 ± 0.04	а
0.03 ± 0.02	а	0.11 ± 0.05	а	0.10 ± 0.04	а
0.07 ± 0.02	а	0.19 ± 0.07	а	0.17 ± 0.08	а
	Control Mean \pm SE 0.34 \pm 0.21 0.03 \pm 0.01 0.03 \pm 0.02 0.07 \pm 0.02	Control Mean \pm SE 0.34 \pm 0.21 a^a 0.03 \pm 0.01 a 0.03 \pm 0.02 a 0.07 \pm 0.02 a	Control MDT Mean \pm SE Mean \pm SE 0.34 ± 0.21 a^a 0.05 ± 0.02 0.03 ± 0.01 a 0.01 ± 0.01 0.03 ± 0.02 a 0.11 ± 0.05 0.07 ± 0.02 a 0.19 ± 0.07	Control MDT Mean \pm SE Mean \pm SE 0.34 ± 0.21 a^a 0.05 ± 0.02 a 0.03 ± 0.01 a 0.01 ± 0.01 a 0.03 ± 0.02 a 0.11 ± 0.05 a 0.07 ± 0.02 a 0.19 ± 0.07 a	Control MDT PHER Mean \pm SE Mean \pm SE Mean \pm SE Mean \pm SE 0.34 ± 0.21 a^a 0.05 ± 0.02 a 0.24 ± 0.11 0.03 ± 0.01 a 0.01 ± 0.01 a 0.06 ± 0.04 0.03 ± 0.02 a 0.11 ± 0.05 a 0.10 ± 0.04 0.07 ± 0.02 a 0.19 ± 0.07 a 0.17 ± 0.08

^a Columns with shared letters within a row are not significantly different from one another (Tukey's HSD, $\alpha = 0.05$)

Government 2015), sensitive pheromone traps for *H. halys* will likely be important in exclusion/detection programs. This may also include more convenient trap styles to increase ease of monitoring and surveillance (Morrison et al. 2015). This is important as New Zealand has declared H. halys one of their top six pests species of concern (MacLellan 2013). One question yet to be addressed, however, is when diapausing H. halys begin to respond to traps baited with pheromonal stimuli. Most hitchhiking H. halys are believed to be in diapause (MacLellan 2013), and it is unknown when these individuals will begin to respond to pheromonal stimuli when inadvertently moved to regions with abiotic conditions, including day length and temperature, that are conducive to diapause termination (Lee et al. 2013). However, because *H. halvs* adults have been captured in traps baited with the aggregation pheromone alone (Khrimian et al. 2014) or in combination with MDT (Leskey et al. 2015a) in the early season, it appears that as adults become active after diapause termination, they also become responsive to these stimuli.

The population of *H. halys* in the eastern USA has been traced back to Beijing, China (Haye et al. 2015); however, its native range includes the Republic of Korea (Lee et al. 2013). In this study, we have evaluated field-level responses of the population in the Republic of Korea, which are similar to the data collected on the field-level responses of the population in the USA (Leskey et al. 2015a, b, c). While we did not analyze the underlying genetics in the Asian population, it is generally observed that the genetic diversity in the native range is higher than in an introduced range for an invasive species (reviewed in Lee 2002), and at least some portions of the haplotypes present in Asian population appear to be responding to the H. halys aggregation pheromone and MDT. Moreover, we documented reliable mid- and late-season captures of H. halys with the combined stimuli. Taken together with prior work showing that even in Europe (part of the introduced range), there is significant variability in the haplotypes present, we suggest the high likelihood that these combined stimuli will be effective at trapping and monitoring H. halys in other areas of its introduced and native range. Further work investigating the underlying genetic architecture of *H. halys* in Asia may help shed light on which specific haplotypes are responding, but this was beyond the scope of the current work.

The findings of *H. halys* are different from those of other species, which may sometimes exhibit host races that respond differently to the same semiochemicals. For example, in the historically invasive European corn borer, *Ostrinia nubilalis* (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae), there are three pheromone races with one responding primarily to Z11-14:OAc, E11-14:OAc, or a mix of each (Linn et al. 1997). Other species, such as the apple maggot fly, *Rhagoletis*

pomonella (Diptera: Tephritidae), exhibit regional differences in their response to other olfactory cues, for example with populations responding to the feeding cue ammonium carbonate on the west coast (Yee et al. 2014), but not in the eastern USA (Morrison et al. 2016a). In the current study, we found no evidence of pheromone races or regional differentiation for *H. halys*.

In terms of non-target insect captures, there were less than 300 individuals spread across 36 traps that were sampled 13 times during 2014. Non-target captures are always a consideration when conducting pheromone-based trapping, because it adds time to the counting process for the target insect taxon (e.g., Kelly et al. 2013). However, our study suggests that non-target organisms will not impede monitoring of *H. halys*, nor result in excessive mortality of other insects. Notably, different lures caught a unique community of arthropods, though MDT and the *H. halys* aggregation pheromone seemed to capture more similar communities of non-target insects compared to the unbaited control (Fig. 5).

In addition to being attracted to its own aggregation pheromone, P. stali exhibited cross-attraction to the H. halys aggregation pheromone. This is similar to the cross-attraction of H. halys to P. stali's aggregation pheromone, MDT (Weber et al. 2014a). In fact, cross-attraction to aggregation pheromones from heterospecifics is a common phenomenon among Pentatomidae (e.g., Tillman et al. 2010, Weber et al. 2014b; reviewed in Wertheim et al. 2005) and may allow other species to locate favorable resources. For example, there is cross-attraction between the pheromone of Piezodorus hvbnei (Gmelin) (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) and that of its main competitor R. pedestris (Endo et al. 2010). Interestingly, R. pedestris, one of the main stink bug pests in Republic of Korea (Son et al. 2000), did not exhibit any cross-attraction to either MDT or the H. halys aggregation pheromone in our study, despite catching 1.5 times more individuals in traps overall compared to Plautia stali.

Natural enemies often utilize volatile signals given off by their prey or the plants that their prey is associated with (reviewed in Vet and Dicke 1992). Now that attraction of H. halys to the combination of its aggregation pheromone and synergist MDT has been established in its introduced and native range, and it is important to understand whether we can manipulate the *H. halys* natural enemy community using semiochemicals. In other stink bug species, such as Euschistus heros, the pheromone for the species also acted as a kairomone for its egg parasitoid (Borges et al. 2011). In the USA, MDT acts as a kairomone for the tachinid parasitoid Euclytia flava (Townsend) (Aldrich et al. 2007) and the predatory digger wasp, Astata occidentalis (Hymenoptera: Sphecidae) (Cottrell et al. 2014; Millar et al. 2001). With the spread of the main Asian egg parasitoid of H. halys, Trissolcus japonicus (Hymenoptera: Platygastridae), in the introduced range in the USA (Herlihly et al.

2016; Talamas et al. 2015), it is increasingly important to understand whether the *H. halys* aggregation pheromone can also be used as a kairomone to aid pest management. Moreover, it is a possibility that some of the native predators that have been observed attacking *H. halys* in the USA (e.g., Morrison et al. 2016c) may also use kairomones or other herbivore-induced plant volatiles to locate egg masses. The identification of kairomones and other semiochemicals that may be involved in recruiting the natural enemy community of *H. halys* should be elucidated in the future.

Overall, we have established the attractiveness of the *H. halys* aggregation pheromone and pheromone synergist in the native range of *H. halys*. This suggests that much of the work being done around the world with pheromonebased tools may be transferrable across borders. In particular, these pheromone-based tools may be useful for worldwide exclusion and detection measures for *H. halys*. However, there are still outstanding topics that require attention, including when *H. halys* begin to respond to these stimuli as they break diapause, how the natural enemy community responds to these stimuli in its introduced range, and whether we can use that knowledge to help increase pest management for this destructive invasive species.

Authors' contribution

TL, DL, and YP conceived and designed the study. CP and BS carried out the study and checked traps. WM analyzed the data and wrote the manuscript. All authors revised, read, and approved the manuscript.

Acknowledgements We would like to thank J.J. Ahn (West Virginia University), J. Cullum (USDA), J.T. Goldner, Dr. Sang-Ku Lee, and M.M. McKinney for their excellent technical assistance. This work was funded by a Cooperative Research Program for between Agricultural Science and the Technology Development and the Rural Development Administration, Republic of Korea (Project No. PJ008946), Cooperative Research Agreement between the Rural Development Administration of the Republic of Korea and West Virginia University, USA (Project No. 10016999) and National Research Foundation of Korea (Grant No. NRF-2014R1A1A2056993). This research was also funded, in part, by a USDA-NIFA SCRI CAP Grant#2011-51181-30937. Mention of trade names or commercial products in this publication is solely for the purpose of providing scientific information and does not imply recommendation or endorsement by the US Department of Agriculture.

Compliance with ethical standards

Conflict of interest All authors declare that they have no conflict of interest in publishing this work.

Human and animal rights All applicable international, national, and/or institutional guidelines for the care and use of animals were

followed. This article does not contain any studies with human participants by any of the authors.

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