

Vegetable Weevil

by Eric Day and Alexandra Spring

Description: Adult: Dull, grayish brown; 2 oval pale gray marks on back; 3/8 inch long. Larva: Light green body and light yellow to brown head; 5/8 inch long when full grown.



Vegetable weevil, larva left, adult right. *Clemson University - USDA Cooperative Extension Slide Series, Bugwood.org*

Common host plant(s): Turnip, cabbage, and related plants.

Damage: Adults and larvae feed on leaves and roots.

Distribution: Southern United States.

Cultural Control: Destroy infested rows or pick-off weevils at night. Sticky barriers can be placed around infested plants to keep the weevils from migrating to other parts of the garden. Rotate crops and till plant debris into the ground.

Organic/Biological Control: Plants may be dusted with diatomaceous earth. Rotenone and pyrethrum sprays may also be used.

Chemical Control: Work granular insecticide into the soil at planting time; or, for control of adults, spray foliage with insecticide registered for use on the host plant in need of protection.