

WEEVILS

Black Vine (*O. sulcatus*), **Rose** (*Rhynchites bicolour*), and **Strawberry** (*Otiorhynchus ovatus*)

Description

Both adult and larval stages of this pest cause damage to plants. The adult feeds on foliage at night, causing irregular notches on the edge of leaves. Grubs feed on roots, causing severe damage or even death to the plant. The most common weevils are black vine and strawberry weevils. Both species attack a wide range of hosts. Adults range from brown to black in colour, and from 9 to 13 mm in length. During the day the adult hides in dark places on the stems of plants or in ground litter.



Weevil Damage on *Primula*



Adult Root Weevil and Damage



Blackvine Weevil - Grub

J. Sutherland



Spruce Weevil



Alberta Environment Centre

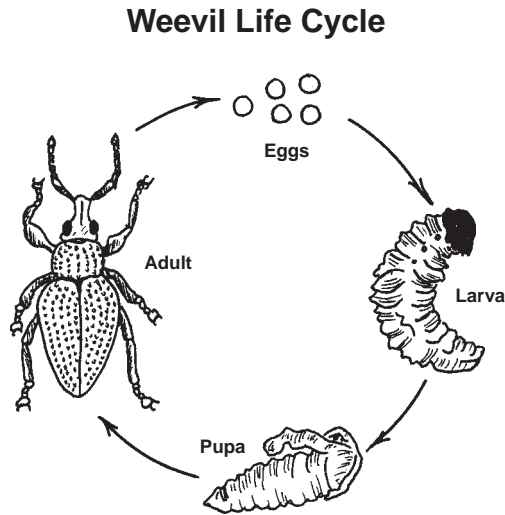
Strawberry Root Weevil (*Otiorhynchus ovatus*)



Clay Coloured Weevils

Life Cycle

Adults lay eggs every 2 to 3 weeks in the soil during midsummer. Larvae emerge and feed on feeder roots in the fall; they overwinter in the ground and feed again in spring. When they begin to increase in size, they feed on bark and larger roots, causing the most severe damage. After about three weeks of feeding, they pupate and emerge as adults in June.



Hosts

Grubs and adults to a lesser extent, are pests of most shrubs, especially container stock.

Specific Weevils

Rose Curculio (*Rhynchites bicolor*)

Adults are 6 mm long and red or black in colour. They puncture flower buds, giving the opened flower a ragged, holey appearance. When few flowers are present, it gouges stems of buds, causing them to wilt and die. Larvae are white to black, and feed on reproductive parts of blossoms as well as on leaves. They drop to the soil in fall and overwinter, pupating and emerging in spring. Only one generation occurs per year with adult weevils laying eggs in buds in spring.



Rose Weevil Damage

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Rose Weevil (*Rhynchites Bicolor*)

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