

Bean Leaf Beetle

Cerotoma trifurcata (Förster) (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae)
(Origin: Native)



Adult Bean Leaf Beetle

Primary Host: Beans, peas, soybeans.

Damage: Larvae feed on roots, nodules, and underground portions of the stem. Adults feed on stems of seedlings and chew round holes in leaves and damage pods.

Management: 2 or 3 beetles per plant and 30% defoliation usually justifies treatment.

Biocontrols: Many different parasitoids and predators attack bean leaf beetles. The most common parasitoid is the tachinid fly, *Calatoria diabroticae*, which attacks the adult beetle.

Cultural Controls: An early planting of soybeans may serve as a trap crop if the number of overwintering adults is high.

Chemical Controls: Contact your local Penn State County Extension Agent for more information.
<http://www.extension.psu.edu/extmap.html>

Insect Description:

Adults: About 1/4" long; varies in color from light yellow to tan to green or even red when mature. Each wing cover may have 4 black spots and there is a black triangle behind the head.

Pupae: Whitish in color and about 1/6" long. Found in small earthen cell in the soil. Adults emerge in about a week.

Larvae: Slender and white, about 1/3" long, with a black head and anal plate and short legs near the head. (Resembles corn rootworm larva). It spends this entire stage feeding underground until pupation.

Eggs: Lemon-shaped; reddish-orange in color and less than 1/32" long. Laid about 1" deep in soil in clusters at the base of plants. Hatch within 2-3 weeks depending on temperature.

Life History: Overwinters in wooded areas, leaf litter and weeds. Migrate to bean fields to feed and lay eggs. Eggs hatch in 6-15 days. Larvae feed on soybean root hairs and nodules until pupation. 2nd generation adults emerge and feed on soybean foliage.