

Japanese Beetle

Popilia japonica Newman (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae)

(Origin: Asia)



Japanese Beetles Adult

Primary Host: Many vegetables, fruits, field crops, ornamentals, turfgrass.

Damage: Larvae (grubs) feed on roots of turfgrass and other plants. Adults feed on leaves, flowers, and fruits of many plants.

Management: Adults are not effectively controlled with scented traps.

Biocontrols: Bacterial Milky Disease is effective given enough time, and a parasitic nematode is effective.

Cultural Controls: Dry soil inhibits development of eggs and 1st stage grubs. Don't irrigate during that time.

Physical Controls: Hand picking. Pheromone traps may attract more beetles than they control, causing increased plant damage.

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

Insect Description:

Adults: About $\frac{3}{8}$ " long; metallic green and bronze in color with a row of white tufts on each side of body.

Pupae: First cream-colored, becoming light reddish-brown with age. About $\frac{1}{2}$ " long.

Larvae: Common C-shaped white grubs found in lawns, turf or cultivated fields.

Eggs: Tiny white eggs are deposited in the soil where they hatch.

Life History: Grubs overwinter about 8" below the soil surface, moving up when the surface temperature reaches 60°. Pupation begins in June, with adults emerging through July, feeding and mating. The female burrows into the soil to lay eggs about 2-4" deep, where they hatch into grubs which begin feeding on roots and organic material. As winter approaches, the grubs burrow deeper to overwinter.



Japanese Beetle Larva (Grub)