

VEGETABLE PEST ADVISORY

MAY 7, 2020

EXTENSION 
UtahStateUniversity.



Pea Weevil Damage

Monitoring: Adults overwinter under vegetable debris and alfalfa/clover fields. Eggs are laid in late April through early May. Scout for weevils during cool and wet conditions. Check emerging pea plants and underneath dirt clods where adults may be hiding. Pea weevils are slender, 5 mm long, grey-brown in color, and have a notable snout. Larvae are c-shaped, 5 mm long, and are white with a brown head.

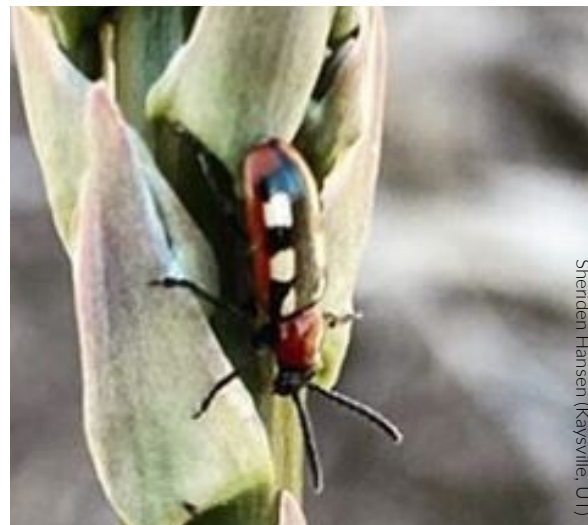
Damage: Adults chew prominent half-circle notches out of the leaf margins while the larvae feed on root nodules.

Management: Consider treatment when there is 25% growing-point injury on seedlings. Implement crop rotation by moving peas away from other legumes. Irrigation and proper fertilization may help crops outgrow damage. Home pesticide options include: [Garden Tech Sevin](#).

Asparagus Beetle Damage

Monitoring: Adults and eggs are first seen in mid-May through July. Scout for adults in the afternoon feeding on asparagus spears. Adults are 5-6 mm long, brightly colored with four yellow spots, orange wing margins, and a bluish-black head. Spotted asparagus beetles are mostly orange with six black spots on their fore wings. Monitor for dark eggs "glued" to spears. **Damage:** Most serious damage occurs in early spring when new spears are breaking through the soil. Adults and larvae feed with chewing mouth parts consuming leaves and chewing pits into the spears. Larvae chew on ferns, giving them a bleached appearance and reducing photosynthesis.

Management: Consider treatment when persistent beetle damage occurs. Remove volunteer asparagus and reduce weeds near growing site. Encourage predatory beetles and parasitic wasps. Home pesticide options include; [Garden Tech Sevin](#) and [Safer Brand Insecticidal Soap & Pyrethrin Concentrate](#).



Millipede Damage

Monitoring: Millipedes are arthropods, typically they're long, slender, hard-shelled, and range from red to black. Millipedes overwinter as adults and immature stages in sheltered areas under debris, boards, or equipment. In the spring, adults lay their eggs.

Damage: In Utah, there have been reports of millipedes causing damage to small roots and germinating seedlings of beans, corn, and peas.

Management: Control is not recommended in garden settings, as threat is rarely serious. Focus on prevention by through yard sanitation. Remove decaying vegetation, dead leaves, grass and other debris to help reduce their numbers. If damage is occurring, remove excess mulch from the area to take away their shelter.