







Technical Bulletin for: **Sitona Weevil**

Sitona spp. (Germar) • Coleoptera, Curculionidae • SITONA



DISTRIBUTION	Native to the Nearctic and Palearctic regions. Introduced to Australia and New Zealand.
HOSTS	Various species of legume.
DESCRIPTION	
Adult	Easily distinguished from related genera by flat, recumbent scales on the mandibles, by the absence of an oval scar on the mandibles, by short and broad rostrum with a deep, longitudinal, median groove, and by dense scales on the body. Range from 3-7 mm in length, depending on species.
Larvae	All larvae are apodous, meaning they do not possess legs. Color and length of each species' larvae depends on diet and species.
Eggs	Egg shape and size depends on species.
LIFE HISTORY	All <i>Sitona</i> spp. raise only one annual generation. In the Middle East the active adults appear in autumn, at the rainy season. The eggs are placed on plants or on the soil and require high (>75-80%) relative humidity for hatching. The emerging larvae move into the soil where they feed for 5-7 weeks on the plants' root nodules and roots, pupating in the soil. The emerging adults undergo a summer diapause, which is terminated in the following autumn. Volatiles emitted by preferred host plants attract the adults to these plants. The weevils are long-lived, often lasting for several months.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	4-methyl-3,5-Heptanedione in a Gray Rubber Septum. Lure longevity: 30 days.	
TRAP TO USE	Red Paper or Plastic Delta Trap or Uni Trap	  
MONITORING STRATEGY	Place traps on the ground (in the case of the Uni Trap, bury until only top portions are visible) along the edges of legume fields. Placing traps in the southern corners of fields has shown to be more effective. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Check for plants dying prematurely, or for eggs in areas of high humidity near pea plants. Removal and destruction of infested host plants is recommended. Species vary in host range, and over 100 <i>Sitona</i> species have been defined. Therefore, check with local sources to identify which species is causing issue, and to ensure the best control methods.	

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