





# Technical Bulletin for: Maize Weevil

*Sitophilus zeamais* (Motschulsky) • Coleoptera, Curculionidae • SITZEA



<b>DISTRIBUTION</b>	United States, tropical regions including Sub-Saharan Africa.
<b>HOSTS</b>	Grains in storage, such as Maize, wheat, rice, sorghum, oats, barley, rye, buckwheat, peas, cottonseed, pasta, cassava, sometimes fruits in storage such as apples.
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	
<b>Adult</b>	Measure 2.3 mm to 4.9 mm in length. The type of food consumed by the larvae influences the size of the adult (3.9-4.9 mm on corn, 3.0-4.6 mm on wheat, 2.9-4.3 mm on rice, 2.7-3.2 on rough rice, and 2.3-3.9 mm on shelled rice). Brown with four reddish-brown spots on elytra
<b>Larvae</b>	White, fleshy and legless.
<b>Eggs</b>	
<b>LIFE HISTORY</b>	Females chew into maize grains where they lay their eggs throughout most of their adult life of up to one year, although 50% of their eggs may be laid in the first 4-5 weeks. Each female may lay up to 150 eggs in her lifetime. Development time ranges from about 35 days under optimal conditions to over 110 days in unfavorable conditions. Eggs, larval and pupal stages are all found within tunnels and chambers bored in the grain and are thus not normally seen. Because larval stages feed on the internal parts of the grain, it is difficult to detect infestations early. Adults emerge from the grain and can be seen walking over the grain surfaces.

## MONITORING INFORMATION

<b>LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE &amp; FIELD LIFE</b>	Racemic (4S,5R)-5-Hydroxy-4-methylheptan-3-one, Vanillin, Valeraldehyde, and Maltol in a Red Rubber Septum. Lure longevity: Thirty (30) days.	
<b>TRAP TO USE</b>	Red Paper or Plastic Delta Trap	
<b>MONITORING STRATEGY</b>	Hang traps in pantry or wherever host grain is stored. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	
<b>CULTURAL &amp; PHYSICAL CONTROL</b>	Check grain stores for adults walking across grains, and holes and/or eggs and/or larvae within grain kernels. Remove infested grains as necessary. Boiling the grains has proven to be an effective treatment for larvae removal.	

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