

Pest Profile



Photo credit: Russ Ottens, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Whitefringed beetle

Scientific Name: *Naupactus spp.*

Order and Family: Coleoptera; Curculionidae

Size and Appearance:

	Adult	Egg	Larva/Nymph	Pupae (if applicable)
Length (mm)	12 mm	0.9 mm	12 mm	12 mm
Appearance	-Dark gray to grayish brown scales, having 2 longitudinal stripes with white hair.	-Oval and just under 1 mm long. -White in color, however turning to yellowish after a few days.	-Creamy white in color and about 12 mm long with a "C" shape.	-Similar coloration and length as larva

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Chewing in both adults and larvae.

Host plant/s: Sweet potato is among the most affected along with tobacco, cotton, and peanuts. A variety of other plants can be affected as well.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): The white fringed beetles are foliage feeders that leave saw tooth cuts on the outer edge of a leaf. The larvae can cause damage by eating away at taproots and underground stems. Infested plants will turn yellow, and if the infestation is severe enough they will wilt and die.

References:

Cranshaw, W. (2004). Chapter Three: Leaf Chewers- Whitefringed beetles. *Garden Insects of North America: The Ultimate Guide to Backyard Bugs*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

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North Carolina State University (n.d.) "Whitefringed Beetle." Whitefringed Beetle. North Carolina State University. Retrieved from: http://ipm.ncsu.edu/AG271/tobacco/whitefringed_beetle.html.