

Clay Coloured Weevil



Clay Coloured Weevil Damage

The clay coloured weevil feeds on all soft fruits. It is rarely seen as it feeds at night and hides in the soil during the daytime. The weevil is the same colour as the soil, and has a large body, small head and long snout. It lays its eggs in the soil and the larvae feed on the roots emerging as adults in the spring.

DAMAGE:

Attacks commence during April and continue for six to eight weeks. The adult weevil climbs up the plant at night and feeds on the leaves and fruiting laterals, notching the veins and flower stalks so that wilting and dead tissue can be found hanging on the bushes. In a serious attack, a bush can be denuded of every piece of green leaf and stalk.

CONTROL:

Treat in the spring when the first observable symptoms are seen, looking for the weevil with a torch after dark. Westland 'Resolva Bug Killer' (Lambda-cyhalothrin) which is a synthetic insecticide can be used to control this pest on strawberries, raspberries, blackcurrants, redcurrants, gooseberries, blackberries and grapes.

USE CHEMICALS SAFELY: ALWAYS READ THE LABEL

When using chemicals it is most important to follow the manufacturer's instructions precisely. Only use on the fruits that are listed on the manufacturer's label. An accurate weighing machine and measuring cylinder should be obtained. Chemicals can be wasted by making concentrations unnecessarily strong or by making them too weak and ineffective. Furthermore, if chemicals are too strong they may cause damage to the foliage.