

# Mango seed weevil

*Sternochetus mangiferae*



Adult Mango seed weevil (Georg Goergen/IITA Insect Museum, Cotonou, Benin)



Larva of a Mango seed weevil and damaged seed (Peter A. Follett)



Mango seed weevil damage (Shamela Rambadan, CABI)

Prevention	Monitoring	Direct Control
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Buy mango trees from nurseries free of seed weevils</li> <li>Before flowering, destroy the adults in bark crevices (during their diapause)</li> <li>Bag young fruits (when the size of a chicken egg) with newspapers of 15 x 22 cm; double layers, fold and sew the sides and bottom of the sheets to make a rectangular bag</li> <li>Collect all fallen fruits and mango stones and bury them at a depth of 50 cm</li> <li>Keep the orchard clean by removing and destroying fallen fruits and seeds</li> <li>Avoid bringing mango seeds and fruits from infested areas to non-infested areas (e.g. plant nursery, orchards, etc.)</li> <li>Avoid planting in a field with a previous history of weevil damage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit the field weekly to look for the adults. They can be black, greyish, reddish, or yellowish, 7.5-9.5 mm long with a long 'nose', hiding under loose barks, around the base of mango trees, in the fork of branches or the trunk, in inflorescences, or in leaf litter.</li> <li>Look for:                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immature/small fruits: egg-laying marks (small crescent-shaped area of 0.3 mm), when fruits (about the size of a marble) are sliced</li> <li>Fruits: larvae (legless white grubs with dark heads), pupae or adults inside</li> <li>Fruits: ambercoloured secretion, abnormal shape, internal feeding, malformed skin, obvious exit holes on stones, premature drop, internal feeding and rotting of seeds</li> <li>New leaves/flushes: feeding damage</li> </ul> </li> <li>Consider using direct control measures as soon as the pest is observed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Before flowering, destroy the adults in bark crevices (during their diapause). Use a broom to brush the junctions of branches and destroy adults.</li> <li>To trap adults at the beginning of flowering, apply sticky bands at the upper end (below the branches) of the tree trunks where infestations were high in previous years. Change bands weekly until the fruit are maturing</li> <li>Remove infested fruits and destroy by burying them at a depth of 50 cm or burning them</li> </ul>

Note: Pesticides may be available to control this pest. Please check with the Ministry of Agriculture in your country to find out which pesticides are registered in your country and the local restrictions for their use.