

How to identify *Anthonomus eugenii*?

Adult weevil

- Black
- Small; only 3 mm long and 1.5-1.8 mm wide
- Long snout, with antennae on the snout.

Eggs

- White to yellow
- Oval, 0.53 mm long and 0.39 mm wide
- The female weevil gnaws a hole in the bud or young fruit in which the egg is laid.

Larvae

- Gray to white with a yellow-brown head
- Only 1 larva per fruit, or 2 for a large fruit
- 1 mm to 3.3 mm long.



At a temperature of 27°C, the development of the pepper weevil from egg to adult beetle takes 14 days. In one growing season of bell pepper, this weevil can produce 8 generations!

Can you help us?

Anthonomus eugenii is included on the **EPPO A1 list** and on the **EU list of quarantine organisms**. These lists contain plant harmful organisms that are not yet found in the EU, but cause **major damage** to many wild and cultivated plants. That is why it is important to report if you have seen this insect. **Early detection** allows a quick and efficient implementation of control measures against *Anthonomus eugenii*, so that this weevil **cannot establish itself**.

If you spot *Anthonomus eugenii*:

- Take a photo of the insect and note its precise location.
- Try to collect adults or larvae in a container.
- Report via waarnemingen.be/species/Q-organismen

More info?

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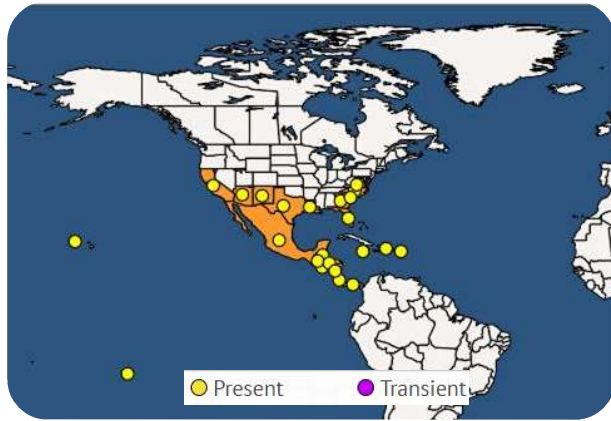
STOP *Anthonomus eugenii*

This weevil likes bell pepper!



In collaboration with EUPHRESKO and EPPO (www.eppo.int)

Distribution



The pepper weevil originates from Mexico, but has already spread to **Central and North American countries** such as Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, and the southern United States (Arizona, California, Florida, New Mexico, ...).

In **Italy** and the **Netherlands**, the pepper beetle was already found in pepper cultivation, after which it was **successfully fought and eradicated**.

The pepper weevil is spread through the **international trade of bell peppers and peppers** from infected areas.



Damage symptoms and management

The pepper weevil feeds on leaves, blossoms and fruits. The first symptoms are **small round or oval holes in the leaves** (2-5 mm) and **small holes in the developing fruits**. The larvae of the pepper weevil feed on the seeds and pulp of the pepper.



Yellow sticky traps can be used to monitor the crop. **Insecticides** can be used to combat the pepper beetle. For more information, consult fytoweb.be. **Removing the entire crop and disinfecting the greenhouse** is also a good strategy for eradicating the pepper beetle.

Host plants



As the name implies, the pepper weevil is a pest insect on **bell pepper** (*Capsicum annuum*) and **pepper** (*Capsicum frutescens*). It has also been found on **aubergine** (*Solanum melongena*). During the crop rotation, the pepper weevil can survive on weeds and plant residues.

