

## Pest Profile



**Photo credit:** National Sunflower Association

**Common Name:** Sunflower Stem Weevil

**Scientific Name:** *Cylindrocopturus adspersus*

**Order and Family:** Coleoptera: Curculionidae

**Size and Appearance:**

	Adult	Egg	Larva/Nymph	Pupae (if applicable)
Length (mm)	4-5mm	.3mm x .5mm	5-6mm	4-5mm
Appearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Grayish brown in color</li> <li>-Have white spots on their backs</li> <li>-Eyes, snout, and antennae are black</li> <li>-Carry curved snout under head</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Yellow in color</li> <li>-Oval in shape</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Grub like</li> <li>-Cream colored bodies with a brown head</li> <li>-Found in C-shaped position within or near sunflower stalk near the base</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Yellow in color</li> <li>-Can be found in the soil around the base of sunflowers</li> </ul>

**Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):** Chewing

**Host plant/s:** Sunflowers

**Description of Damage (larvae and adults):** The female weevil will chew small niches into the lower part of the stalk and lay her eggs. Eggs will then overwinter here.

The sunflower stem weevil's larvae will chew a tunnel in the stalk on their way to the ground where they will pupate. The feeding and excavation of the stalk by larvae and adults is what causes the weakening and breaking of the sunflower stalk.

**References:**

Cranshaw, W. (2004). Chapter Eight: Stem and Twig Damagers - Twig-Feeding Beetles. In *Garden insects of North America: The ultimate guide to backyard bugs*. (pp. 455-456). Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Knodel, J. J., & Charlet, L. D. (2002, October). *Biology and Intergrated Pest Management of the Sunflower Stem Weevils in the Great Plains* [PDF]. Fargo, NE: North Dakota State University.

Michaud, J. P. (2013, October 2). Kansas State University. Retrieved February 8, 2016, from <http://entomology.k-state.edu/extension/insect-information/crop-pests/sunflowers/sunflower-stem-weevil.html>