

## Pest Profile



Photo credit: [Lynette Elliott](#)

**Common Name:** Spotted Blister Beetle

**Scientific Name:** *Epicauta maculata*

**Order and Family:** Coleoptera: Meloidae

### Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
<b>Egg</b>		Yellow, small, sometimes noticed on clusters of flowers.
<b>Larva/Nymph</b>		6 instars, have well developed legs.
<b>Adult</b>	¾ " long	The wings of blister beetles are distinctively shorter than the abdomen. Slender soft body, long legs, light brown to grey color with small black spots on elytra (outer wings).
<b>Pupa (if applicable)</b>		Occurs in the soil, not commonly observed

**Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):** Chewing mouthparts for larvae and adult stages.

**Host plant/s:** Alfalfa, beans, potatoes, corn, and vegetable crops.

**Description of Damage (larvae and adults):** Cantharidin, a chemical that is found in the body fluid of blister beetles, can cause irritation and blistering of the skin. This causes problems for cattle and the adults can cause great amounts of damage to the foliage of crops.

### References:

Blodgett, S.; Denke, P. M.; Knerr, V. (2010). *Blister Beetles of Montana*. Retrieved from:  
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