

## Pest Profile



Photo Credit: [Tom Murray](#), Bugguide.net

**Common Name:** Apple Flea Weevil

**Scientific Name:** *Rhynchaenus pallicornis* (*Orchestes pallicornis*)

**Order and Family:** Coleoptera: Curculionidae

**Size and Appearance:**

	Length (mm)	Appearance
<b>Egg</b>		Whitish, ellipsoidal. Eggs are deposited in an excavation hole and then covered with excrement. Oviposition sites are recognized by the brown wound and swelling.
<b>Larva/Nymph</b>		Larval tunnels begin small but gradually expand and become a large triangle shaped blister-like area.
<b>Adult</b>	3mm	Grey to black, oval shaped with a short snout, club-shaped antennae, and enlarged hind legs for jumping.
<b>Pupa (if applicable)</b>		Pupate inside the blister-like pupal chamber.

**Type of Feeder:** Chewing

**Hosts Plants:** The host plants mainly consist of apple trees, elms, alder, and hawthorn trees.

**Description of Damage:** The apple flea weevil larvae are leaf miners, causing tunneling injury to the foliage, while adults chew through the leaves leaving characteristic “shot holes,” a series of tiny holes. Heavy populations can cause defoliation and tree death.

**References:**

Cranshaw, W. (2004). *The Ultimate Guide to Backyard Bugs: Garden Insects of North America*. Princeton University Press.

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Pochubay, E. (2015). *Apple flea weevils detected in organic apple orchard in northwest michigan*. Michigan State University Extension. Retrieved from [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/apple\\_flea\\_weevils\\_detected\\_in\\_organic\\_apple\\_orchard\\_in\\_northwest\\_michigan](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/apple_flea_weevils_detected_in_organic_apple_orchard_in_northwest_michigan)