Pest Profile

Common Name: Diaprepes root weevil, Citrus root weevil

Scientific Name: *Diaprepes abbreviatus*

Order and Family: Coleoptera, Curculionidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	1.2 x 0.4	• glistening and yellowish-white • smooth and oblong oval in shape
Larva/Nymph	<25	• white body with variable light and dark areas on the head capsule • legless grub
Adult	9.5 – 19 (vary in length)	• numerous color forms including black with minute white, red-orange, yellow scales on the elytra • hardened forewings cover the abdomen • clubbed antennae

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

Host plant/s: Has a wide host range, attacking about 270 different plants including citrus, sugarcane, vegetables, potatoes, strawberries, woody field-grown ornamentals, sweet potatoes, papaya, guava, mahogany, containerized ornamentals, and non-cultivated wild plants.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): The Diaprepes root weevil damages both the leaves and the roots of plants. The adult weevils damage leaves by chewing semi-circular areas out of the leaf margin. There may also be frass or weevil droppings near the areas that have been fed on. The grub-like larva

feeds on the roots of plants. They will often girdle the taproot, impeding the ability of the plant to take up water and nutrients and resulting in plant mortality. In addition, this type of injury provides an avenue for root rot infections by *Phytophora* fungus.

Reference:

Martin, K.W., J.A. Weeks, A.C. Hodges, and N.C. Leppla. (2012) Citrus Pests, Diaprepres root weevil. Retrieved from https://idtools.org/id/citrus/pests/factsheet.php?name=Diaprepes+root+weevil

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