

A Bug's Life Strawberry root weevil

Otiorhynchus ovatus

Fun facts

- Nuisance pest indoors in summer when outdoor populations are high
- Larvae feed on strawberry roots and evergreens, adults feed on foliage, but cause no significant damage
- Play dead if disturbed
- Only female beetles exist
- Reproduce without mating

Identification

Habit: Often found clustering in large numbers on the floors in living areas when it is hot outside
Weevil: 3/16" long, shiny, black, lightbulb-shaped body, long elbowed, clubbed antennae, longitudinal lines, short and thick snout, front leg has spur on femur

Management

- Chemical treatment not needed; beetles cause no damage or harm
- Remove with vacuum cleaner or sweep them up
- Exclude by sealing cracks and fixing gaps under doors and windows
- If numbers are high, residual insecticide treatment to exterior perimeter may be warranted



Photos: J. Green