

## Home-Invading Weevils\_statewide\_12 July 2017

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Montana has several home-invading weevils that come into our homes starting in April and all the way through November. See pictures below. They are root weevils, and the biology is poorly understood for most species. The most common ones we are seeing right now are the first two (Fig. 1 & 2). A number of root weevil species are pests on ornamental plants. *Cathormiocerus spinosus* (Fig. 2) has just recently been found on cabbage. They are harmless to humans, are not wood-boring beetles, and are mostly just a nuisance in homes. These invasions are only temporary.



Figure 1. *Romauldis bifoveolatus* root weevil. Size=3mm



Figure 2. *Cathormiocerus spinosus* (Goeze) (= *C. aperatus* Boli). Root weevil. Size=2.5mm



Figure 3. *Otioryncus raucus*. Black vine weevil. Size=6-8mm



Figure 4. Strawberry root weevil. Photo by Jeff Hahn. Size 4-7mm.



Figure 5. Hairy spider weevil. Size=3mm

## **Management:**

### ***Cultural/Physical:***

It will be really important to locate the “source” and a lot of controls will actually be physical controls. Make sure door sweeps are installed at the base of the exterior doors and that they fit tightly. Also, one point of entry is the meeting of foundation and siding of a building. Most root weevils cannot fly and can only “crawl” short distances. Try to vacuum up all the adults that you can in the meantime.

### ***Chemical***

Chemical controls have not been effective for these beetles because it is difficult to target their overwintering sites, their point of entry, and other sources they are feeding on.