Beneficial Species Profile

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Common Name: Garden Carrion Beetle

Scientific Name: Heterosilpha ramosa

Order and Family: Coleoptera; Silphidae

Size and Appearance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length (mm)</th>
<th>Appearance</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Egg</td>
<td>Black or dark brown, with a light brown stripe on the dorsal surface</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larva/Nymph</td>
<td>12-18mm Dark velvety-black/brown with raised dendritic patterns on the elytra Smooth pronotum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Chewning mouthparts
Host/s:
Primarily decomposing vegetable matter. Can go for garden and field crops as well.
Can also be associated with carrion. Both adult and larvae feed on carrion and other insects, mainly maggots.

Description of Benefits (predator, parasitoid, pollinator, etc.):
If located in a crime scene where a corpse was found, forensic scientists can use this beetle to determine approximate time of death through forensic succession.

References: