

Pest Profile



Photo credit: Kansas Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Eggplant Flea Beetle

Scientific Name: *Epitrix fuscula*

Order and Family: Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	0.4mm	Elliptical and pointed at one end. White turning yellow-gray with age
Larva/Nymph	4-5mm	White with a brown head and legs
Adult	2mm	Black and oval shaped with enlarged femurs
Pupa (if applicable)		White, darkening with age. Shape similar to adult.

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Both adult and larvae with chewing mouthparts.

Host plant/s: Mostly Solanaceous plants such as eggplant, tomato, pepper, and tobacco. Also found on horse nettle, potato, and strawberry.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Larvae feed on the roots and can damage tubers such as beets and potatoes. Adults can cause severe damage to young plants, often defoliating them completely. Older plants tend to be more tolerant. As adults, feeding damage causes foliage to appear diseased due to the browning that appears around the chewing holes.

References:

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