

## Pest Profile



**Photo credit:** David Cappaert, Michigan State University, Bugwood.org

**Common Name:** Japanese beetle

**Scientific Name:** *Popillia japonica*

**Order and Family:** Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae

**Size and Appearance:**

	Adult	Egg	Larva/Nymph	Pupae (if applicable)
<b>Length (mm)</b>	8-10 long, 5-7 wide	1.5 mm	30 mm	14 long, 7 wide
<b>Appearance</b>	Oval shaped, metallic green color, bronze colored wing covers, five white tufts of hair along wing cover edge on either side	-Spherical or ellipsoidal in shape -Creamy white in color or translucent -Eggs laid in groups of 1-3 in a burrow -Hatch 10-14 days later	-Creamy white -C-shaped body -Brownish colored head -Feed on roots of grasses and other plants -overwinter as third instar -one generation a year	-Color is pale cream or metallic green -Make earthen cell as a last instar larvae and then pupate in the cell -Pupation lasts 1-3 weeks

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

**Host plant/s:** Japanese beetle adults have a very wide host range and will eat more than 300 different kinds of plants and flowers including grape, roses, mountain-ash, linden, bean, willow, soybeans, elm, Virginia creeper, Japanese maples, cheery, sycamores, ornamental apple, plum, birches, and pin oak. The larvae eat the roots of grasses and other plants.

**Description of Damage (larvae and adults):** The larvae, which are also called white grubs, cause major damage to plant roots, especially grasses. They can destroy whole root systems, which kills the plant or turf. The adults cause skeletonizing damage to the leaves of the plants they eat. A large congregation of

Japanese beetles can cause major defoliating damage to plants. The beetles will eat the leaves and petals of flowers. Japanese beetles are major pests to crops and flowering plants as well as grasses.

**References:**

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