

Helensburgh and Gareloch Horticultural Society

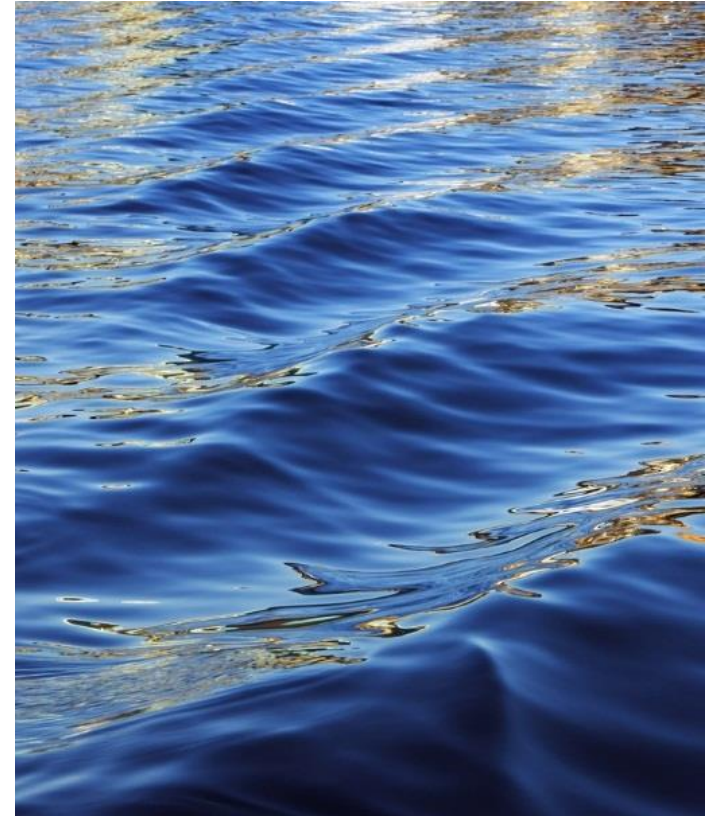
Christmas Pest and Disease Q&A

Joanna Gough

Vine Weevil, Rosemary Beetle
and Scarlet Lily Beetle

BEETLE TRIPLE TROUBLE:

- Vine Weevil
- Rosemary Beetle
- Scarlet Lily Beetle



ADULT VINE WEEVIL



VINE WEEVIL LARVA



VINE WEEVIL CHRYSALIS



VINE WEEVIL:

both larvae and adults attack a wide range of plant species

- Glasshouse plants: especially succulents and pelargoniums
- Outdoor species: especially attracted to alpine Saxifrage and Heuchera!

HOSTS OF THE ADULT VINE WEEVIL

- AZALEA
- CAMELLIA
- FERNS
- RHODODENDRON
- YEW
- VACCINIUM
- POLYANTHUS

HOSTS OF THE LARVAE OF VINE WEEVIL

- Serious pest of alpine plants under glass
- Begonia
- Cyclamen (they love feeding on corms!)
- Hydrangea
- Found on the roots of many other pot plants under glass

SYMPTOMS OF ADULT VINE WEEVIL ATTACK



CONTROL OF VINE WEEVIL

- **Cultural control:**

Applicable to glasshouse culture: good hygiene to reduce hiding places for the adults; good growing practice: re-pot regularly and examine rootball for signs of the larvae; good ventilation to keep temperatures down

- **Biological control:**

Nematodes: sold as Nemasys: it is only effective against the larvae

- **Chemical control:**

Provado and BugClear: may adversely affect bees and other pollinating insects - best avoided.

ROSEMARY LEAF BEETLE: ADULT



ROSEMARY BEETLE ATTACK

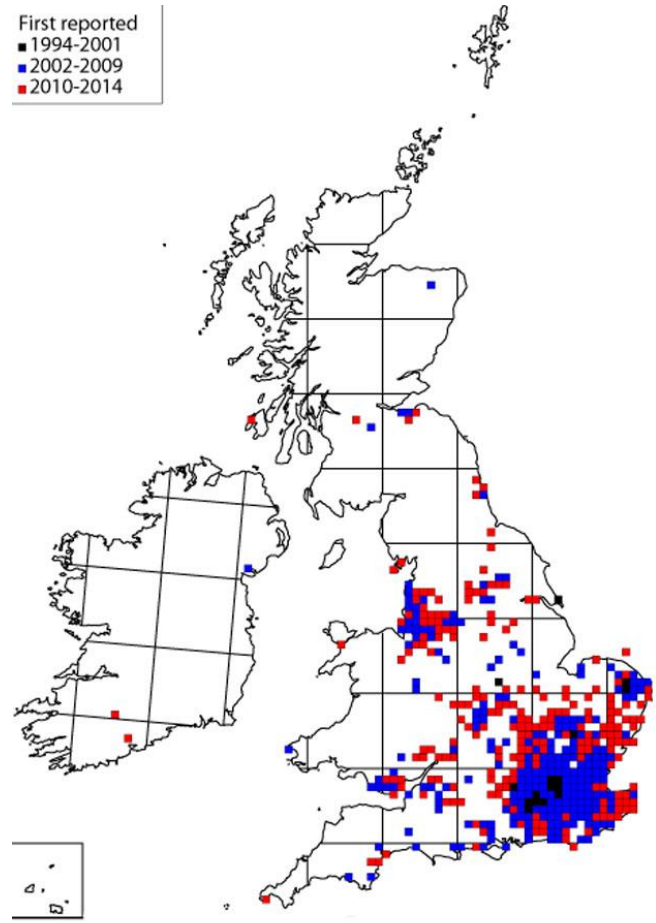


ROSEMARY BEETLE LARVA



ROSEMARY BEETLE DISTRIBUTION

spreading North rapidly!– on the increase in Scotland



HOST PLANTS

- Rosemary
- Lavender
- Sage
- Thyme
- *Perovoskia atriplicifolia* (Russian sage)
- Other species in the Lamiaceae family

CONTROL OF ROSEMARY BEETLE

- Physical/cultural/organic: observation; hand removal: tap plants to dislodge adults in August to September before they lay eggs; cut off infested growing tips
- Chemical: pyrethrum is effective against rosemary beetle

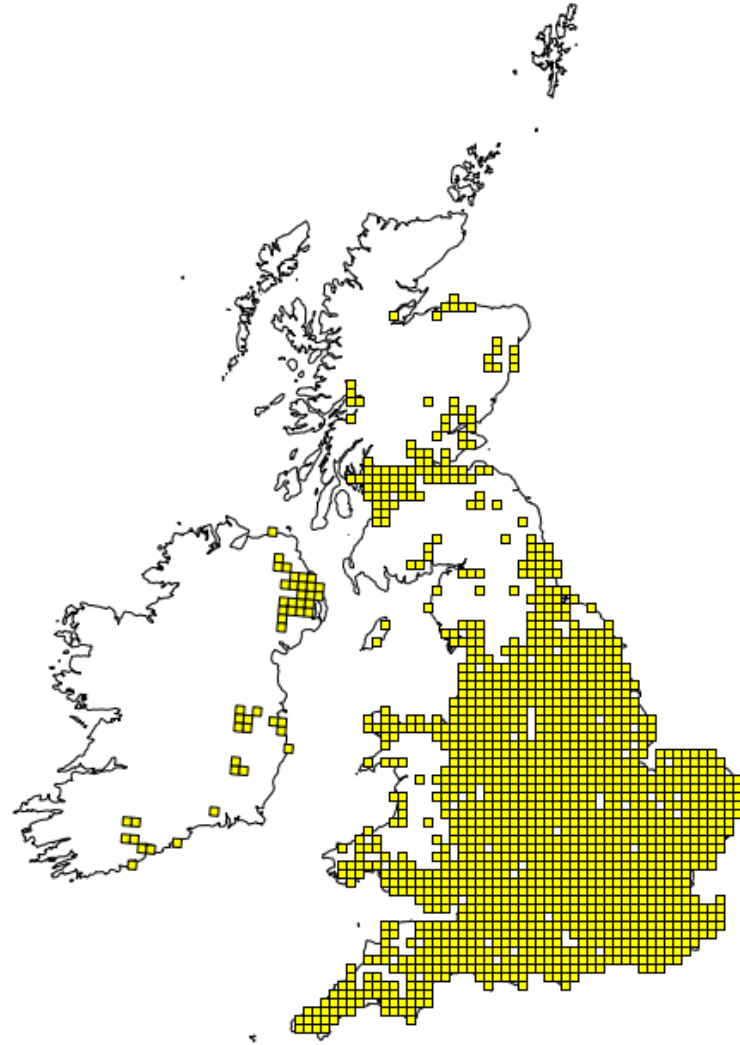
LILY BEETLE:



RED LILY BEETLE LARVAE ARE COVERED IN A BLACK, SLIMY ACCUMULATIONS



DISTRIBUTION OF LILY BEETLE



HOSTS OF LILY BEETLE

- Lilies
- Fritillarias
- Cardiocrinum (giant lilies)
- Solomon's seal



SUMMARY OF KEY BIOLOGICAL FEATURES

- **VINE WEEVIL**: all stages of the life cycle may be found at any time of year; parthenogenetic (produces eggs without mating, no males)
- **ROSEMARY BEETLE**: adults are present all summer but feed mainly during late August to September, mate and lay eggs; the larvae are small slug like and after feeding for a few weeks drop to the soil where they pupate
- **LILY BEETLE**: overwinter as adults anywhere in the garden or glasshouse; black larvae are voracious feeders and can cause severe damage

knowledge of their life cycles can be useful to help target timing of physical/cultural control techniques