

Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*)

Japanese beetle feeds on **more than 400 plant species**, including trees, shrubs, wild plants and cultivated crops such as **grapevines, fruit plants** and ornamental garden plants.

Adult beetles are most likely to be seen in **summer**.

Adult beetles:

- are distinctive, with green and brown bodies
- are **8 to 11mm long**
- have **five white hairy tufts on each side of the body** and **two white hairy tufts at the rear**.

The larvae eat the roots of grass, which can cause grass to turn yellow, thin out, and die, creating dead patches.

it is **present in parts of Italy** and has spread to **Switzerland**. While there have been findings in imports to the UK, the species is not present in the UK.

Look out for adult beetles on plants and feeding damage such as **skeletonised leaves**

If you suspect it, report it by visiting <https://planthealthportal.defra.gov.uk/> or use the QR code.



Adult Japanese beetle next to coffee bean for scale © Federal Office for Agriculture FOAG



Adult Japanese beetle showing white tufts © Morgan Christman, iNaturalist CC BY NC



Feeding damage on grapevine © Matteo Maspero Eppo



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