

# Pest Alert: Plum Weevil (*Conotrachelus nenuphar*)



**Fig 1.** Adult Plum weevil and its feeding damage to plum.  
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**Fig 2.** Plum weevil larva inside fruit © Clemson University-  
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- **The plum weevil, (*Conotrachelus nenuphar*),** is native to North America where it is found in areas with a temperate climate east of the Rocky Mountains. **A pest of stone, pome and soft fruit, (e.g. apple, pear, strawberry and quince)** which can cause high levels of damage in orchards. The weevil will also feed on a range of wild plants (e.g. hawthorn).
- **The adults are poor flyers and feed on fruit, tender twigs, flower buds and leaves.** Females lay eggs into fruit causing premature drop in some cases. If the fruit does not drop the scarring causes the fruit to become misshapen reducing marketability. **The larvae are highly damaging to fruit, as they feed internally.**
- **The weevil has potential to establish within the UK.** Impacts could be expected in stone fruit and apple crops. **The most likely pathway for introduction would be the import of plants for planting from the USA or Canada.**

**If you suspect the presence of the pest, please inform the relevant authority (see over for details).**

**For England and Wales, contact your local APHA Plant Health and Seeds Inspector, or the PHSI headquarters, in York:**

Tel: 0300 1000 313 (please select option 3 when calling)

Email: [planthealth.info@apha.gov.uk](mailto:planthealth.info@apha.gov.uk)

Web: <https://www.gov.uk/plant-health-controls>

**For Scotland, contact the Scottish Government's Horticulture and Marketing Unit:**

Email: [hort.marketing@gov.scot](mailto:hort.marketing@gov.scot)

Web: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/plant/PlantHealth>

**For Northern Ireland, contact DAERA Plant Health Inspection Branch:**

Tel: 0300 200 7847

Email: [planthealth@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:planthealth@daera-ni.gov.uk)

Web: [www.daera-ni.gov.uk](http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk)