The Colorado potato beetle (*Leptinotarsa decemlineata*) is a serious pest of potato, present in the EU, but absent from the UK.

In May 2015 there was a UK finding linked to imported French potatoes. As well as entering the UK on potatoes, beetles are also occasionally imported as hitchhikers on non-host plant material, such as leafy vegetables, salad leaves, fresh herbs and grain.

Adult Colorado beetles (Fig 1.) and beetle larvae (Fig 2.) are distinctive (photos courtesy of Fera Science Limited).

If you see any suspicious beetles, please inform the relevant authority

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

Tel: 01904 405138
Email: planthealth.info@apha.gsi.gov.uk
Web: [https://www.gov.uk/plant-health-controls](https://www.gov.uk/plant-health-controls)

For Scotland, contact your local RPID officer:

http://www.gov.scot/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/AOcontacts/contacts
Email: hort.marketing@gov.scot
Web: [www.gov.scot/PotatoHealthControls](www.gov.scot/PotatoHealthControls)

For Northern Ireland, contact the DARD Plant Health Inspection Branch:

Tel: 0300 200 7847
Email: planthealth@dardni.gov.uk
Web: [www.dardni.gov.uk](www.dardni.gov.uk)