

CEREAL LEAF BEETLE



Adult



Larva

Identification and Incidence: Cereal leaf beetle (CLB) larvae may defoliate small grain foliage in the spring. Black larvae are coated with a slimy substance that readily spots a field inspector's clothing. Heavily infested fields will exhibit a frosted appearance. Oats can also be severely injured by CLB.

Sampling: Evaluation of an infested field should include sampling of 30 or more plants to determine number of larvae per stem and stage of larval development. Early larvae are less than 1/4 inch, late larvae are approximately 3/8 inch prior to pupating.

Economic Threshold: An average of 2 or more larvae per stem may be regarded as economic.

Management Options: CLB is generally controlled by a complex of beneficial wasps. Treatment of fields may be warranted when mild winters adversely affect natural control. For a list of labeled insecticides, see [oardc.osu.edu/ag/images/545_Final_2013\(3\).pdf](http://oardc.osu.edu/ag/images/545_Final_2013(3).pdf).

