

# Japanese Beetles in Idaho

- Japanese beetles were found in Idaho, including the Boise area, in the summer of 2012.
- The Idaho State Department of Agriculture is conducting surveys for adult Japanese Beetles in and around affected neighborhoods.
- Please report any suspicious beetles to ISDA by calling (208) 332-8620. You may also bring specimens to the ISDA office for identification.
- More information on JB can be found at: [www.aphis.usda.gov/plant\\_health/plant\\_pest\\_info/jb/index.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/jb/index.shtml)
- For information on managing Japanese Beetles in your landscape, contact your local **University of Idaho Extension Office**. To locate the office in your county, visit: [www.extension.uidaho.edu/find.asp](http://www.extension.uidaho.edu/find.asp) or call 1-88-88-UIDAHO(843246) or 208-885-6111.

Special traps for Japanese beetles baited with pheromone lures are routinely placed throughout Idaho on a yearly basis.

When the insect is detected, several more traps are placed in the vicinity to determine the extent of the problem.

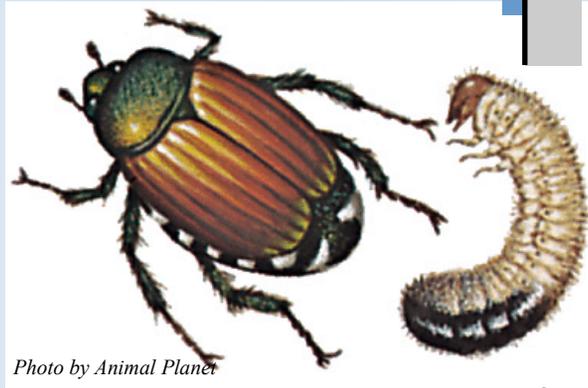


Photo by Animal Planet



Photo by Antonio Gutierrez

## Idaho State Department of Agriculture, Division of Plant Industries

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The Idaho State  
Department of Agriculture,  
Division of Plant Industries

## Looking For Japanese Beetle (*Popillia japonica*) In Your Neighborhood



JB adult



JB grub (larva)

**Japanese Beetle (JB)**, an invasive pest that attacks many types of plants, has recently been found in Idaho.

Japanese Beetles are damaging pests of turf and ornamental plants. Accidentally introduced in the United States from Japan in 1916, JB attacks over 300 kinds of plants, including several fruit, garden, and field crops.

**This destructive insect may be in your neighborhood. The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA)** is currently conducting surveys for JB in your area.

We ask for your cooperation in locating this pest so that management and eradication efforts can take place.

## Japanese Beetle Life Stages

### Description

#### Adults:

Shiny, metallic green with coppery brown wing covers; slightly more than ½ inch long.

#### Eggs:

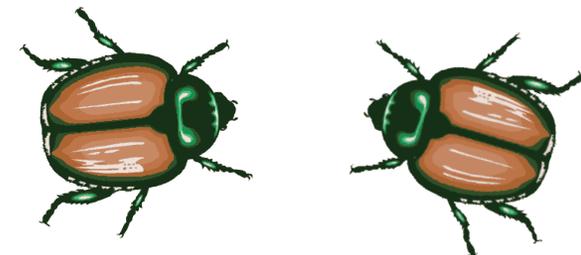
White or cream colored eggs are spherical and about 0.06 inches in diameter when first laid. By the time it hatches, the egg has doubled its original size.

#### Larvae:

Grayish-white, C-shaped grubs live in soil. They have dark brown head capsules and grow to be about 0.6 inches long.

#### Pupae:

Cream-colored pupae are about ½ inch long and ¼ inch wide. They gradually turn light brown and finally develop a metallic green cast before they emerge from under the ground.



## Symptoms of Damage

Feeding damage by Japanese beetle adults is commonly seen as holes or skeletonized leaves. Adults are highly attracted to rose, apple, stonefruits (peach, plum, cherry), basswood/linden, willow, elm, grape, birch, Japanese and Norway maples, pin oak, horse chestnut, and sycamore. The beetles prefer sunny areas, feeding heaviest on the upper sides of leaves at the tops of trees and shrubs.



Grubs often go unnoticed until September, when large patches of turf start to die. Evidence of grub damage begins as localized discolored patches, which can enlarge and join together in just a few weeks. Heavily damaged turfgrass feels spongy and can easily be pulled away from the soil surface.

Drought conditions can make turfgrass injury worse.

## The Japanese Beetle Life Cycle



Japanese beetles spend the majority of their lives, about 10 months of the year, underground as grubs or pupae.

## Japanese Beetles in the U.S.

Japanese beetles were first found in the United States in 1916 near Riverton, New Jersey. Since then Japanese beetles have spread throughout most states that lie east of the Mississippi River. Partial infestations also occur west of the Mississippi River in states such as Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, and Oklahoma.

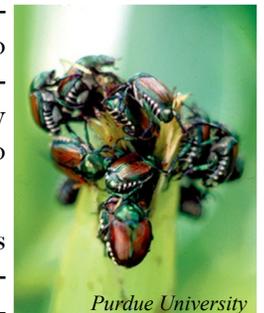
*With early detection and good management, JB infestations west of the Mississippi River are usually eradicated before the insect becomes established.*

### Did you know?

Research has shown that hanging a Japanese beetle trap in an individual garden or yard results in *more damage to plants near the trap than would occur if no trap was present.*

The trap attracts beetles from other areas to its vicinity, but the beetles feed on nearby plants before flying to the trap.

Japanese beetle traps are best used by professional surveyors to determine the extent of an infestation.



A surveyor hanging a trap for adult Japanese beetles.

*Photo courtesy of Utah State University*