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## **Reoccurrence of new pest** pea weevil in Montana

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The pea weevil Bruchus pisorum L. (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae), not to be confused with the more common pea leaf weevil, is one of the most problematic insect pests on

Figure 1. Damaged peas with live pea weevil colfield peas parlected from Chester area. All peas shown adult exit hole in the seeds that are commonly found in the ticularly in US Western States. stored product.

feeding inside the developing dry pea seed cause damage. Weevil infestations ranges between 30-70% in untreated crops with high level-presence of the pest already. Affected peas are unfit for human consumption and their seed germination rate decreases, which in turn diminishes the market value.

In Montana, damage by this weevil was reported for the first time in the Hi-Line area in 2014, which alarmed pea growers and stakeholders because this pest could easily spread to neighboring pea-growing areas. Consequently, with the funding from USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council, pea weevil surveys were carried out during 2016 and 2017 in 33 **CONTINUED ON PAGE C42** 

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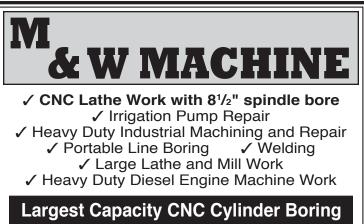
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### Reoccurrence of new pest - pea weevil in Montana

#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE C41

field sites, five elevators and 16 farm bins in the Golden Triangle Area including Hi-Line area by WTARC staff. The primary objective was to determine the damage potential and distribution of the pea weevil. Although, no incidence of weevil was noticed in the surveys of 2016–2017, damaged seeds with live pea weevils were confirmed from the Chester area (December, 2017) by the State Grain Lab. This incidence indicates the necessity of continuing the survey work.

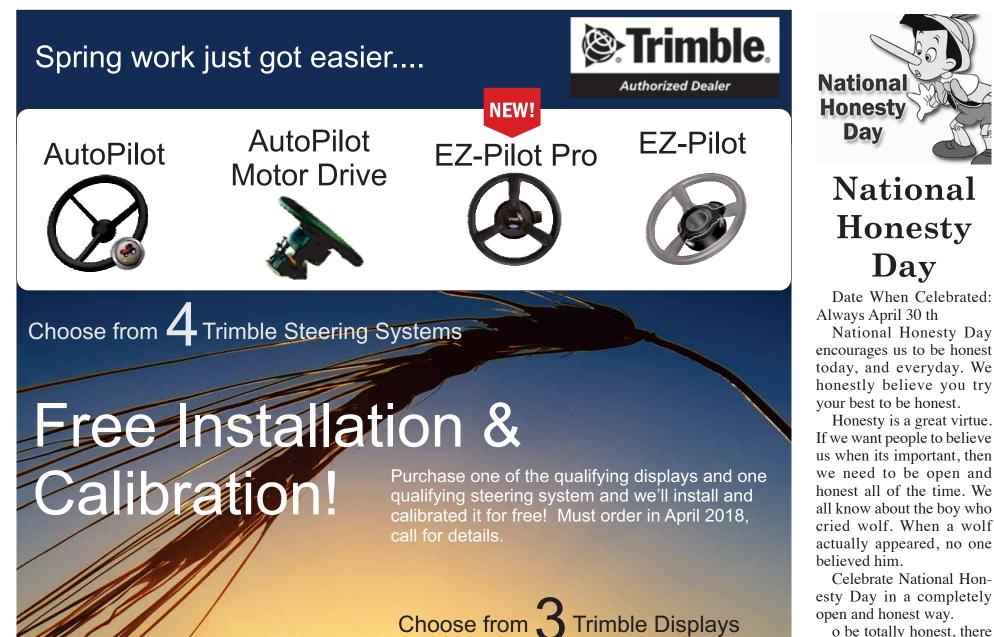
In an event of significant levels of crop damage and noticeable population levels, efforts will be undertaken to obtain a USDA-APHIS permit to introduce the pea weevil egg parasitoid *Uscana senex* (Hymenoptera: Trichogrammatidae) into Montana. This parasitoid, is reported to show up to 82% of parasitism rate. Detailed information on the biology, ecology and management of pea weevil was recently reviewed and published by our team.

If anyone has noticed peas with holes, please send the samples (preferably one to

two lbs) to Ms. Rama Gadi, Western Triangle Ag Research Center, Montana State University, 9546 Old Shelby Rd., P. O. Box 656, Conrad, MT 59425 or contact for pick up the samples; Phone: 406-278-7707 (office); 406-450-1835 (mobile); E-mail: ramadevi.gadi@montana.edu



Figure. 2. Brown colored, globular shape adult *Bruchus pisorum* with white patches. Scale – 1 mm.



o be totally honest, there are few rules for this special



day.....just be honest. Origin of "National Honesty Day":

M. Hirsh Goldberg, former press secretary to a governor of Maryland and author of five books, created National Honesty Day in the early 1990s after spending four years researching and writing The Book of Lies (Morrow). This book has been translated into Japanese, Korean and Chinese. Goldberg created this day, because he felt that the month of April, which begins with a big day of lying (April Fools Day), should

end on a higher moral note.