

Reoccurrence of new pest - pea weevil in Montana

By Gadi V.P. Reddy and Rama Gadi Western Triangle Agricultural Research Center, Montana State University, 9546 Old Shelby Rd., P. O. Box 656, Conrad, MT 59425, email: reddy@montana.edu



Figure 1. Damaged peas with live pea weevil collected from Chester area. All peas shown adult exit hole in the seeds that are commonly found in the stored product.

The pea weevil *Bru-chus pisorum* L. (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae), not to be confused with the more common pea leaf weevil, is one of the most problematic insect pests on field peas particularly in US Western States.

The larvae 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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