

After the cutting season is over the plants should from time to time be sprayed with one of the arsenical poisons, but when the seed capsules are formed this will be of no avail against the grubs of the spotted species. To get rid of it, the seed bearing plants should be cut off and burnt. In early autumn it will be well to cut down and burn the whole of the plants.

BEANS.

The BEAN WEEVIL (*Bruchus obtectus*). This insect has only been reported from a few places in Ontario and Quebec, and does not appear to have become established as a pest. It is a very small beetle, only a tenth of an inch long, only half the size of the Pea-weevil, which in other respects it closely resembles. It is grayish brown in color, due to a coating of dense fine hair; the wing-covers are marked with a series of lines running lengthwise and have a mottled appearance. The beetle is oval in shape, the head is bent down and terminates in a short square beak; the end of the abdomen is not covered by the wings, and differs from that of the Pea-weevil in being destitute of the two oval black spots which are characteristic of the latter.

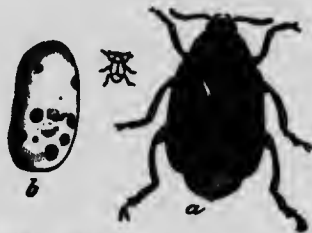


Fig. 22. Bean Weevil much enlarged and natural size; infested bean.

The eggs of the insect are laid upon the young bean pods; the grubs, as soon as they are hatched, bore through and enter the beans inside, several making their way into a single bean. Maturity is reached in the autumn, when the beetles emerge if the season is warm; otherwise they remain all winter in the ripened bean. If unmolested they will increase and multiply in the dry seeds and continue their work of destruction for a long time. It is therefore useless to hold over the seed for a year, as may be done to get rid of the Pea-weevil.

Remedy: Whenever this insect is found to be present, the beans should be fumigated as soon as practicable after they are harvested. This is done by putting them in a barrel or tight bin and pouring on them one ounce of bisulphide of carbon for every 100 lbs., and then closing the receptacle tightly and leaving it for 48 hours. At the end of this time every insect will be dead. As the fumes of this substance are inflammable and explosive, it should not be used near any light or fire.