

The feeding appears to be somewhat like that of the rose chafer and other scarabæids, but the destruction of the foliage is much more complete. Smartweed (*Polygonum virginianum*), tear-thumb (*Tiniaria arifolium*) both belonging to the *Polygonaceæ*, evening primrose (*Oenothera biennis*), Virginia creeper (*Ampelopsis quinquefolia*), a member of the *Vitaceæ*, were the principal food plants among the weeds, and in some cases the leaves of these plants were completely riddled. Other weeds infested to a less extent were ragweed (*Ambrosia* sp.), velvet leaf or Indian mallow

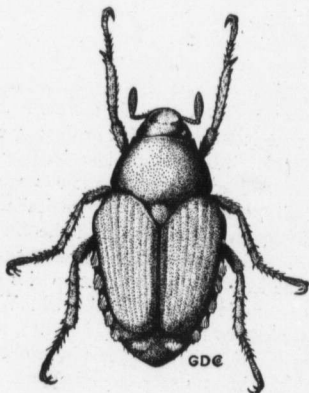


Fig. 9.—*Popilia japonica* Newm.

(*Abutilon avicennæ*), jewel weed (*Impatiens* sp.) and the blossoms of milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*). In the nursery the beetles were found feeding on the foliage of *Ampelopsis quinquefolia*, flowering cherry, grape, elder, Crataegus, button bush, and in or on the flowers of double Althea, Spirea and *Vitex agnus-castus*. They were especially abundant on the foliage of the first three plants, and sometimes four or five were found buried in the double Althea flowers. On the smartweed as many as a dozen were found on single leaves. It was interesting to note that in the nursery, the beetles had apparently passed over the flowers and foliage of hydrangia and the foliage of Deutzia, peony and some other