



## World Farmers

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### **PEST ALERT FOR MEXICAN BEAN BEETLE**

Adults are oval, yellowish brown colored beetles. They have 16 black spots arranged in three rows across their wing cover.

They cause extensive damage in bean plantation by turning the foliage into lace. They are most devastating during July-August.

Adult beetles start to emerge about the time the first bean leaves are up. The beetles feed for a couple of weeks before the female lay eggs on bean plants.

#### **Organic damage control**

If you notice MBB in your plot, don't panic-bean plants can tolerate up to 50 percent defoliation and still produce a good crop.

Cover young plants with floating row covers.

Leave a few flowering weeds between rows, or interplant your garden with herbs and flowers.

Handpick larvae and adults daily.

Monitor the MBB infestation regularly and implement weekly pest assessments.

Remove or dig in crop debris after harvest to remove overwintering sites.



Damage by Mexican Bean Beetle



Mexican Bean Beetle Adult, egg, and larvae



MBB Pupa, parasitized by Pediobius Wasp