

WHITE PINE WEEVIL—*Pissodes strobi*

HOST: Spruce

IDENTIFICATION, LIFE CYCLE, AND DAMAGE: Larvae are white and legless. Adult weevils are mottled brown and white, have a



White pine weevil damage on spruce

between the bark and wood of shoots. During August larvae pupate in fibrous wood chip cocoons under the bark.

Infested leaders are girdled and wilt, producing a characteristic “shepherd’s crook.” After several years of damage, trees become crooked, multiple-stemmed, and bushy. Trees less than 1 m tall may be killed.

long curved snout, and are 4 to 6 mm long.

Adults emerge in late summer or fall and overwinter in the ground. In the spring female weevils lay eggs in feeding punctures on previous year’s growth. Larvae emerge in 7 to 10 days and tunnel downward



White pine weevil adult

CONTROL: In spring when adults first appear, spray leaders with oxydemeton-methyl. In mid-July cut and burn infested parts of the stem. Avoid planting host trees near infested areas.