for four stations in the weevil-infested area of southern California. Greatest damage is experienced in California following mild winters, more closely approximating the Florida condition. Rainfall is much heavier in Florida. However, the most critical period for the peppers in Florida is during the winter and early spring when the rainfall is lightest. Since the California crop is much later than that of Florida, the conditions during the two crop periods are not so very different, as can be noted from Fig 2.

From observations to date it would appear that unless a careful and complete cleanup of fields is made after the crop is harvested, the weevil will prove to be a major pest and under favorable conditions the entire crop may be destroyed. No peppers should be allowed to grow during the summer.

DESCRIPTION

ADULT

The pepper weevil resembles the cotton boll weevil in general appearance. The boll weevil does not breed in pepper plants nor does the pepper weevil breed in cotton: the boll weevil is nearly twice as long as the pepper weevil; and if the two be closely examined with a hand lens it will be found that the front legs of the boll weevil bear two stout spines while the front legs of the pepper weevil have but one. The adult pepper weevil averages about 1/8 inch in length, varying from about 1/16 to

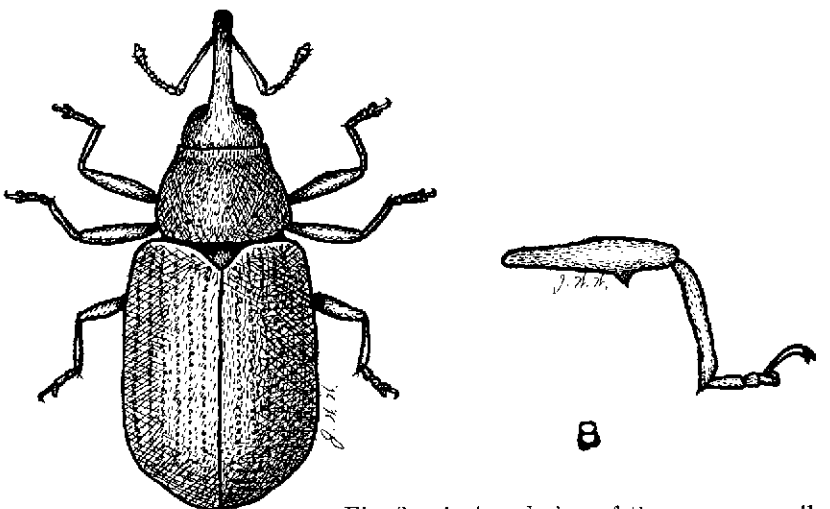

Fig. 3.—A, dorsal view of the pepper weevil; B, side view of pepper weevil's front leg, showing the single spine on the trochanter.