

5/32 inch. It is shining, brownish black in color. Except for the snout, the body is covered with gray or yellowish scale-like hairs; these are thicker on the under side of the body, giving it a white appearance. The snout bears near its center the antennae and at its end the mouthparts.

EGG

When first laid, the egg is a pearly white, but later turns yellow. It is oblong-oval in shape, and averages a little less than 1/32 of an inch in length. The egg is usually placed in a hole cut by the female into the pepper bud or in the base of the young pepper pod.

LARVA

The mature larva is only slightly less than 1/4 inch long, cylindrical and curved in shape. It is legless, resembling a white grub somewhat, except in size. The head is a light yellowish brown with dark brown mouthparts, and the body is white or grayish white. The body is divided into 12 segments, each bearing several short hairs which are not visible to the unaided eye.

PUPA

The pupa or resting stage, like the larval stage, is passed inside the pepper. It varies from about 1/8 to 5/32 inch in length and is uniformly white in color when first formed. The beak, antennae and legs are closely folded against the under side of the body. The wings are folded against the sides of the body and part of the under side. In a ventral view the tips of the second pair of wings may be seen projecting from under the first pair. The dorsal side of the head, prothorax and abdomen bear a number of short, inconspicuous bristles.

LIFE HISTORY

OVIPOSITION

During the period of study oviposition took place about four days after emergence. Eggs were deposited either in buds before the flowers had opened or in the fruit. Occasionally eggs were deposited in the pedicel of the fruit, but this was not observed often.

The method of oviposition is as follows: The weevil usually spends a short time in selecting a place to deposit her eggs. She then starts drilling a hole and continues until the snout is inserted to the eyes. The length of time taken for this varies