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BEAN AND PEA WEEVILS
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Stored beans and peas possibly suffer more from insect attack than do the crops in the field. Two weevils are particularly bad in Oregon and will be given brief consideration.

The Bean Weevil attacks the pods in the field and is also able to multiply in the stored seed. The first evidence of infestation is usually in the stored seed. Many beans will show the round hole where the adult weevil has emerged, and an examination of the interior of others will disclose the grubs still at work inside. Several grubs may feed on the interior of a single bean.

The adult bean weevil is one-eighth inch in length, the color is a mottled brown-gray and olive. The wing covers are shorter than the body.

The adult weevil deposits eggs within the bean pods in the field. The grubs hatch and burrow into the beans, and are carried into storage as mature grubs with the seed. The beetles emerge in the bins and deposit eggs on the dried beans. The grubs soon hatch and burrow into the beans to feed and develop.

Control Measures:

1. Repeated applications of a .75 of one per cent rotenone-bearing dust beginning at the time of blooming is suggested as a preventive.
2. Harvest the crop immediately after it reaches maturity.
3. Shell the seeds and treat them by means of fumigation.
4. Fumigate with carbon bisulfide.

Carbon bisulfide is a liquid which on exposure to air passes off as a gas. This gas has a pungent, disagreeable odor and is heavier than air. The dosage is from 5 to 8 pounds to 100 bushels of seed, or 1 pound to 100 cubic feet of space. Place the seed to be treated in an airtight bin or box or in a box made as nearly gas-proof as possible. The liquid may be poured over the surface of the seed or placed in shallow trays or dishes on top of the seed. Close the bin securely and leave for 24 hours. Open at the end of this period and ventilate thoroughly. If only a small amount of beans are to be fumigated, place them in a one-half gallon jar, pour one tablespoonful of carbon bisulfide over the top and tightly close the jar, leaving for 48 hours.

Caution. Carbon bisulfide is very inflammable. It should never be opened near a fire, and one should dispense with smoking while applying it.

5. Store seed in weevil-proof containers, such as Mason jars, cans or light-weight, close-weave muslin sacks to prevent reinfestation.
6. Destroy all old vines and pods immediately after harvest.

The Pea Weevil. The evidences of injury due to the pea weevil are practically the same as that of the bean weevil. The beetle is larger and does not multiply in the stored seed. Nevertheless, in the Northwest this pest is the more serious of the two and the losses due to it are much heavier.

The adult weevils appear in the field at blossoming time and deposit eggs on the forming pods. Thus the peas of an eating size are often grubby. The grubs are mature at gathering time. They pupate in the stored pea and later emerge as adult beetles. Ordinarily only one weevil occurs in a pea, and, as stated before, there is a single generation during the year, the insect being unable to breed in the stored seed.

Control Measures. The treatment as recommended for the bean weevil is equally efficacious for this pest. Repeated applications of rotenone-bearing dusts have proven of value in combating this pest. Rotenone-bearing dusts may be obtained from local dealers in insecticides. Early harvesting and fumigation at time of storing is also of value. Destroy all old vines and pods immediately after harvest.
