



Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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Bean (cowpea) fly (291)



Photo 1. Bean seedlings are most susceptible to the bean fly, *Ophiomyia phaseoli*, at the 1-3-leaf stage.



Photo 2. Adult bean fly, *Ophiomyia phaseoli*.



Photo 3. Details of the adult bean fly, *Ophiomyia* sp.

Summary

- Worldwide. Sub-tropics and tropics. On beans of many kinds - *Vigna*, *Phaseolus*, and weeds.
- Eggs in seedling leaves hatch, and larvae tunnel to the midrib, then to the petiole and lower stem.
- Plants wilt, are stunted, or may fail to yield.
- Natural enemies: parasitoid wasps.
- Cultural control: remove volunteers and weeds; avoid overlapping crops; hill-up 2-3 weeks after germination (damage stimulates roots) ; mulch to encourage root formation; tolerant varieties.
- Chemical control: commercial growers – treat seed (e.g., imidacloprid); or spray plants (dimethoate).

Common Name

Bean fly

Scientific Name

Ophiomyia phaseoli; previously *Melanagromyza phaseoli*.

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Information from CABI (2015) *Ophiomyia phaseoli* (bean fly). Crop Protection Compendium (www.cabi.org/cpc); and from Bean fly. Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. Queensland Government. (<https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/plants/field-crops-and-pastures/broadacre-field-crops/integrated-pest-management/a-z-insect-pest-list/bean-fly>). Photos 1&2 Shepard M *et al.* Insects and their natural enemies associated with vegetables and soybean in Southeast Asia, Bugwood.org. Photo 3 Shane McEvey, Australian Museum (*Ophiomyia* sp., Townsville, Queensland).

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This mini fact sheet is a part of the app *Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds*

The mobile application is available from the Google Play Store and Apple iTunes.

