



## Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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### Oribius weevils (273)



Photo 1. Grey weevil, *Oribius* species damage to taro. Notice the chewed leaf stalks, and downward bending of the leaves.



Photo 2. Grey weevil, *Oribius* species damage to taro, showing chewed leaf stalks.



Photo 3. Grey weevil, *Oribius inimicus*.



Photo 4. Grey weevil, *Oribius inimicus*.



Photo 5. Grey weevil, *Oribius destructor*.



Photo 6. Grey weevil, *Oribius destructor* (compared to *Oribius inimicus* the body is shiny black).



Photo 7. "Thickhead", *Crassocephalum crepidioides*, a common host of grey weevils, *Oribius* species.

### Summary

- Narrow distribution. Papua New Guinea, Australia. Major pests of avocado, capsicum and citrus in Papua New Guinea, but also on many other vegetables and fruit trees.
- Eggs laid in soil. Larvae feed on roots, Adults dark 4-7 mm, do not fly, but are highly mobile.

- Cultural control: avoid overlapping crops; avoid land where weevils severe last crop; crop rotation, using tolerant crops, e.g., shallots, carrots, cabbage, asparagus, or use them as intercrops or borders; weed.
- Chemical control: synthetic pyrethroids at ¼ does recommended; apply early morning or later afternoon when weevils are on the plants.

## Common Name

Grey weevils, oribius weevils

## Scientific Name

*Oribius* species. Note that there are more than 50 species, of which seven are crop pests. *Oribius inimicus* and *Oribius destructor* are the two most common and damaging grey weevils of crops in the highlands of Papua New Guinea.

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Information from Wesis P, *et al.* (2010) Host use and crop impacts of *Oribius* Marshall species (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) in Eastern Highlands Province, Papua New Guinea. *Buttetin of Entomological Research* 100: 133-143; and from Impact and management of *Oribius* weevils in Papua New Guinea. Project CP/2001/032. ACIAR, Canberra (<http://aciar.gov.au/project/cp/2001/032>). Photos 3-6 Walker K (2006) *Oribius* weevil (*Oribius inimicus* and *Oribius destructor*). (PaDIL - (<http://www.padil.gov.au>)). Photo 7 Thickhead, *Crassocephalum crepidioides*. Brisbane City Council weed identification tool. (<http://weeds.brisbane.qld.gov.au/weeds/thickhead>).

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

