



Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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Potato 28-spot ladybird beetle (255)



Photo 1. Adult 28-spotted ladybird beetle, *Epilachna vigintioctopunctata*



Photo 2. Planting in Fiji that has been totally destroyed by the ladybird beetle, *Epilachna vigintioctopunctata*.



Photo 3. Severely damaged potato plants showing damage caused by the ladybird beetle, *Epilachna vigintioctopunctata*. Leaf miner damage is also apparent.



Photo 4. Top surface of Photo 1 showing the damage to the leaf caused by the 28-spot potato ladybird beetle, *Epilachna vigintioctopunctata*. Leaf miner symptoms are also present.



Photo 5. Two larvae of the potato ladybird beetle, *Epilachna vigintioctopunctata*, on the underside of a severely damaged leaf (top and centre near stem).



Photo 6. Damage to a nightshade weed by the 28-spot potato ladybird beetle, *Epilachna vigintioctopunctata*.



Photo 7. Larvae of 28-spot potato ladybird beetle, *Epilachna vigintioctopunctata*, on a nightshade weed.

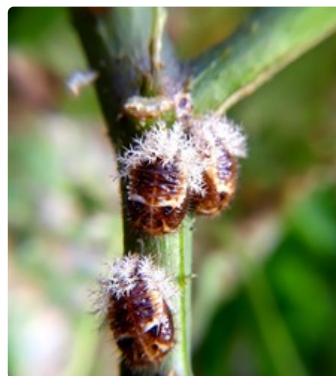


Photo 8. Pupae of 28-spotted ladybird beetle, *Epilachna vigintioctopunctata*.

Summary

- Widespread distribution. Asia, South America, Oceania. Potato and others in the family, weeds. An important pest.
- Eggs laid in batches on the underside of leaves. Whitish larvae with long dark-tipped branched spines. Adults orange with black spotted wing cases, and upper surface covered in short downy hairs.
- Both adults and larvae graze both side of the leaves.
- Natural enemies: parasitoid wasps are known, but not in the Pacific islands.
- Cultural control: avoid overlapping crop or next to other crops that are alternative hosts, e.g., eggplant; handpick; weed; collect and burn trash after harvest. Chemical control: PDPs, ash (or ash+lime in water), derris, pyrethrum, chilli, or synthetic pyrethroids.

Common Name

Potato ladybird beetle, 28-spotted ladybird beetle, eggplant ladybird beetle (see **Fact Sheet no. 58**), Philippine ladybeetle.

Scientific Name

Epilachna species. *Epilachna vigintioctopunctata*; previously, *Henosepilachna vigintioctopunctata*.

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Information from CABI (2012) *Epilachna vigintioctopunctata* (hadda beetle) Crop Protection Compendium. (<http://www.cabi.org/cpc/>). Photo 1 Merle Shepard, Gerald R. Carner, and P.A.C. Ooi, Insects and their Natural Enemies Associated with Vegetables and Soybean in Southeast Asia, Bugwood.org

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

