

## Chinese cabbage flea beetle (166)

### Summary

- Worldwide distribution. In the tropics, sub-tropics and temperate countries. On members of the cabbage family, Chinese cabbage in particular. An important pest.
- Adults, 2mm long, occur in large numbers, eating tiny holes in the leaves, making them unmarketable.
- Eggs are laid in the soil and the larvae feed on roots.
- Biosecurity: Limited distribution in Pacific islands.
- Cultural control: avoid planting near or downwind from infested crops; use fertilizer, manures or composts to accelerate growth; monitor for beetles (cardboard covered in grease moved quickly along the row); collect and burn debris after harvest; crop rotation.
- Chemical control: PDPs: neem, pyrethrum, or derris; or synthetic pyrethroids, but they are likely to kill natural enemies.

### Common Name

Lesser striped flea beetle, small striped flea beetle, flea beetle, turnip flea beetle

### Scientific Name

*Phyllotreta undulata*



Photo 4. Close-up of Chinese cabbage leaf showing holes and flea beetles, *Phyllotreta undulata*.



Photo 1. Distinctive stripes of the Chinese cabbage flea beetle, *Phyllotreta undulata*.



Photo 2. Distinctive stripes of the Chinese cabbage flea beetle, *Phyllotreta undulata*.



Photo 3. Damage to Chinese cabbage by the Chinese cabbage flea beetle, *Phyllotreta undulata*.

AUTHOR Grahame Jackson  
Information from *Phyllotreta undulata* (flea beetle lesser striped). Crop Protection Compendium. (<https://www.cabi.org/cpc/datasheet/40785>).

Produced with support from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research under project PC/2010/090: *Strengthening integrated crop management research in the Pacific Islands in support of sustainable intensification of high-value crop production*, implemented by the University of Queensland and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.

Copyright © 2021. All rights reserved.



Australian Government  
Australian Centre for  
International Agricultural Research



Web edition hosted at <https://apps.lucidcentral.org/pppw>