

**Problem:** Asparagus Beetle - *Crioceris asparagi*



**Host Plants:** Asparagus

**Description:** Asparagus beetle overwinters as an adult in trash near the garden. Asparagus beetle adults are a blue/black beetle with a red prothorax with yellow spots. The larvae are a soft, greenish grub. Both feed on asparagus spears by chewing the tips and spear surfaces -- leading to scarring and staining of the spears. Eggs are laid on developing spears with the eggs being small, elongated and black - sticking out longways from the side of asparagus spears.

**Recommendations:** Early control of beetles is important to reduce feeding damage later. Carbaryl (Sevin) will provide control (a one-day wait before harvest is required). Some products with permethrin are also labeled but require a 3 day waiting period between spraying and harvest.

**References:**

1. [Asparagus Beetles in Home Gardens](#), University of Minnesota Extension Pub M1199

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