

June Beetles

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The coast-lined (or ten-lined) June beetle is common in western Washington. The flying adult beetles (Fig. 1) become easily attracted to light sources, which may partially explain why homeowners commonly find them in their yards. The grub stage (Fig. 2) is reported to feed on the roots (Fig. 3) of various shrubs and trees, especially plants growing in sandy soils. Plants are sometimes killed. It has recently emerged as a serious pest in Christmas tree plantations. Furthermore, some smaller species of scarabs have occasionally caused damage in turfgrass. Despite these areas of concern, this insect seems to cause few problems in home garden plantings of western Washington.



Fig. 1. Adult coast-lined June beetle.
By A.L. Antonelli.



Fig. 2. White grub or larval stage of coast-lined June beetle.
By A.L. Antonelli.



Fig. 3. June beetle larval damage on roots and crowns of young Douglas-fir seedlings. By A.L. Antonelli.