

# Japanese Beetle (*Popillia japonica*) Look-Alikes

## About Japanese Beetle

The Japanese Beetle (*Popillia japonica*) is an invasive pest destructive to ornamental plants, turfgrasses and many of BC's horticulture and agriculture industries.

The three main identifying characteristics are:

- » metallic green head
- » metallic copper-brown wing coverings
- » white tufts of hair around the abdomen

If a Japanese Beetle is found, please call 604-292-5742  
OR email: [cfia.wstJBSJ.acia@canada.ca](mailto:cfia.wstJBSJ.acia@canada.ca).



## Look-Alikes (Photos do not represent actual size; scale bars represent actual size of typical body length)

These insects are commonly mistaken as Japanese Beetle.



**European Brown Chafer**  
(*Amphimallon majale*)



**Ten-Lined June Beetle**  
(*Polyphylla occidentalis*)



**Green Rose Chafer**  
(*Dichelonyx backii*)



**Golden Buprestid**  
(*Buprestis aurulenta*)



**St. John's wort beetle**  
(*Chrysolina hyperici*)



**Viburnum Leaf Beetle**  
(*Pyrrhalta viburni*)



**Brown Marmorated Stink Bug**  
(*Halyomorpha halys*)



**Green Stink Bug**  
(*Chlorochroa spp.*)



**Banasa Stink Bug**  
(*Banasa spp.*)



**Green Bottle Fly**  
(*Lucilia sericata*)



## Feeding Damage

Your help and vigilance is needed to protect our urban, park, and natural areas from damage. The beetle feeds on the roots of grass and more than 300 plant species including roses, fruit trees, grapevines, and other landscape and food plants. Japanese beetle is not a risk to human or animal health or food safety.



## Life Cycle

The adult flight period occurs from June 15 to October 15 when temperatures are  $> 21^{\circ}\text{C}$ .



**Larva**  
actual size, 25 mm (1")  
D. Cappaert, Bugwood.org



**Adult**  
actual size, 10 mm (3/8")  
D. Holden, CFIA

Japanese beetle larvae can be found in sod, top soil, on roots and in potted plants. They feed on the roots of turf, ornamental grasses and other plants, severely damaging the plants. Japanese beetle larvae overwinter 4"-8" below the surface.



Adults feed on the flowers, fruits and leaves. Adult females commonly lay their eggs in well watered lawns.



## Find Out More

» For more information or to be added to our Japanese beetle e-News, please visit [bcinvasives.ca/JB](http://bcinvasives.ca/JB)