

V-shaped damage on palm leaves

Bore hole damage at base of palm frond

DAMAGE

THE THREAT

Native to Southeast Asia, the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB) is a highly invasive pest throughout the Pacific. CRB primarily feed on emerging palm fronds. Extensive feeding damage leads to death of the palm.

Even though coconut palms are CRB's preferred food source, they also feed on royal, date, and native and endangered species of fan palms. CRB have also been known to feed on several types of agricultural crops grown in Hawaii, including taro, banana, cacao, pineapple, and papaya.

CRB breed in decomposing plant material, including compost and mulch. Dead palms and stumps can also become breeding sites. Eggs are laid in these materials, hatch, go through a series of larval or grub stages, pupates (similar to a cocoon) and then emerge as adult beetles.

CRB life cycle:



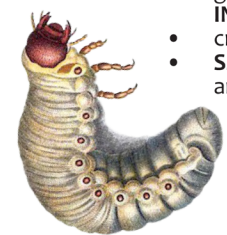
1st instar larva



2nd instar larva



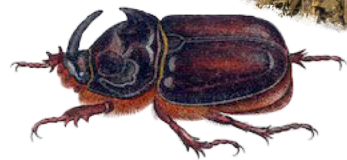
3rd instar larva



pupa



adult beetle



eggs



Dung Beetle



2/3 inch

Oriental Flower Beetle



3/4 inch

Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle



2 in.

BEETLE IDENTIFICATION

Other beetles in Hawaii are commonly mistaken as CRB. Besides being **larger** than other beetles on Oahu, adult CRB have a **horn** on their heads, are **black or dark brown**, and are only **active at night**. Oriental Flower Beetles (OFB) do not have a horn, are a shiny metallic brown with gold spots, and are active during the day. Dung beetles are much smaller than CRB and OFB.

CRB and OFB larva look similar but can be differentiated:

OFB	CRB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LINE in center of rear end • grows up to 2 INCHES • crawls on BACK • SMALLER head and legs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NO line in center of rear end • grows up to 3 INCHES • crawls on SIDE • BIGGER head and legs

IDENTIFICATION

CRB TRAP:

1. CRB are attracted to a UV light and pheromone lure.
2. CRB fly to the trap, hit the panel, and fall into the cup at the base of the trap.
3. CRB Response crew collects the beetle from the trap.



RESPONSE PROGRAM

ERADICATION

Since the discovery of CRB on Oahu in December 2013, a response team has been working to eradicate CRB from Hawaii and prevent movement off-island. CRB are currently only found on Oahu, primarily in areas surrounding Pearl Harbor.

The CRB Response maintains about 3,000 traps on Oahu, which serve to identify CRB population densities, movement, and breeding sites. Crews also conduct surveys of potential breeding sites and tree damage across the island. Green waste management is a key component to preventing the spread and growth of CRB populations.

