

The White Fruit Root Grub ; Economic Importance and Integrated Management.

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The white fruit root grub from Scarabaeidae family and polyphylla genus - *P.olivieri* , *P. adspersa* , *P. persica* , *P. alba* are living in soil and feed on the root and collar of fruit trees specially young trees such as :

(cherry , peach , apricot , apple . quince , pomegranate) .

According to reports, these species are found in almost all fruit growing areas in IRAN , but *P.olivieri* is the dominant species and is found in most fruit growing areas and the amount of damage is more than other species .

The larval longevity is about three years with three larval stages. It moves inside the soil and is found in different depth from 15 cm in spring and summer to 50 cm in winter . Actually the adults appear in mid June and mid of July is the time of peak appearance . The adults after a brief feeding of the fruit leaves , mate and then females lay their eggs in 5-7 cm depth of soil.

The young larvae feed from the thin roots of trees but as they grow they start to feed from the main fruit trees roots and collars.

In order to protect fruit trees from damaging of this pest integrated approaches should be applied.

1) Trapping the adults specially mated females by light trap is practical method very effective and recently fruit growers have begun to use this method in Iran.

2)Shaking the trees and bushes in the morning time and destroying the adult.

3)using mechanical methods ,ploughing or spading the soil in order to bring the larvae to the soil surface so that they could be captured by birds and other