

HOW TO MANAGE COCONUT RHINOCEROS BEETLE (CRB)

January 2025, O'ahu



DO NOT TRANSPORT CRB MATERIAL

Geographic spread of CRB on Oahu appears to be largely due to human-vectored spread through the accidental movement of infested material. CRB can spread through the movement of host material such as palms, or green waste. Prevent transport of CRB, by ensuring material is clean before movement.

Soil bags staged in infested areas can become infested. Source bags as locally as possible to your home, and inspect all bags for holes that may have been caused by CRB.



MANAGE GREEN WASTE

CRB breed in decaying plant material (not just palm). Mulch and compost are ideal habitat for breeding but stumps, leaves, lawn thatch, and rich soil are also breeding material. CRB can also breed in leaf/frond debris in palms and rotting areas of the crown and trunk. Reducing the amount of these materials in your location limits the amount of breeding material and suppresses populations. Regularly inspect any material (every 3 months) to check for signs of CRB



Contact: CRB Response
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FINDING CRB

COCONUT RHINOCEROS BEETLE :

Collect all CRB in a glass or hard plastic container. Freeze for 24 hours to ensure it is dead. Dead beetles may be thrown away.



CRB eggs (2 -3 mm)



Final larval stage (3.5 - 4 ")



Pupa (2")



Adult (2")

TREE DAMAGE:

Look for boreholes in the crowns of trees or fronds with 45 degree, v-shaped cuts. Leaflets will have scalloped edges. If you notice damage, next steps will be treating infestation. More information on treatments can be found at www.crbhawaii.org



TREATING INFESTATION

If CRB are found on your property or you have CRB damage on your palms, we recommend:

TREATING BREEDING MATERIAL

Removal of all breeding material (mulch, compost, rich soil, stumps, dead trees)
Treatment is needed before removal of infested material.



TREATING PALMS

CRB adults visit trees for feeding but do not typically stay in trees very long. A CRB may feed on different trees throughout their life. Treatments to trees include pesticides and physical barriers. Physical treatments can protect a single palm but pesticides should be applied to all palms in an area to be effective.



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