

Sawtoothed Grain Beetle

Description:

The adults are very flat, narrow, dark brown in color and 0.1 inch long. They are recognized by the saw tooth projections on the sides of the middle segment. Larvae are white to pale yellow and 0.1 inch at maturity. They are similar to the merchant grain beetle in appearance and habits. In the sawtoothed grain beetle the temple region behind the eye is greater than 1/2 the eye diameter, in the merchant grain beetle the space behind the eye is less than 1/2 the eye diameter.



Damage:

The eggs are deposited on cracks in grain kernels. Adults and larvae require fine material to survive and cannot feed on whole kernels. They can build up to high numbers in stored grain. The merchant grain beetle is rarely a pest of stored grain. The sawtooth grain beetle is a common pest.