

***Araecerus fasciculatus*, the Coffee bean beetle/ Cocoa weevil (Anthribidae)**

A primary pest on stored coffee and cocoa beans but also noticed on maize, tapioca, sweet potato, peanuts, nutmegs and dried fruits. They depend on the high moisture content (12-20%) in the seeds; larvae fail to develop in seeds having <8% moisture. Adults are



dark-brown and 3-5 mm long; have long legs and antennae with a loose 3 segmented club. The elytra bear many patches of light-colored setae giving a mottled appearance. The elytra are shorter than the abdomen leaving one abdominal segment exposed. Life cycle varies from 47 to 135 days depending on the moisture content of the beans. At 26% and 60% RH., the life cycle is about 57 days and at 100% RH it is 29 days only. Adults are short-lived, non-feeding and can fly.