

Popillia japonica

Japanese beetle

Invasive to Maine

Upland
Forests and Fields

Adult Form



7HW2, Massabesic Middle School



Look for a beetle that is 14 to 15mm long. It will have a metallic jade thorax, a light brown wing case, and a black abdomen with 5 white stripes.

Habitat



flickr.com user John E. Kaminski



You can find Japanese beetles on most plants. They have massive appetites and will feast on any leaves, including roses, apples, birch, basil, and raspberries.

Life Cycle Description

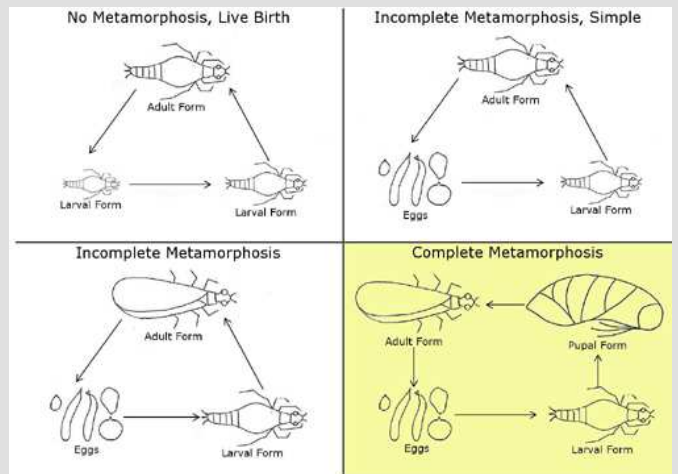


flickr.com user BlueRidgeKitties



Japanese beetles hatch in June. They then mate, lay eggs in July, and continue to feed until early September when they go underground and feed over the winter.

Life Cycle Diagram



Larval Form



flickr.com user Travis S.



Look for white grubs that have V-shaped bristles on their raster (tail end). Mature larvae are about 30 mm long.

Similar Species

The Japanese beetles' unique appearance with 5 white furry stripes and metallic green wing-case makes it easy to identify. Another green metallic beetle invasive to Maine is the emerald ash borer, but it does not have stripes or a brown wing case.

Did You Know?

The Japanese beetle is part of the scarab beetle family. Members of the scarab family have fan like structures on the ends of their antennae called lamellae.



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