

Current status of the control of Eastern Hazelnut Weevil

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The hazelnut weevil, *Curculio obtusus*, has been attacking hazelnut trees in Quebec and across eastern and central North America. In some cases, this pest has led to significant losses in revenue. This insect is difficult to detect, making it harder to control. Various detection methods have been explored in recent years, but there has not been any major research project in Quebec focused on evaluating control methods. Small-scale scientific trials have been carried out focussing in particular on the use of the biological control agent *Beauveria bassiana*. Currently, only one synthetic pesticide is approved in Canada. Control options are relatively limited, especially in organic agriculture. There are still a number of avenues to explore: the use of specific pheromones, knowledge of the insect's life cycle, the resistance of certain hazelnuts, hygiene measures implemented in the orchard, the introduction of nematodes and possibility of using a kaolin-based insecticide/repellent. There needs to be more field research in the future.

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