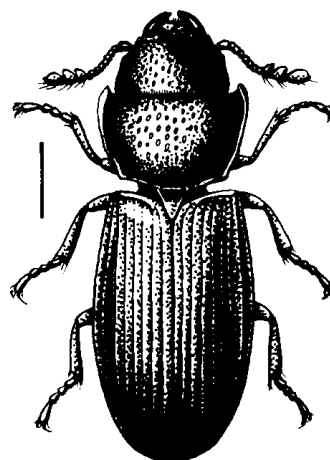


## CADELLE Coleoptera: Trogoitidae *Tenebroides mauritanicus*

### DESCRIPTION

**Adults** are shiny black beetles about 10 mm long with a distinct constriction between the first and second pairs of legs. **Larvae** are white with a black head and two black hooks on the tip of the abdomen. Mature larvae are about 20 mm long.



### ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE

Larvae and adults eat the germ of grain and feed into the endosperm. Smaller larvae may feed under the germ coat. This pest also infests breakfast cereals, corn, oats, shelled and unshelled nuts, spices, fruits, etc. In addition to destroying grain, the larvae tunnel into wood and easily reinfest newly stored grain.

**This pest is not common in the northwest.**

### DISTRIBUTION AND LIFE HISTORY

These beetles are distributed throughout the world. This pest overwinters as a larva in tunnels constructed in wood in and around grain storage areas. Larvae pupate in early spring and adults emerge in May and June. Females lay eggs in cracks around storage areas. Egg laying continues through the summer, and larvae of all sizes may be present in grain until they migrate to overwintering sites. There are one to two generations each year.



(after CA Agric. Exp. Stn. Bull. 767)

### MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL

The most practical method of controlling cadelle beetles is to use preventative measures to reduce the likelihood of infestations by this pest. For example, storage in metal bins will remove possible overwintering sites and significantly reduce the overwintering population of larvae. Cleaning the granary before storing the new crop of grain will help eliminate reinfestation by several grain pests, including cadelle. This clean up is most effective if done in early spring when insect populations are low. Insecticides and fumigation can be used to help prevent or control infestations of cadelle beetles, but they must be applied by licensed applicators to prevent accidental contamination of grain.