



2. Saw-toothed grain beetle

The Saw Toothed Grain Beetle is easy to identify by the saw tooth appearance on the thorax (or middle body part). The can be seen with the naked eye or a small hand lens.

Saw Tooth Grain Beetle - Both the larva stage and the adult saw toothed beetle will feed on food stuffs. They feed on grain products, flour products, meal products, cereals, dried meats, breakfast foods, nut meats, dried fruit and bird seed. They are small enough to easily penetrate tiny cracks and crevices in packages of food products. It is worldwide in its distribution.

A beetle very similar in appearance is the **Merchant Beetle**. One difference between them is the Merchant Beetle can fly and the Saw Toothed Grain beetle does not.

Infestations in the home are most likely to occur in packages that have been opened for the removal of a portion of the contents and then left unsealed for long periods. They also thrive in warm temperatures. The most favorable is around 80 degrees F.

Prevention is the key to avoiding infestations.

Store bulk materials, such as pet foods, in containers with tight-fitting lids.

Clean old containers before filling them with fresh food.

Do not buy bulk foods that are cereal products in quantities more than you

~~can~~ can reasonably consume in a short period.



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