

Avocado Pests

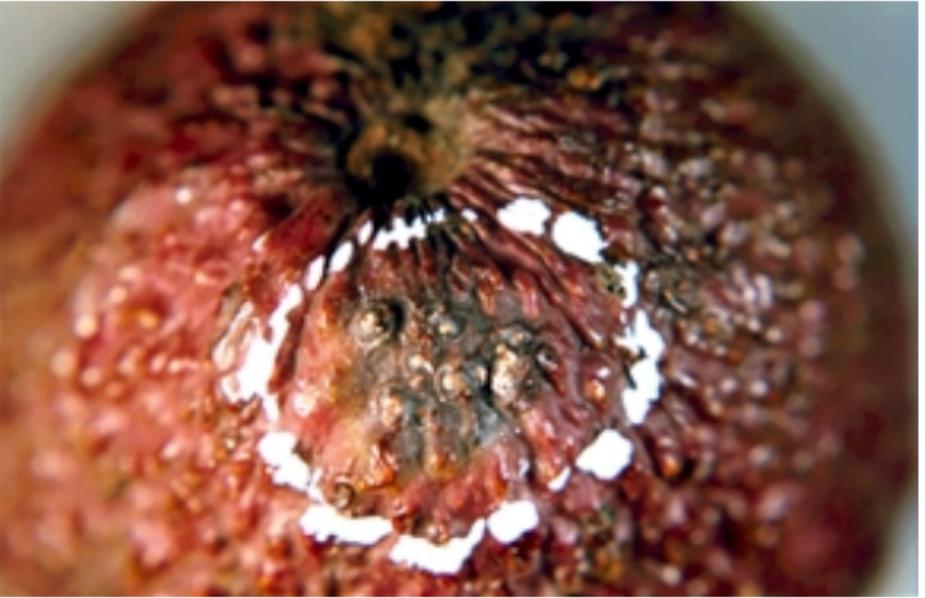


Carefully slicing farther into the fruit will reveal the cavity in which larvae of the stem weevil are found.

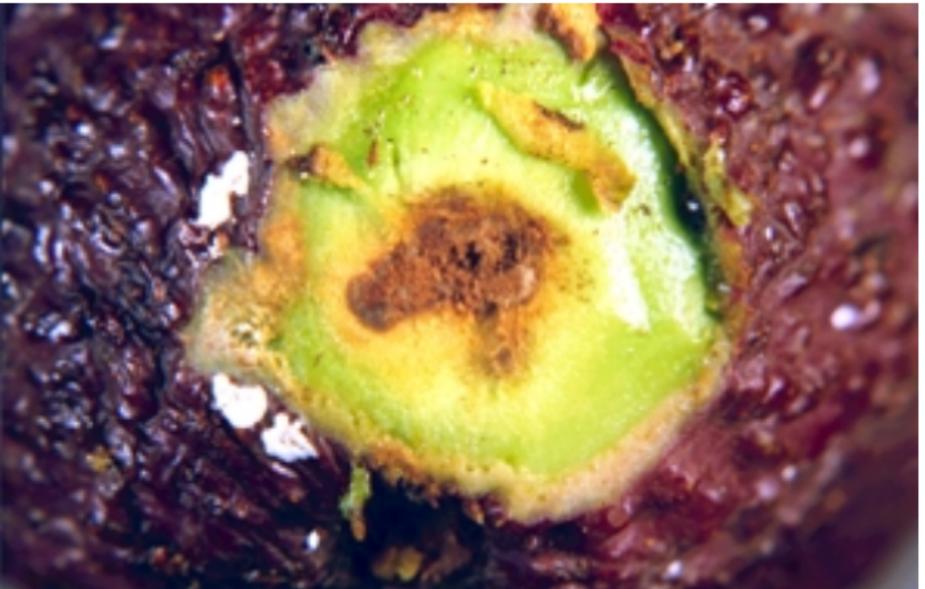
There are several pests of concern you should look for when inspecting avocados entering the United States. Pests include the avocado stem weevil (*Copturus aguacatae*), the large avocado seed weevil (*Heilipus lauri*), the small avocado seed weevils (*Conotrachelus aguacatae* and *C. perseae*), and the avocado seed moth (*Stenomoma catenifer*).

To inspect for the stem weevil (as indicated in the photos), first examine the stem end of the fruit for oviposition or infestation sites and then slice the fruit thinly across the stem end, continuing to look for signs of this pest. After you have inspected the avocado for the stem weevil, slice the remainder of the fruit to look for fruit flies and examine the seed for signs of weevil damage.

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The circled area on the avocado shows stem weevil oviposition or infestation sites.



Slicing thinly through the avocado skin has exposed an area of necrosis.