Fuller’s Rose Weevil
Asynonychus cervinus

Fuller’s Rose Weevil (FRW) is a quarantine pest, which is usually present in the form of an egg mass on the stem end of the fruit. (Alternatively may be on the beak of Gold Hort 16 fruit)

FRW is originally from South America but is now common all over the world.

Adult Fuller’s Rose Weevils are approximately 6-8mm, they are grayish brown, all adults are female, and reproduce parthenogenically. Adults emerge from the soil in early summer and climb into the canopy to lay clusters of up to 60 oval yellow-gold eggs which are held together by a foamy white mass. After approximately 20 days these eggs hatch and the resulting larvae or grub, drop to the ground and burrow into the soil to depths between 10 and 60cm, they feed in the soil and grow into mature larval insects. These mature larvae, called pre-pupae, become solid white in color. They develop smooth, protective cells around their body. They shed their skins as they become pupae, encasing their soft, fragile adult bodies in a protective skin called a theca. They re-emerge as adults during the summer. They usually produce one generation of offspring each year but in warmer climates they may produce two generations.

Typical Symptoms of Plant Damage
The Fullers Rose Weevil generally does not damage or eat kiwifruit plants; they tend to prefer weeds such as dock and buttercup.

Insects or eggs on kiwifruit are the main concern as these are quarantine pests in some markets.

Life Cycle Stages and Control
Placing sticky band around the trunks of vines and structures by early December (after male pruning) is an effective way to stop adult weevils from climbing into the canopy to lay their eggs.

It is also advisable to control weeds, especially broad leaf weeds, which can increase FRW fecundity.

Stages of Crop Growth Susceptible to Damage
Peak adult numbers occur in the canopy from mid-summer to mid-autumn.