

Friend or Foe?

Leaf Cutter Bee or Weevil?

It's good to know who is creating the leaf damage in your garden!



Friend

Leaf cutter bees are solitary cavity nesting bees. They protect their eggs with a leaf or flower petal wrap. Those dime-sized cut-outs are a gift from your friendly pollinator!



Foe

These snout-nosed female weevils chew notches into prized plants, but the damage is just cosmetic. It's the damage that's done **underground** by her larvae that is so **destructive**. They burrow into the roots and can kill the plant such as this *Heuchera* (coral bells).



Images: Weevil – David Short, Wiki Commons; Leaf cutter bee damaged foliage images by Elaine Sedgman

Sources: Gilkeson, L. Natural Insect, Weed & Disease Control, 2013.

www.lindagilkeson.ca

https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/pollinator-of-the-month/megachile_bees.shtml