Chewing pests

Blister beetle

Blister beetle adults are 19 mm long and elongated. They vary in color from black and blue to brown, with or without stripes. They possess a characteristic constricted neck. These beetles overwinter as larvae in the soil.

Color variations include black like these adult beetles.
Blister beetle – continued

Adults feed on flowers and leaves, creating small rounded or irregularly shaped holes.

Management:
Adults can be hand picked, but it is important to wear gloves because these insects release a caustic substance when crushed that can cause blisters and welts on the skin. Contact insecticides may be used to control the adults.