







Technical Bulletin for: Leek Moth

Acrolepiopsis assectella (L) • Lepidoptera: Acrolepiidae • ACRASS



DISTRIBUTION	Asia, Africa, Europe and recently introduced into Canada.
HOSTS	Leek is the preferred host, other hosts include: onion, garlic, chives, and shallot.
DESCRIPTION	
ADULT MOTH	The adult is a small pale brown to black moth. Wingspan is about 12-15mm. The moth is 5-7mm long with wings folded at rest. The forewing has a large triangular white marking with small white markings. The hindwings are heavily fringed and are pale grey to light black in color.
LARVAE	Larvae are yellowish-green and about 13-14 mm long when mature. Each segment has 8 small spots and the head capsule is pale brown. Legless, creamy white maggot 7-10 mm long.
EGGS	Eggs are white, oval-shaped and small about 0.4mm.
LIFE HISTORY	The life cycle in North America has not been reported. In northern Europe however, there are two generations per year, while up to six generations per occur in southern Europe. Leek moths overwinter in host plants or other plant debris. Females produce an average of 100 eggs over their lifetime. Typically, the second generation is the most destructive.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	Z11-16Ald and Z11-16Ac on re rubber septum. Field life: 30 days. 
TRAP IN USE	Paper or Plastic Delta   or Wing Trap 
MONITORING STRATEGY	In smaller fields, use one trap every 1 to 1 ½ acre. A minimum of two traps should also be used for fields of uneven topography. For larger fields (10 acres or greater) use 1-2 traps per five acres. Traps should be placed at approximately the same height as the crop. Traps should be checked weekly or more frequently, depending on pest population. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Using row cover immediately after planting to prevent adults from laying eggs in host crops. Rotate crops – plant in different location each year. Remove host plant debris at the end of season.

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