





# Technical Bulletin for: Banded Cucumber Beetle

*Diabrotica balteata* (LeConte) Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae • DIABAL



<b>DISTRIBUTION</b>	Native to tropical regions, it has now expanded its range to Central America, Mexico and the southern United States.
<b>HOSTS</b>	Cucumber, squash, beet, bean, pea, sweet potato, okra, corn, lettuce, onion, and various cabbages, with bean and soybean being its favorite hosts.
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	
<b>ADULT MOTH</b>	Greenish yellow with a red head, about 5-6mm in length.
<b>LARVAE</b>	Variable color, white initially but may take on a pale-yellow color depending on food source, about 9mm in length at maturity.
<b>EGGS</b>	Oval, yellow in color, and are approximately 0.6mm in length.
<b>LIFE HISTORY</b>	Eggs are deposited in cracks in the soil and will typically hatch in 5-9 days. Larvae take 11-17 days to fully develop. Females normally deposit two to 15 egg clusters of up to 100 eggs each. A total of 850 eggs may be produced by a female. Adult longevity is 17 to 44 days, but averages 26 days. The banded cucumber beetle remains active as long as the temperature is favorable. Up to seven generations per year have been reported in Texas and Louisiana.

## MONITORING INFORMATION

<b>LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE &amp; FIELD LIFE</b>	4-Allyl-2-methoxyphenol and 3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-propenal on a paper coaster in a peelable pouch. 
<b>TRAP TO USE</b>	Yellow Card 
<b>MONITORING STRATEGY</b>	Attach lure to the top of the sticky card and hang two feet above the top of the host plant. For monitoring purposes, use one trap per 2000 square feet of garden. For trapping, use one trap per 400 square feet. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.
<b>CULTURAL &amp; PHYSICAL CONTROL</b>	Growers can avoid the most significant damage by simply delaying the planting of summer cucurbits by a few weeks. Practice clean and thorough cultivation after fall harvests. Deep tillage, compost application, and cover-cropping in the fall to encourage decomposition of residue which may harbor beetles through the winter months. Any diseased plant matter should be burned or otherwise discarded rather than composted for future use. Floating row covers can be a big help by excluding cucumber beetles during the seedling stage of life. This allows plants to mature and develop substantive leaf mass and a strong root system.

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Alpha Scents, Inc., 1089 Willamette Falls Drive, West Linn, OR 97068  
TEL: 503-342-8611 • FAX: 314-271-7297 • sales@alphascents.com • www.alphascents.com