






Technical Bulletin for: Beet Armyworm

Spodoptera exigua (Hübner) • Lepidoptera: Noctuidae • SPOEXI



DISTRIBUTION	Southern and Western United States, Western Canada, Central and Southern Europe, Africa, Middle East, Southeast Asia, Japan, and Australasia.
HOSTS	Rice, cotton, tomato, beet, cabbage, celery, tobacco, asparagus, and many other crops and flowers.
DESCRIPTION	
ADULT MOTH	A small, brownish moth. Rather non-descript in appearance and not easy to recognize. Wingspan 24-30mm.
LARVAE	Green at first and later green to brown, usually with a lateral stripe, about 30mm.
EGGS	Laid in clusters, several layers thick and covered with hairs from the female abdomen. Each cluster contains 50-300 eggs.
LIFE HISTORY	Female lays 300-900 eggs (up to 1700). Larvae develop in 10-13 days. Adults emerge after 6 days as pupae inside an earthen cell. There are 5-8 generations per year.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	(Z)-9-Tetradecen-1-ol and (Z,E)-9,12-Tetradecadienyl acetate on red rubber septum.  Field life: Four (4) weeks.
TRAP TO USE	Paper or Plastic Delta  or Uni-Trap 
MONITORING STRATEGY	Place traps in the spring above crop canopy before moth emergence. Change the trap and lure every 4 weeks or more frequently depending on temperature and dusty conditions. Monitor moth populations between late March and mid-December. Check with your local Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Armyworms are often attracted to fields with barnyard grass. When they are done feeding on barnyard grass, larvae move to corn. Minimize infestations of barnyard grass.

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