



2

Sweet corn pests

- Corn ear worm
- European corn borer
- Cutworms
- Corn root worms
- Flea beetles
- Seed and root maggots
- Corn leaf aphid
- Stink bugs





Corn earworm

- Overwinter as pupae
- Migration of adults
- Lay eggs on silks
- 2 to 4 generations per year
- Late season damage



3

5



Corn earworm control

- Variety choice Planting date
- - Early and midseason
 - Pheromone traps
 - Spray every 5 days

 1-10 moths/night
 Spray every 2 days
 100 moths/night
- Lay eggs on corn silks
- Must be controlled by directing sprays at the silks so larvae will immediately contact the insecticide after hatching



Corn earworm

- Insecticides
 - Biopesticide (Bt)
 - Pyrethroids (Ambush, Asana, Baythroid, Capture, Mustang Maxx, Permethrin, Tundra, Warrior II)
 - Spinosyns (Entrust, Radiant)
 - Sevin
 - Dual action (Besiege)



European corn borer



8

European corn borer

- Overwinters as an adult
- Adult emergence late May and June
- 22 days to reach full grown caterpillar
- Two generations per year

7

9



European corn borer damage

- Kernel damage
- Stalk tunneling





10

European corn borer monitoring

- Late whorl stage
- Black light traps
 - Field observations
- Insecticides sprays
 Biopesticide (Bt)

 - Pyrethroids (Ambush, Baythroid, Capture, Mustang Maxx, Permethrin, Tundra, Warrior

 - Ryanoid (Coragen) Spinosyns (Entrust, Radiant)
 - Sevin
 - Dual action (Besiege)



Cutworms

- Early season pests
- Overwinter as eggs or larvae
- Cut plants





Cutworms

- Fall and spring tillage
- Weed control before planting
- Barriers around plants



11



Cutworm control with insecticides

- Biopesticide (Bt)
- Pyrethroids (Ambush, Asana, Baythroid, Capture, Force, Mustang Maxx, Permethrin, Tundra, Warrior II)
- Ryanoid (Coragen)
- Spinosyns (Blackhawk, Entrust, Radiant)
- Diamides (Exirel, Harvanta, Verimark)
- Sevin
- Dual action (Besiege)







14

13



Corn rootworm beetles

- Overwinter as eggs
- Larvae of two species feed on corn roots ONLY
- One generation per year
- Crop rotation
- Monitoring
 - Sticky traps





16

Corn rootworm beetles

- Insecticides
 - Pyrethroids (Ambush, Asana, Baythroid, Capture, Mustang Maxx, Permethrin, Tundra, Warrior II)
 - Sevir
 - Dual action (Besiege)

15



Corn rootworm larvae

- Insecticides
 - Pyrethroids (Brigade, Capture, Force, Warrior II)
 - Sevin
 - Dual action (Aztec, Ethos)







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17



Corn flea beetles

- Overwinters as an adult
- Emerge in spring
- Larvae feed on roots of grass plants for two weeks
- Generation time is about one month
- 2-3 generations





20

Corn flea beetles

- Leaf damage
- Stewart's wilt
 - Tasselling
 - Drought
 - Early stage



19



Flea beetle control

- Scouting
- Threshold
 - 6 beetles per 100 plants
- Insecticides
 - Seed treatments
 - Pyrethroids (Ambush, Asana, Baythroid, Capture, Mustang Maxx, Permethrin, Tundra, Warrior II)
 - Sevin
 - Dual action (Besiege)



Seed and root maggots

- Overwinter as pupae
- Lay eggs in early spring
- 3-5 generations per year
- Life cycle of as little as 21 days



21

22



Damage from seed and root maggots

- Corn seed damage
- Reduced stands
- Weak seedlings
- Can cover most of field





24

Sampling for seed and root maggots

- Dig in soil where plants didn't emerge
- Check seed for injury and maggots
- 2 linear row feet in each of 5 areas



23



Control of seed and root maggots

- No rescue treatments
- Replanting
- Insecticides
 - Seed treatments
 - Neonicotinoids
 - Spinosad Abamectin
 - Pyrethroids (Brigade, Capture, Force, Mustang Maxx, Permethrin, Tundra)
 - Dual action (Aztec, Ethos)





26





Corn leaf aphid

- Colonies on tassels
- Produce honeydew
 Adults migrate from the south
 Live birth
- Pests in late June though August
- 9 generations a year





28

Corn leaf aphid monitoring

- Before tasseling
 - In each of 5 areas of the field, select 4 plants
 - Count in 20 whorls per area
 - Consider insecticides if 50% of plants have 50 aphids per plant

27



29

Aphid control

Natural enemies are recommended



















Stink bug control

Insecticides

 Pyrethroids (Baythroid, Brigade, Capture, Tundra, Warrior II)

 Dual action (Besiege, Hero)



31 32



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