



# PENNSYLVANIA VEGETABLE MARKETING & RESEARCH PROGRAM

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## *Pennsylvania Vegetable IPM Weekly Update*

*July 12, 2023*

*These are cooperative projects involving Penn State University researchers, Penn State Cooperative Extension educators, growers, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, the Pennsylvania Vegetable Marketing and Research Program and the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association.*

### **PestWatch Report**

#### **MOTH NUMBERS JUMP UP THIS WEEK**

*Glen Bupp and Leah Fronk, Penn State Extension*

Corn earworm numbers increased in most counties across Pennsylvania this week. Sites in Erie, Franklin, Indiana, Lancaster, Lycoming, Mifflin, and Washington Counties are on a 4-5 day spray interval. Counties with lower moth counts between those with higher numbers could be due to many variables, placing emphasis on continuing to scout your corn. As a reminder, corn that is tasseling or silking is very attractive to corn earworm, as eggs are laid on silks, and control must be achieved while larvae are recently hatched before they've entered the ear.



*Fig 1 Corn Earworm adult moth caught in monitoring trap*

Once the spray threshold is reached, you can consider products from the pyrethroid class, diamide class, or spinosyn class for effective control. We tend to see the best efficacy from non-pyrethroid products such as Coragen, Blackhawk, and Radiant, as pyrethroid resistance has increased in migrating corn earworm populations. However, we tend to see more resistance later in the season than now, as moths migrate from further south in the United States up to our region. Diamides and spinosyns do not provide effective control of other pests such as sap beetles, brown marmorated stink bug, Japanese beetles, or adult corn rootworms. If you're seeing these pests as you scout your corn, consider adding a pyrethroid, or the premix Besiege to control those.

Fall armyworm was captured in two locations this week. One in Centre County and 6 in Lycoming. No other sites captured fall armyworm. By managing for corn earworm, fall armyworm should be adequately controlled, as well.

**Corn Earworm Average Weekly Catch.** The average catch per night. If no data exist for that week, null is reported.

COUNTY	SITENAME	4-Jul	12-Jul	COUNTY	SITENAME	4-Jul	12-Jul
Bucks	Doylestown	0	17	Indiana	Yarnick's Farm	22	60
Butler	Renfrew	--	9	Juniata	Port Royal	17	27
Centre	State College	--	9	Lancaster	Landisville	17	10
Centre	Centre County	--	1	Lancaster	Neffsville	9	40
Centre	Loganton	--	6	Lancaster	New Danville	--	36
Centre	State College	--	2	Lehigh	Germansville, PA	--	1
Centre	Loganton	--	6	Luzerne	Drums	4	15
Erie	Lake City Fairplain Rd	--	45	Lycoming	Shirey Farm	--	63
Erie	Lake City Rt 5	--	23	Mifflin	Belleville	42	38
Franklin	Waynesboro	42	69	Washington	Peters Township	8	41
Indiana	Brush Valley	1	1	York	York	14	6

**THRESHOLDS** Reproductive (tassel/silk) and late vegetative corn attract moths. Shorten spray schedules when populations increase.

Threshold based on CEW	Catch per week	Spray Frequency
Almost Absent	1-13	7+
Very low	14-35	5-6
Low	36-70	4-5
Moderate	71-349	3-4
High	>350	2-3