



# PENNSYLVANIA VEGETABLE MARKETING & RESEARCH PROGRAM

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## *Pennsylvania Vegetable IPM Weekly Update*

*July 26, 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 – July 26**

#### **MOTH CATCH STABLE THIS WEEK**

*Glen Bupp and Leah Fronk, Penn State Extension*

Corn earworm numbers caught in traps reporting data this week stayed mostly the same as last week across the state. Only two sites, one in Lancaster and one in Franklin experienced average weekly moth catches between 36 and 70. At these sites a spray interval of 4-5 days would be suggested for corn that's tasseling or silking. All other sites could reduce spray intervals based on moth catch. 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. A larval corn earworm



Fig. 2. A larval fall armyworm on an ear of corn.

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.

Only 3 fall armyworm were caught this week at one site in Centre County. By managing for corn earworm, fall armyworm should be adequately controlled, as well. Fall armyworm damage can occur on the ear, as well as on the foliage. Foliage feeding will leave ragged edges and waste that resembles sawdust.

*Average weekly catch of corn earworm*

Location	2-Jul	9-Jul	16-Jul	23-Jul	Location	2-Jul	9-Jul	16-Jul	23-Jul
<b>Bedford, Pennsylvania</b>					<b>Lackawanna, Pennsylvania</b>				
Peach Hill Orchard	22	53	9	13	Clarks Summit		0		
<b>Blair, Pennsylvania</b>					Clarks Summit		0		
Hillview Farms	3	12	11	20	<b>Lancaster, Pennsylvania</b>				
<b>Bucks, Pennsylvania</b>					Landisville	17	10	6	15
Delaware Valley University	0	17	7	23	Neffsville	9	40	28	4
<b>Butler, Pennsylvania</b>					New Danville		36	17	42
Renfrew		41	8	6	<b>Lehigh, Pennsylvania</b>				
<b>Centre, Pennsylvania</b>					Germansville	3	1	17	
PSU Research Farm	1	6	11	7	<b>Luzerne, Pennsylvania</b>				
State College	9	2	3	8	Burger's Farm				23
<b>Clinton, Pennsylvania</b>					Drums	4	15	12	
Loganton	6	6	12	14	<b>Lycoming, Pennsylvania</b>				
<b>Erie, Pennsylvania</b>					Shirey Farm	63	34	10	
Lake City Nursery Rd	28	45	56	6	Snyder Farm		15.5		
Lake City Rt 5	6	23	13	2	<b>Mifflin, Pennsylvania</b>				
<b>Franklin, Pennsylvania</b>					Belleville	42	38		25
Waynesboro	42	69	23	53	<b>Montgomery, Pennsylvania</b>				
<b>Indiana, Pennsylvania</b>					Souderton			3.5	4
Brush Valley	1	1	2	0	<b>Washington, Pennsylvania</b>				
Indiana	22	60	95	17	Peters Township	8	17	24	30
<b>Juniata, Pennsylvania</b>					<b>York, Pennsylvania</b>				
Port Royal	17	27		7	York	14	6	6	12

**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