

Western Bean Cutworm bucket trapping



Chris DiFonzo, Field Crops Entomologist

Michigan State University, East Lansing

Western bean cutworm (WBC) was first found in Michigan in 2006. Depending on the year, larval damage is occurs in field corn and in dry beans. Pheromone traps are used to time scouting and spraying. The pheromone lure mimics the female WBC scent and attracts male moths, where they fall through a funnel into a bucket. A vapor strip in the bucket kills the moths quickly.

****For corn, trapping helps to time scouting. Start scouting at peak catch, targeting pre-tassel fields.**

****For dry beans, trapping helps to time spraying when cumulative pheromone catch is >150, and blossom or pod damage is found in the field.**

Supplies for trapping

A local source

Great Lakes IPM

Vestaburg, MI

1-800-235-0285

www.greatlakesipm.com

***Buckets are reusable
for many years***



**Bucket trap
IPS-G004**



**Pheromone lure
TR-3406**
*Plan on 2 lures
per trap to
cover the season*



**Hercon vaportape
HC-8500-25**
*note: vaportape has an
embedded fumigant*

Start trapping in the last week of June or very early July

- 1-2 traps per field, preferably on different edges
- Hang in a convenient location, 4-5 ft above the ground, on a pole, guy wire, or other structure - where they won't be knocked over by equipment or obstruct the grower.
- Install pheromone in basket in top of bucket lid and add a vaportape fumigant strip to the bucket
- Check traps on a 7-day interval. Remove and count moths, and wipe out trap. Keep track of the number of moths to determine peak catch.
- Change pheromone once, after 4 weeks. Don't throw original lure on the ground (it will attract moths). Simply add another lure to the basket.

End trapping at end of August or when you get two zero counts in a row.



Posting your trap catch

The Canadian Corn Pest Coalition generates a free interactive map of WBC catches from Ontario and Michigan each season. Visit this website <https://www.cornpest.ca/wbc-trap-network/>

"JOIN the NETWORK" (create an account), and enter your trap locations. Enter your counts on Mondays. Full instructions are on the website.