

Technical Bulletin for: **Western Spotted Cucumber Beetle**

Acalymma trivittatum (Mannerheim) • Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae • ACATRI



DISTRIBUTION	From western United States, Washington to California, Utah and Texas into Central America
Hosts	Squash, cucumbers, soybeans, cotton, beans, and corn.
DESCRIPTION	
Adult Beetle	About 9 mm, yellowish with black spots on elytra, migrate (fly) into cultivated areas from alfalfa and other crops and from uncultivated lands, like moisture, dislike heat, melon fields especially attractive in hot weather during and after irrigation.
Larvae	White with a brown head, about 7.62 mm long
Eggs	Oval, orange-yellow in color, found in clusters of 25 – 50 at base of plants
LIFE HISTORY	Overwinter as adults and are active by the time of earliest plantings. They feed on succulent portions of plants, including flowers and leaves. During high temperatures adults feed on undersides of fruit, scarring them. As soon as they hatch, larvae begin feeding on plant roots and complete their development in the soil. Also spread squash mosaic virus.

MONITORING INFORMATION

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Indole, trans-Cinnamaldehyde and 1,2,4 trimethoxybenzene in a Coaster Lure Packet. Lure Longevity: 30 days.	
Yellow Sticky Card	
Sticky traps should be placed horizontally near plants spaced at least 100 feet apart over a field. The number beetles on traps is recorded each time the traps are changed. The traps are typically changed every seven days but can last 30 or more days without significant reduction in catching ability. Since adult emergence can stretch over a period of 6-9 weeks, the traps should remain in the field for 6-9 weeks. If the economic threshold for yellow sticky traps of 6 beetles per day is reached there is a high potential for problems the following spring.	
There are no effective cultural controls for these pests. However, some suggestions that may help include: delay planting of summer cucurbits a few weeks, practice clean and thorough cultivation after fall harvests, deep tillage, fall cover crop to encourage decomposition of residue which may harbor beetles throughout the winter, discard diseased plant matter rather than composting it, use float row covers during the seedling stage.	

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insect monitoring systems