





Technical Bulletin for: **Agriotes Wireworm (obscurus)**

Agriotes obscurus (Linnaeus) • Coleoptera, Elateridae • AGROBS



DISTRIBUTION	Widely distributed across Europe, Northern Caucasus, Kazakhstan, and Mongolia. Introduced to North America
HOSTS	Many species, including maize, cereals, sunflower, sugar beet, potato, and tomato
DESCRIPTION	
Adult	About 7-10 mm long, dark brown with convex elytra covered in yellow-gray hairs.
Larvae	Dark metallic yellow, can grow up to 25 mm long
Eggs	White, nearly globular, up to 0.5 mm in diameter.
LIFE HISTORY	Adults are on the wing from April to June or May to August, depending on geography. Females lay eggs in groups of 3-18, totally 75-230, on leaves or in the soil to a depth of 5 cm. Larvae develop for 3-5 years, feeding on the roots of the host plant. Pupation begins generally around July-August, with young Adults emerging around the same time, overwintering in the soil up to 25 cm below the surface.

MONITORING INFORMATION

ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, LURE, FIELD LIFE	Geranyl hexanoate and Geranyl octanoate in a plastic vial. Lure longevity: 30 Days	
TRAP TO USE	Yellow Card, Double-sided or back-folding	
MONITORING STRATEGY	Hang trap near potential host plants. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Check soil near roots for wireworm presence or roots themselves for damage. Flooding fields for a few days prior to seeding is another effective preventative measure.	

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