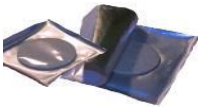
Technical Bulletin for:

Seed-Corn Fly

Delia (Hylemya) platura (Meigen) • Diptera: Anthomyiidae • DELPLA (HYLPLA)

DISTRIBUTION	Throughout Europe, United States (including Alaska and Hawaii), southern Canada, south America, Japan, India, Australia, northern Africa, New Zealand, Ghizdavu
HOSTS	Over 40 host plants, including corn, pea, bean, onion, melon, cucumber, radish, rutabaga, squash, turnip, potato see-pieces, pepper. Secondary hosts include alfalfa, cotton, strawberry, tobacco, and wheat already damaged by other pests.
DESCRIPTION	
Adult Moth	Brownish grey with three strips on back, resembling and half the size of a house fly, Slender, light gray, $^{3}/_{16}$ to ¼ inches (4.8 – 6.4 mm) long.
Larvae	Legless, yellowish white, cylindrical and tapered, about $^{1}/_{5}$ - ¼ inch (5 – 6.3 mm) long.
Eggs	White, elongated $^{1}/_{16}$ inch (1.6 mm) long, deposited in loose groups among debris and around plant stems near to the soil surface.
LIFE HISTORY	When mature, the maggot pupates inside a dark brown puparium that resembles a wheat seed. The house fly-like adult emerges in the spring. The fly is attracted to manure that has been spread in a field or other decaying organic matter. The adult lays its eggs on moist soil in these attractive areas. It is believed that the seedcorn maggot spends the winter as a larva inside a puparium in the soil. It pupates in the spring and emerges in April and/or May. The eggs hatch within a few days and larvae usually feed for 2 to 3 weeks before changing into the brown pupal stage in the soil. Adults emerge from the pupal case in about 7 to 14 days, mate, and begin a new cycle. The entire life cycle may require no more than 21 days, resulting in 3 or more generations per year.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	2-Phenylethanol and pentanoic acid on a paper coaster. Lure longevity: Four (4) weeks. 
TRAP TO USE	Yellow Card 
MONITORING STRATEGY	Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Disc or plow early in the season, destroying weed growth. Plant under ideal soil and weather conditions to assure rapid seed germination. When possible, plow in the fall any field that is heavily manured or has a vegetative cover crop. Large amounts of residue in the soil during the spring will increase the risk of seedcorn maggot infestations and feeding damage.

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