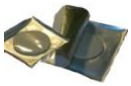
Technical Bulletin for:

Banded Cucumber Beetle

Diabrotica balteata (LeConte) • Coleoptera, *Chrysomelidae* • DIABAL

DISTRIBUTION	North and South America (From Southern U.S. to Colombia and Venezuela), Cuba
HOSTS	Cucumber, squash, beet, bean, pea, sweet potato, okra, corn, lettuce, onion, and various cabbages, with bean and soybean being its favorite hosts.
DESCRIPTION	
Adult	5-6 mm long. Elytra are yellow, marked with three transverse bands in shades of green or blue-green and a narrower longitudinal green line down the center.
Larvae	The new larva is white and about 2.3 mm long. It may turn yellow, though color depends on food source. The later-instar larva may reach nearly 9 mm.
Eggs	Oval-shaped, yellow, 0.5-0.6 mm long.
LIFE HISTORY	The adult mates at about six days of age. The female begins producing eggs about 16 days later. She lays a cluster of eggs every few days for two to eight weeks, producing up to 15 clusters, for a maximum of 850 eggs. A cluster has up to 100 eggs, oviposited in a crack in the soil, and the eggs hatch in 5 to 9 days. The larva develops for 11 to 17 days, pupation takes 4 to 6 days, and the adult has an average life span of 26 days. There is no diapause. In the best conditions there can be six or seven generations per year.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	Eugenol and 4-Methoxycinnamaldehyde in a Coaster Lure Packet. Lure longevity: Thirty (30) days. 
TRAP TO USE	Yellow Card 
MONITORING STRATEGY	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.
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Planting with variety, crop rotation, and early planting, as well as cover-cropping, compost application, and burning of diseased plant matter are pertinent preventative measures.

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