







Technical Bulletin for: Pickleworm

Diaphania nitidalis (Stoll) • Lepidoptera, Crambidae • DIANIT



DISTRIBUTION	Southern Florida and Texas, North and South Carolina.
HOSTS	Wild and cultivated cucurbit species
DESCRIPTION	
Adult Moth	Wingspan: ~30mm, Semi-transparent yellow color on central wings, bordered in dark brown.
Larvae	5 instars in total, are about 15 mm long at instar 5. Young larvae off-white with many dark gray/black spots. Spots are lost during 5 th instar, with color depending on diet.
Eggs	0.4-0.6mm in width and 0.8 mm in length. Shape varies from spherical to flattened. Initially white, turning yellow after 24h. laid in small clusters of 2 to 7, with an average of 300-400 eggs per female.
LIFE HISTORY	Life cycle can be completed in 30 days. Multiple generations per year are likely. Females lay eggs in their small clusters on the buds, flowers, and other actively growing portions of the plant. Hatching occurs within 4 days

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	Z-11-16Ald, E-11-16Ald, Z-11-16OH, E-11-16OH, and EZ-10,12-16Ald in a White Rubber Septum. Lure longevity: Thirty (30) days.	
TRAP TO USE	Paper/Plastic Delta Trap or Wing Trap	  
MONITORING STRATEGY	Hang traps near affected crops. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Cover plants with screen or row covers to prevent egg deposition on the foliage. Planting and harvesting early have also proven effective in preventing Pickleworm damage.	

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insect monitoring systems

Alpha Scents, Inc., 360 S. Sequoia Pkwy. Canby, OR 97013
TEL: 503-342-8611 • FAX: 314-271-7297 • sales@alphascents.com • www.alphascents.com