





Technical Bulletin for: Spotted Cucumber Beetle

Diabrotica u. howardi (Barber) • Coleoptera, *Chrysomelidae* • DIAUHO



DISTRIBUTION	United States, Mexico, Canada, introduced into Africa, including Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, South Africa and Malawi among others.
HOSTS	Various species, notably corn, sorghum, winter squash, cucumber, cantaloupe, watermelon and pumpkin.
DESCRIPTION	
Adult	6.4 mm long. Yellow-green marked with 12 black spots on elytra. Head and legs are black, with 1.6 mm-long black antennae.
Larvae	Wormlike, almost 12 mm long, white with three pairs of long, brown legs. 3 instars. Can grow to 19 mm during final instar.
Eggs	Oval-shaped, orange-yellow, 0.70 mm long. Laid in clusters of 25-50 on underside of host leaves.
LIFE HISTORY	Unmated adults overwinter under leaves and debris around woodlands and buildings. Adults leave their hiding sites in late March and females oviposit from late April to early June. Larvae feed on roots and stems under the soil where they mature for two to four weeks before pupating. First generation adult emergence occurs from late June to early July. Generally, there are two generations per year, with approximately six to nine weeks required to complete one life cycle, though adults may live up to 200 days in winter.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	Indole, trans-Cinnamaldehyde and 1,2,4-trimethoxybenzene 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	Clean the store between harvests, removing and burning infested residues, immersing grain sacks in boiling water and removing wood from stores or fumigating the store to eliminate residual infestations and the selection of only not infested material for storage. Planting with variety, crop rotation, and early planting are also good preventative measures.	

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