





Technical Bulletin for: Western Bean Cutworm

Loxagrotis albicosta (Smith) • Lepidoptera, Noctuidae • LOXALB



DISTRIBUTION	Across the U.S.
HOSTS	Various, including species of Beans and Maize
DESCRIPTION	
Adult Moth	Wingspan is about 40 mm. Body is about 2 mm in length and light brown. Wings are generally dark brown with distinctive patterns, with forewings have a broad white or cream stripe that runs 2/3 wing length, and hindwings are cream with no markings.
Larvae	
Eggs	Dome shaped with ridges and reticulations. When first laid, the eggs are pearly white, but within two days they turn tan. A few days later they turn a dark purple color just before they hatch.
LIFE HISTORY	The western bean cutworm develops through only a single generation each year. It overwinters as a prepupa within earthen cells formed in the ground. They pupate in May and emerge as moths beginning in late June and early July. Emergence of adults from soil is aided by rainfall and irrigation. Peak moth activity in the High Plains region usually occurs from mid to late July. After mating, eggs are usually laid on either corn or dry beans. Peak egg laying occurs shortly after mating. Eggs are laid in masses of 5-200 with an average of about 50 eggs per mass on the lower surface of bean leaves, in areas with the greatest concentration of foliage. Larvae feed for 30-35 days, going through five instars before dropping to the ground and developing pupation/overwintering chambers

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	Z5-12Ac, Z7-12Ac and 11-12Ac in a Red Rubber Septum. Lure Longevity: Thirty (30) days.	
TRAP TO USE	Red Paper or Plastic Delta Trap	
MONITORING STRATEGY	Hang traps near gardens containing host plants, at least 1 m off of the ground. When trapping for multiple species of insect, spacing traps by up to 20 m is recommended. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Inspect for damage to crops. Remove infested plants as necessary. Do not plant new crop near areas of recent infestation.	

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