





Technical Bulletin for: Tobacco Hornworm

Manduca sexta (Linnaeus) • Lepidoptera, *Sphingidae* • MANSEX



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| DISTRIBUTION | Common in the Southern United States however, range extends as far north as New York. |
| HOSTS | Tomato and tobacco are the primary hosts, can sometimes be found in eggplant, pepper and potato. |
| DESCRIPTION | |
| ADULT MOTH | Dull grayish to grayish-brown in color with wingspan up to 100 mm. |
| LARVAE | Green in color and can be up to 70 mm in length. |
| EGGS | White to light green in color, spherical to oval and about 1.50 mm in diameter. |
| LIFE HISTORY | Females mate one week after they emerge and will usually lay eggs on the underside of leaves. Larvae will feed on host plant until ready to pupate and then will burrow underground. Total life cycle is between 30 and 50 days. There can be 3 generations in Florida but two generations is the norm over most of the range. |

MONITORING INFORMATION

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| LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE | E2-6Ald, E2-6OH, Z3-6OH, Z-11-16Ald, Z-9-16Ald and N-16Ald in a Coaster lure Packet. Field life: forty-five (45) days. |  |
| TRAP TO USE | Red Paper or Plastic Delta Trap or Green/Multi-Color Uni Trap |  |
| MONITORING STRATEGY | In smaller fields, use one trap every 1 to 1 ½ acre. A minimum of two traps should also be used for fields of uneven topography. For larger fields (10 acres or greater) use 1-2 traps per five acres. Traps should be placed at approximately the same height as the crop. Traps should be checked weekly or more frequently, depending on pest population. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations. | |
| CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROLS | Soil tillage practices can result in up to 90% mortality of the pupae. Hand picking larvae is effective in home gardens. | |

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