



# Technical Bulletin for: Sugarbeet Moth

*Scrobipalpia ocellatella* (Boyd) • Lepidoptera, *Gelechiidae* • SCROCE



<b>DISTRIBUTION</b>	Madeira, the Canary Islands, North Africa, most of Europe, the Middle East, Iran, southern European Russia, the Caucasus, as well as Ukraine, Moldova, Republic of Georgia and Turkmenistan
<b>HOSTS</b>	Sea Beet and Sugar Beet.
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	
<b>Adult Moth</b>	The wingspan is 12–14 mm. The forewings are grey-brown, with a yellow pattern and small black spots. The hindwings are light grey.
<b>Larvae</b>	The larvae have a grey green body with vague reddish-brown length lines and a light brown head
<b>Eggs</b>	
<b>LIFE HISTORY</b>	Active in the evening, night and morning hours. The life expectancy of butterflies is 12–18 days. Females lay 2-3 eggs on the underside of the leaves, the aerial part of the root crops, plant remains and lumps of soil. Fertility is 100-150 eggs. Young larvae bore in the midrib. Later, they mine the leaf from a web spun over of the leaf. Caterpillars pass through five instars during the 25–30 days of development. Afterwards, they pupate in the soil at depths of 2-5 cm.

## MONITORING INFORMATION

<b>LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE &amp; FIELD LIFE</b>	E3-12Ac in a Red Rubber Septum. Lure longevity: Thirty (30) days.	
<b>TRAP TO USE</b>	Red Paper or Plastic Delta Trap.	
<b>MONITORING STRATEGY</b>	Hang traps in fields where infestation may be common, at heights of at least 1-1.5m. When trapping for multiple species of moth or insect, traps should be spaced by about 20 m, regardless of field size. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	
<b>CULTURAL &amp; PHYSICAL CONTROL</b>	Plant crops in a high-humidity environment. This is usually achieved with overhead irrigation. Some cultivars of Sugarbeet in Egypt have been found to show some relative tolerance to the pest.	

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