





Technical Bulletin for: Tomato Leafminer

Tuta absoluta • Lepidoptera, Gelechiidae • TUTABS



DISTRIBUTION	Native to South America, however it has spread rapidly to the Mediterranean region and is now present in throughout Europe, Africa, and Asia.
HOSTS	The primary host is tomato, with potato, jimson weed, tree tobacco, black nightshade, eggplant, and Solanum weeds reported as a secondary host.
DESCRIPTION	
ADULT MOTH	5-7 mm in length with a wingspan of 8-10 mm.
LARVAE	Small, yellowish and about 0.5 mm in length. As they mature, larvae become yellow-green and a black band develops behind the head.
EGGS	Creamy white cylindrical about 0.35 mm in length.
LIFE HISTORY	One female may deposit up to 250-260 eggs during her life which are deposited on plant parts above ground. <i>Tuta absoluta</i> are primarily nocturnal with and there are four larval instars before transforming into the pupal stage. The larval instars do not enter diapause when a food source is available.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	E,Z,Z-3,8,11-14Ac and E,Z-3,8-14Ac in a Gray Rubber Septum. Field life: eight(8) weeks.	
TRAP TO USE	Red Paper or Plastic Delta Trap	
MONITORING STRATEGY	In open fields, use 10 to 20 traps per ha. Use 2-3 traps per ha in greenhouses. Check traps at least once per week. For mass trapping use 45-60 lures per hectare of greenhouse or open field. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROLS	Use good cultivation practices – immediately remove and destroy infested leaves, keep weeds clear of the field and use appropriate netting in greenhouse environment.	

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