

● Agricultural Research and Extension on Tree Fruits and Vegetables ●

Sweet Corn Pest Report

Tuesday, July 17

The trap catch data from New Paltz this week indicates that European corn borer and Corn earworm adults are active but the populations remain quite low. Fall armyworm adults have not yet been observed in our traps, however we did capture Western bean cutworm (WBC) adults in low numbers (2 total). A five-day spray interval is recommended when the weekly trap catch is not greater than seven CEW's, (see chart below). Field scouting should be ongoing in all fields that are in the whorl and silk stage for the presence of all three major insect pests.

Trap catches in WNY for all moths were high during the past week with several sites reported European corn borer (ECB)-E and Z. corn earworm (CEW) numbers at three sites in the range requiring a six-day spray interval, and two sites reporting fall armyworm (FAW). Eight sites observed western bean cutworm (WBC) with numbers too low to scout or treat. A field in Tioga county at tassel emergence had both ECB and FAW damage over threshold yet low trap catch numbers from a nearby trap site. Take home message here is the dramatic variability in the pest complex between each site and the need for both individual site traps and diligent scouting. Corn leaf aphids were found in corn at tassel emergence in one site. Treatment threshold is 50% of plants with more than 20 aphids.

Pestwatch indicates increasing CEW in E.L.I. (Mattituck at 6.4 moths per day; Riverhead at 4.0 / day), with central PA showing increasing populations (Allensville 6.8 moths/day).



Corn leaf aphids on tassel with heavy infestations (Right).
From the 'WNY Sweet Corn Pheromone Trap Network Report'.

The insect damage threshold for fresh market sweet corn in the silk stage is 5%.

Per Day	Per Five Days	Per Week	Days Between Sprays
<0.2	<1.0	<1.4	No Spray(for CEW)
0.2-0.5	1.0-2.5	1.4-3.5	6 days
0.5-1.0	2.5-5.0	3.5-7.0	5 days
1-13	5-65	7-91	4 days
over 13	over 65	over 91	3 days



ECB "window pane" damage



ECB feeding on emerging tassel



ECB pinhole damage



CEW and FAW feeding damage

**2013 European corn borer (ECB), Fall Armyworm (FAW), and
Corn Earworm (CEW) Adult Flight Data
Wallkill View Farms, New Paltz, NY**

