2022 True Armyworm (TAW) Trapping and Reporting Instructions

True armyworm (TAW) moths migrate to Ontario in early spring and prefer to lay their eggs in grassy vegetation including grassy weeds, cereals, grass forages and rye cover crop. Corn, especially if under seeded with rye, grassy forages and winter wheat are at risk of the early spring (first generation) while spring cereals and grassy forages are more at risk of second generation (late June-

Trap Set Up Instructions

1. Use 1 bucket traps (All White or Yellow and White versions) per field. Do not reuse a bucket trap used to monitor other pests in previous years. Set up traps in early April and monitor until the end of July. There are two peak flights (two generations).

2. Position the trap on the prevailing wind side, along the edge of the field. This ensures that the pheromone plume will carry into the field being monitoring.

3. Mount the trap so that it hangs from a stake or T bar so that the bottom of the trap is only 1 metre above the ground (Fig. 1).

4. One lure is placed inside the small cage area (Fig. 2) hanging from the roof of the bucket trap while the vapour strip is taped on the bottom or inside wall of the bucket (Fig.3). Use gloves when handling the lures or vapour strips. Change the lure every 2 weeks. Discard spent lures back home or the office (not in the field).

Figure 1. TAW Bucket Trap is set up to hang 1 metre from the ground, along the fields’ edge.

Figure 2. Pheromone lure is placed inside the cage above the funnel and is changed every two weeks.

Figure 3. Vapour strip is taped inside the bottom or side of the bucket and lasts the entire season.

Trap Monitoring and Reporting Instructions

1. Traps should be checked at least weekly. Enter trap site info and weekly trap counts into the Great Lakes and Maritimes Pest Monitoring Network: https://arcg.is/0Lry5a

2. The “Instructions” tab on the site explains step by step how to enter trap sites and weekly counts.

3. As we approach peak flight, traps may need to be checked more than once a week so that moths are still easy to identify and have not lost all of their markings.

4. Change the BCW pheromone lures every 2 weeks so that the pheromone plume is strong enough to attract the moths to the trap. Discard the spent lure back at the office or at home.
True Armyworm (TAW) Trap Supply Checklist:

- 1 Yellow and White or All White Bucket trap per field (All White preferred to reduce risk of bee captures)
- 10 TAW pheromone lures per field per year (changed every 2 weeks)
- Fumigant or Vapor strip (one - two strips per trap per season)
- 1 six to seven-foot tall wooden stake or metal T-post
- Large Zip tie to hold the trap to the stake
- Box of disposable gloves – change every time you handle a lure
- Ziploc bags

Canadian TAW Trap Supply Company

distributions Solida 480, rang Saint-Antoine Saint-Ferréol-les-Neiges, Québec G0A 3R0 Tel.: 418 826-0900 http://www.solida.ca/

- Yellow and White Bucket or Universal Trap – Item #301Y601
- TAW Pheromone Lures – Trece brand only Item # 3010216 – also available in packs of 12
- Vapour Tape II – Item # 301H800 - available as individual strips or in cases of 50

US TAW Trap Supply Company

Great Lakes IPM Inc. 7563 N Crystal Rd. Vestaburg, Michigan 48891 Tel: 800-235-0285 https://www.greatlakesipm.com/

- Yellow and White or All White Bucket or Universal Trap
  - Y and W - Item # GL/IP-2352-03 (for 3) or Item # GL/IP- 2352-25 (for 25)
  - All White – Item #GL/IP-2353-03 (for 3) or Item # GL/IP-2353-25 (for 25)
- TAW Pheromone Lure – Two Brands Available – Scentry or Trece
  - Scentry brand TAW Lures Item # GL/SC-3205-12
  - Trece brand TAW Lures Item # GL/TR-3205-25 – for pack of 25
- Vapor Strips* (Hercon Vaporstrip) 1” x 4” Strip
  - Item # HC-8001 (for 1) HC-8001 – 50 (for 50 case)

*Note: Vapour strips can not be shipped across the border to Canada. Use the Canadian supplier in this situation.

Unused lures can be used the following year if stored properly in the freezer when not in use.

The is only a partial list of trap supply companies. This list does not imply any endorsement.
True armyworm moths are light reddish-brown in colour. They are the same size as western bean cutworm moths (4 cm long). They have angular appearance to them with faint lines running down the middle of each wing with a white dot near the end of the lines. Antennae are thin and hair like.

Photo credit: J. Gavloski, Manitoba Agriculture.