

2022 Western Bean Cutworm (WBC) Trapping and Reporting Instructions

Pheromone traps are used to monitor for and when scouting is critical. Corn fields approaching pre-tassel to full tassel stages are most attractive to the females depositing their eggs. Monitoring traps and paying attention to crop stage each week can help you determine which fields are most at risk and should be scouted first. If corn in the area is in brown silk stage, moths will instead deposit eggs in dry beans, if available or later planted corn fields that are still in the ideal growth stages. Ideally scout the same fields for three consecutive weeks.

Trap Set Up Instructions

1. Use 1 trap per corn field, 2 traps per dry bean field.
2. Traps should be monitored at least weekly starting in early June until late August or early September. As peak flight approaches, monitor the traps more frequently as the buckets can fill up quickly and moths can rub against each other losing their markings used to identify them.
3. Position the trap on the prevailing wind side of the corn field, along the edge but not within the corn rows. This ensures that the pheromone plume will carry into the field being monitoring. For dry beans, place two traps, each on opposite's sides of the field (or at least 50 metre apart from each other).
4. Mount the trap so that it hangs from a stake or T bar so that the bottom of the trap is 4 feet above the ground (Fig. 1).
5. One lure is placed inside the small cage area (Fig. 2) hanging from the roof of the bucket trap while the vapour strip is placed inside at the bottom of the bucket (Fig.3). Discard spent lures back home or the office (not in the field). **Change the lures every 3 weeks.**



Figure 1. WBC Bucket Trap is set up to hang 4 feet from the ground, along the fields' edge.



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



Figure 3. Vapour strip is taped inside the bottom 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 WBC pheromone lures **every 3 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.

WBC Moth Look A Likes



Western bean cutworm

Long triangle shape with white bands along wing margin and a moon and boomerang marking on each wing. J. Smith, UGRC

Dingy cutworm

Similar shape as WBC (long triangle) but has a hill instead of a full moon on its wing. John Davis, Bugguide.net

Yellow Striped Armyworm

Wide triangle shape. More markings than WBC. No full moon or boomerang markings. MJ Hatfield, Bugguide.net

Large Yellow Underwing

Wide triangle shape. No white bands along wing margin. Very yellow or orange underwings. Jim Moore, Bugguide.net



What WBC really look like in the trap. WBC moths lose their wing markings the longer they are in the trap. Find the freshest moths in the trap to ID. If most of the moths are the same long triangle shape as the ones that you can ID, they are all likely WBC. T. Baute, OMAFRA

WBC Trap Supply List:

For *each* WBC trap, you will need:

- All Green Bucket or Universal Trap (1 per corn field, two per dry bean field)
- WBC Pheromone Lures (five lures per trap per season = 15 weeks of monitoring)
- Fumigant or Vapor strip (one - two strips per trap per season)
- 6 foot wooden stake or metal t-bar from your local lumber or hardware store (one per trap)
- Long zip tie, bracket or other means to hold or hang the trap from the stake/t-bar (see images for suggestions)
- Disposable gloves
- Ziploc bags

WBC Trap Supply Companies

Canadian WBC Trap Supply Company

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

- All Green Bucket or Unitrap** – <http://solida.quebec/index.php/grandes-cultures-insectes-ravageurs/grandes-cultures-pieges/?lang=en#unitrap> **Item #301Y602**
- WBC Pheromone Lures** – Scentry brand only **Item # 3010206** – also available in packs of 12
- Vapour Tape** – **Item # 301H800** - available as individual strips or in cases of 50

US WBC Trap Supply Company

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

- All Green Bucket or Universal Trap**
<http://www.greatlakesipm.com/universalmothtraps.html> **Item # GL/IP-2351-03** (3 traps) or **Item # GL/IP-2351-25** (for case of 25 traps)
- WBC Pheromone Lure – Two Brands Available – Scentry or Trece**
 - Scentry brand WBC Lures **Item # GL/SC-3406-12** - also available in packs of 12 lures or
 - Trece brand WBC Lures **Item # GL/TR-3406-25** – for pack of 25 lures
- 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. Unused lures can be used the following year if stored properly in the freezer when not in use.