



Pest e-alerts



*Entomology and Plant Pathology, Oklahoma State University
127 Noble Research Center, Stillwater, OK 74078
405.744.5527*

Vol. 19, No. 07

<http://entopl.okstate.edu/pddl/pdidl>

03/12/2020

Army Cutworms Still a Threat in Wheat, Canola, and Alfalfa Fields.

Tom A. Royer, Extension Entomologist and IPM Coordinator

Kelly Seuchs, Associate Extension Specialist

Department of Entomology & Plant Pathology

Oklahoma State University - 127 Noble Research Center

405-744-9958



Amazing what a month of feeding can do for army cutworms. I wrote an article on Feb 12 reporting army cutworm infestations being reported in parts of Oklahoma by Lanie Hale, Rob Anderson, and Mike Rosen of Wheeler Brothers and Area Extension Agronomist Heath Sanders. Since then, I have received reports from as far as Abilene TX and additional reports from Lanie Hale army cutworms infesting wheat and alfalfa. I even have a photo taken by Jay Lohmann near Alva of a “nest” of army cutworms that congregated in a badger hole.

Unfortunately, these cutworms have had a month to grow, and are now bigger and hungrier. Because of their present size, I recommend a threshold of 2-3 per row foot in wheat. Current recommendations for army cutworm control products in small grains are listed in CR-7194, *Management of Insect and Mite Pests in Small Grains*.

The suggested treatment threshold for cutworms in canola is 1-2 per row-foot. Current recommendations for control products for army cutworms in canola are listed in CR-7667, *Management of Insect and Mite Pests in Canola*.

In newly seeded alfalfa, the threshold is 1-2 larvae per square foot. In established alfalfa fields, the threshold is 2-4 larvae per square foot and should be adjusted based on the size of the caterpillars (2-3 per square foot if caterpillars are more than ½ inches, 3-4 per square foot if less than ½ inches). Current recommendations for control products for army cutworms in alfalfa are listed in CR-7150, *Alfalfa Forage Insect Control*.



Co-Editors: Eric Rebek and Justin Talley; Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service

The pesticide information presented in this publication was current with federal and state regulations at the time of printing. The user is responsible for determining that the intended use is consistent with the label of the product being used. Use pesticides safely. Read and follow label directions. The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Cooperative Extension Service is implied.

Oklahoma State University, in compliance with Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Higher Education Act), the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other federal and state laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, genetic information, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, or status as a veteran, in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This provision includes, but is not limited to admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services. The Director of Equal Opportunity, 408 Whitehurst, OSU, Stillwater, OK 74078-1035; Phone 405-744-5371; email: eeo@okstate.edu has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Director of Equal Opportunity. Any person (student, faculty, or staff) who believes that discriminatory practices have been engaged in based on gender may discuss his or her concerns and file informal or formal complaints of possible violations of Title IX with OSU's Title IX Coordinator 405-744-9154.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director of Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma. This publication is issued by Oklahoma State University as authorized by the Vice President, Dean, and Director of the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.