Time to Scout for Corn Rootworm Larvae

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Abstract
Reports from neighboring states have indicated corn rootworm larval hatch for 2009. June 6 has been considered an average hatch date in Iowa, so first and second instars should be actively feeding if present. This is the time to apply a rescue treatment for corn rootworm, and scouting will help determine if action is necessary.

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Time to Scout for Corn Rootworm Larvae

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There have been reported failures of Bt corn in Iowa, so we recommend scouting every field every year to ensure root protection. Of course Bt fields require a refuge, and that is where larvae are more likely feeding. If an average of one or more larvae per plant is found, a rescue insecticide should be considered.

There are limited products registered in Iowa for corn rootworm larvae after corn emergence (Table 1). Follow label directions and pay attention to spray guidelines. Post-emergent insecticides applied after the end of June will not be as effective because most of the root injury will have occurred already.

Table 1. Labeled post-emergent insecticides for corn rootworm larvae.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product (active ingredient)</th>
<th>Application rate</th>
<th>Preharvest interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Furadan 4F* (carbafuran)</td>
<td>2 pints/ac*</td>
<td>30 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorsban 15G* (chlorpyrifos)</td>
<td>8 oz/1000 row ft</td>
<td>21 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Restricted use pesticide.

Please see ICM News article on Furadan and residues for 2010 and beyond.

Three additional resources that may be of interest for corn rootworm management are:
The Corn Rootworm Home Page
Interactive Node-Injury Scale
Evaluation of corn rootworm hybrids

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