

IPM CORN ROOTWORM TRAPS

1. Open the trap like a book and invert so the sticky yellow surface faces outward. The color of the trap is visually attractive to a number of pests; therefore, no additional bait is needed.
2. When placed on a stake or plant stalk, traps should be wrapped around the stake or stalk.
3. Push the arrow-shaped tabs (A) at top and bottom through the square knockouts (B) on the outside edge to secure the trap in an open position.
4. A wire clip can be pushed through the small round knockouts (C) at the top of the trap for securing to a stake. In corn, lace traps inside a leaf whorl at ear height.
5. Check the traps regularly at least twice a week. Record and remove captured insects. Replace traps when necessary.

Adult root worms are present in corn fields during all of August, but trap catches vary from week to week. During 2 years research, the number of beetles collected per square centimeter of trap surface area increased weekly from the first week of August to the first week of September.

The increased trap catch during late August and early September may be due to increased beetle activity as they search for additional feeding and egg laying sites.

The most efficient use of the traps would be to place them in the fields during the last 2 weeks of August and the first week of September. Twelve traps should be evenly spaced throughout the field and no closer than 100 feet from the edge of the field. Fields with different maturity dates or widely separated planting dates, should probably be trapped separately. The trap should be placed around the corn stalk at ear height on a plant that has the ear and leaves removed. A nail can be used to secure the trap to the stalk. Each row that has a trap should be flagged so the trap can be easily located the following week. Traps should be left in the field for seven days, and replaced on a weekly basis if the threshold has not been exceeded. An economic threshold for the yellow sticky traps is 29 beetles per trap per week in continuous corn of 17 beetles per trap per week in first year corn that will be planted to corn the following year. If more than 29 (or 17) beetles are collected per trap per week, then the field should be considered to have the potential for economic damage. If trap catches are below these numbers, then a soil insecticide should not be needed the following spring or the field would not have to be rotated out of corn.

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