



Newly hatched western bean cutworm larvae. (Marlin E. Rice)

Start scouting for the western bean cutworm in mid-July. In corn, check 20 consecutive plants at five locations. The University of Nebraska recommends that if 8 percent of the plants have an egg mass or if young larvae are found in the tassel, consider applying an insecticide. Timing of the application is critical. If the tassel has not emerged when the larvae hatch, they will move into the whorl and feed on the developing pollen grains in the tassel. As the tassel emerges, the larvae will move down the plant to the green silks and then into the silk channel to feed on the developing ear.

If an insecticide is needed, apply it when 90 to 95 percent tassel has emerged. If the tassels have already emerged, the application should be timed for when 70–90 percent of the larvae have hatched. Once the larvae reach the ear tip, control is nearly impossible. If an insecticide application is needed, corn fields should be checked for the presence of spider mite colonies. If mites are found, select a product that does not stimulate mite flare-ups (increased population growth).

Insecticides labeled for western bean cutworm in field corn

Insecticide	Rate/Acre	Comments
Ambush*	3.2–6.4 oz	May cause mite flare-up.
Asana XL*	2.9–5.8 oz	May cause mite flare-up.
Baythroid 2*	2.1–2.8 oz	
Capture 2EC*	2.1–6.4 oz	
Lorsban 4E*	1–2 pt	
Mustang Max*	1.76–4.0 oz	
PennCap M*	2–4 pt	
Pounce 3.2EC*	2–4 oz	May cause mite flare-up.
Sevin XLR Plus	2 qt	
Warrior*	1.92–3.2 oz	

*Restricted-use insecticide

Marlin E. Rice is a professor of entomology with extension and research responsibilities in field and forage crops. Rich Pope is an extension program specialist in entomology with responsibilities in integrated pest management. Carol Pilcher is an instructor and extension program specialist in entomology with responsibilities in pest management and the environment.

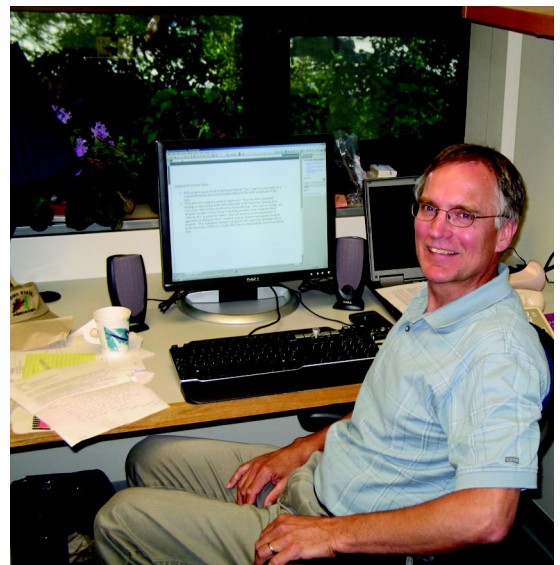
Elmore now on the job at Iowa State University

Roger Elmore, the new corn extension specialist at Iowa State University, began work on July 1. Elmore was previously a professor of agronomy and horticulture at the University of Nebraska. He received his bachelor's degree in agriculture from Illinois State and his master's and doctorate degrees from the University of Illinois in agronomy.

Elmore is a fellow of the American Society of Agronomy and an active member of several professional organizations including the Crop Science Society of America and the Nebraska Cooperative Extension Association. He has served as an associate editor for the *Journal of Production Agriculture* and the *Agronomy Journal*.

Elmore has worked internationally over the years with projects in Ghana, China, Argentina, and Puerto Rico. He also served with the Peace Corps in Malaysia. His international work provided him with a unique perspective on corn production and agricultural systems, and has made a profound impact on his extension and research philosophy as well as his philosophy about life in general.

The staff at the *ICM Newsletter* welcome Elmore to Iowa State.



Roger Elmore settles in at Iowa State. (Rich Pope)