



# Pheromone Chemicals

The name you can always trust

Mfrs: **Pheromone Traps, Lures, Yellow sticky traps**

***Scirpophaga excerptalis*** (Top borer, sugar cane top borer, top shoot borer)

**Host:** Mainly a pest of Sugarcane. Other hosts include: Mango, Sorghum, and Wheat.

**Distribution:** Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Harayana, Punjab, Maharashtra, Andra Pradesh, and Tamilnadu

**Damage:** The young larvae tunnel through the unexpanded leaves and cause a series of holes to appear across the blade of the unfolded leaf. Old, infested plants show irregular, yellow patches on the underside of some leaves. The larvae attack the growing point and continue to tunnel into the main stem of the plant. The 3<sup>rd</sup> generation causes the highest losses in cane yield, sucrose and commercial sugar. Common symptoms of infestation are the appearance of parallel rows of shot holes on leaves, a red streak caused by mining the inside of the midrib, dead hearts and a bunched top appearance of shoots. Adult moths are characterized by both wings being white in both sexes on both upper and lower sides. Females have characteristic orange-red anal tufts not found in any other *Scirpophaga* species.



## **Economic impact**

*Scirpophaga excerptalis* is considered to be a major pest of sugarcane in many parts of India. Reductions in yield and sugar contents of up to 51% and 2.0 units, respectively, were recorded in Indian cane fields (Pandey *et al.* 1997a; Madan *et al.* 1999). In a study in Karnal, India, during the 1997-98 and 1998-99 seasons, sugarcane infestation by *S. excerptalis* resulted in 30.08% weight loss and decreased cane length by 24.39% (Madan & Singh 2001). In Uttar Pradesh, India, a study by Singh & Singh (1997) recorded reductions in cane stalk length by up to 68.0%, the number of internodes by up to 67%, cane weight by up to 86%, and CCS by up to 25.90% due to borer infestation.

**Yield loss:** 21-37%

**Sugar recovery:** 0.2 to 4.1%

Use Pheromone Traps from 1 month crop stage @ 4 – 6 No's per acre to control pest at early stage.

Trap canopy should be placed one foot above crop canopy to achieve optimum catch.

Always use Phero – Sensor<sup>TM</sup> – SP / BP for best results.

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