



# Pheromone Chemicals

The name you can always trust

Mfrs: Pheromone Traps, Lures, Yellow sticky traps

## *Plodia interpunctella* (Indian meal moth)

The Indian meal moth, *Plodia interpunctella*, is a very common household and retail pest of stored food products, particularly cereal products.

**Host range:** Maize, cereals, dry fruits, dried vegetables, dried milk, Chocolate, Spices, bird seed, groundnuts and has presence all over the world.



## Nature of Damage

Larva causes serious damage to ear and grain of maize; contaminates the grain with excreta, cast skins, webbings, dead individuals and cocoons; prefers to eat the germ portion and hence grains lose viability. Most of the damage to stored products occurs when the larvae spin massive amounts of silk that accumulate faecal pellets, cast skins, and egg shells in food products. Damage due to this contamination exceeds the amount of food eaten by the larvae

It feeds superficially but may construct more than one silken tunnel.

The presence of silken threads or clumps or food particles in a processed cereal product such as white rice or rolled oats usually indicates a larval infestation of *Plodia interpunctella*.

*P. interpunctella* is attracted to food sources by food odors. Females start laying eggs up to 400 eggs into or adjacent to food within 3 days of emergence, usually at night. Within a few hours of hatching, larvae (which are external feeders) begin to feed, trailing a silken thread.

There are 5-7 larval instars. The last instar larvae may enter diapause in temperate or cooler areas and remain inactive for several months until conditions improve. Moth will emerge in Spring when temperature and day length have increased.

Adults do not feed and are generally short-lived - around 7 days. Optimum conditions for development are around 30-35°C and 70-80%RH but infestations may be sustained at temperatures as low as 15°C and relative humidity of 25%. The shortest incubation time for eggs is 4-5 days, but the time for full development depends on food source and other variables. The

---

# 404, Arpitha Heights, St.No.1, HMT Nagar, Nacharam, Hyderabad – 500 076, India

Tel: +91-40-27176019, Cell: +91-94408 97918

E-mail: PheromoneChemicals@gmail.com, Web: www.pheromonechemicals.in



# Pheromone Chemicals

The name you can always trust

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

maximum rate of population increase is about 60 times per month. Larvae develop more easily on broken seeds rather than whole ones as the pericarp offers a barrier to attack by larvae.

Use Pheromone Traps for monitoring and control before infestation starts.

Trap should be placed at corners and above food racks to achieve optimum catch.

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