Agrotis ipsilon (Black cutworm) – The greasy cutworm, black cutworm is a small noctuid occurring worldwide. The origin of black cutworm is uncertain, though it is now found in many regions of the world, being absent principally from some tropical regions and cold areas. It is more widespread, and damaging, in the northern hemisphere than the southern hemisphere. It annually reinvades temperate areas, overwintering in warmer or subtropical regions.

Long distance dispersal of adults has long been suspected in Europe, China, and North America. The basic pattern is to move north in the spring, and south in the autumn. Studies in the United States demonstrated northward displacement of moths during the spring in the range of 1000 km in two to four days when assisted by northward flowing wind. Similar displacement to the south and southwest has been documented in the autumn.

Duration of the life cycle is normally 35 to 60 days. The adult is fairly large in size, with a wingspan of 40 to 55 mm. The adult preoviposition period is about seven to 10 days. Moths select low-growing broadleaf plants preferentially for oviposition. The eggs normally are deposited in clusters on foliage. Females may deposit 1200 to 1900 eggs. Duration of the egg stage is three to six days.

Host Plants (Back to Top)

Black cutworm has a wide host range. Nearly all vegetables can be consumed, and this species also feeds on alfalfa, clover, cotton, rice, sorghum, strawberry, sugarbeet, tobacco, Corn and sometimes grains and grasses. In the midwestern. The preference by black cutworm for weeds is sometimes quite pronounced, and crops will be attacked only after the weeds are consumed. Adults feed on nectar from flowers.

Damage (Back to Top)

This species occurs frequently in many crops, and is one of the best-known cutworms. Despite the frequency of occurrence, however, it tends not to appear in great abundance, as is known in some other cutworms and armyworms. Black cutworm is not considered to be a climbing cutworm, most of the feeding occurring at soil level. However, larvae will feed aboveground

until about the fourth instar. Larvae can consume over 400 sq cm of foliage during their development, but over 80% occurs during the terminal instar, and about 10% in the instar immediately preceding the last. Thus, little foliage loss occurs during the early stages of development. Once the fourth instar is attained, larvae can do considerable damage by severing young plants, and a larva may cut several plants in a single night. Plants tend to outgrow their susceptibility to injury. Corn at the one-leaf stage is very susceptible to damage, but that by the 4 or 5-leaf stage plant yield was not reduced by larval feeding. Leaf feeding and cutting above the soil line are less damaging to corn than cutting at the soil surface. Subterranean damage is very injurious.

ETL for Agrotis ipsilon is 15 – 20 No's of moths per trap per day.

Use Pheromone Traps from 15 days crop stage @ 8 No's per acre to control pest at early stage.

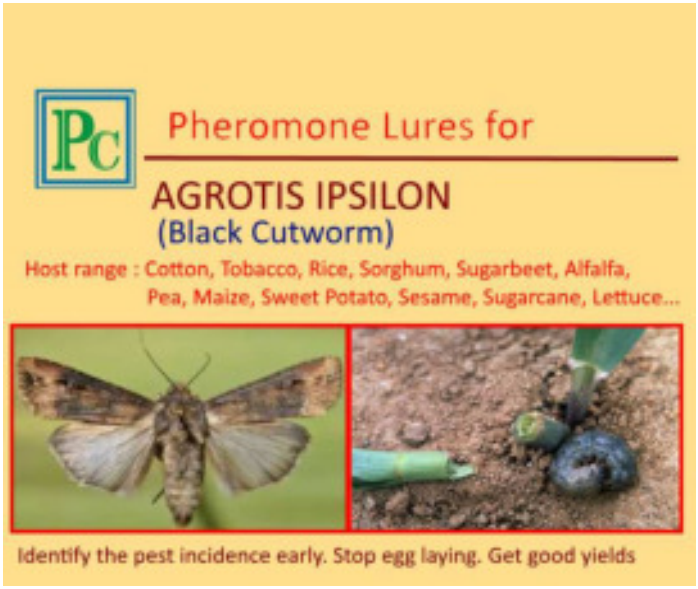
Trap canopy should be placed one feet above crop canopy to achieve optimum catch.

Lure Specifications:

1. Lures made of Virgin Silicone rubber for uniform release and long life
2. Minimum pheromone loading assured is 2 mg per lure
3. Shelf life of 18 months from date of manufacturing date at room temperature
4. Field efficacy will be 30-45 days after installation in field
5. Packed in trilaminated aluminum foil (LD, Aluminum, Polyester)
6. Lures will attract target pest species only

Use 8 No's of traps per acre.

Always use Phero – Sensor ™ – SP / BP for best results



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