Avoiding Train wrecks: Monitoring and Managing Corn Rootworms

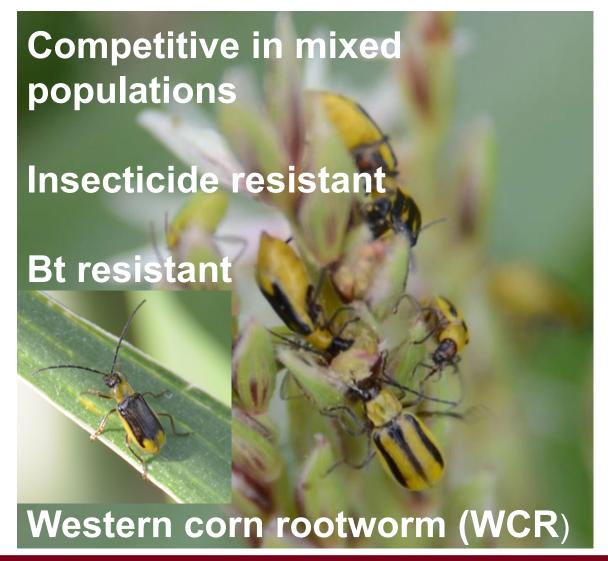
Bruce Potter

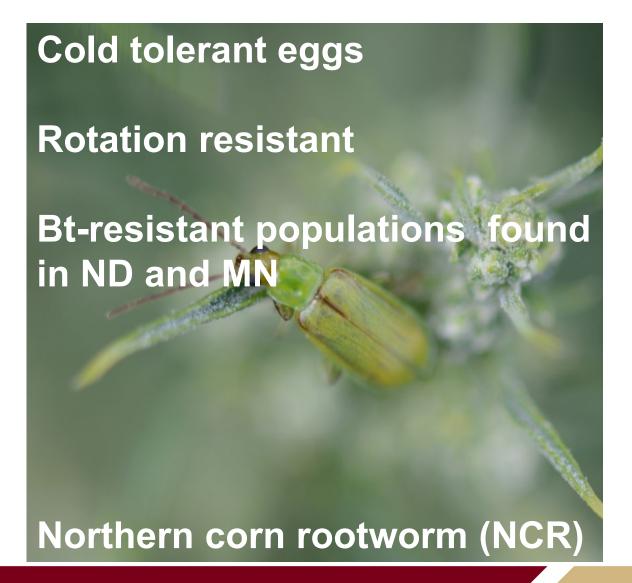
UMN Extension IPM Specialist

bpotter@umn.edu

(507) 276-1184

A tale of two rootworms





Managing corn rootworms

What are you trying to manage?

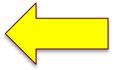
- Lodging/harvest efficiency
- Yield
- Economics
- RW Populations
- Resistance

Your Tools

- Crop rotation
- ✓ Hybrid selection

 Root architecture

 RW Traits



- ✓ Insecticide
 - Seed-applied
 - At-plant
 - Adult control
- ✓ Knowledge

Heat matters

Winter egg mortality

- Temperature and duration
- WCR mortality begins < 20° F
- At 0.5° F WCR 100%, NCR 20-50%

Egg development (WCR)

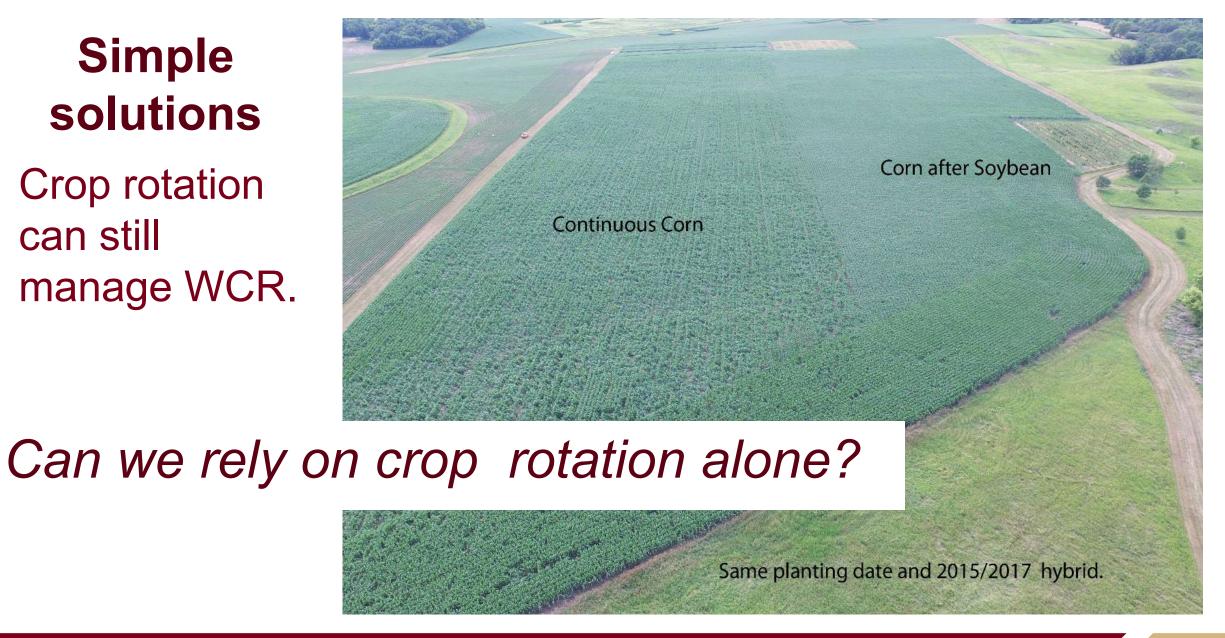
- Begins at ~ 52° F
- 380 DDs egg hatch begins
- 684-767 DDs 50% hatch
- Geographic differences



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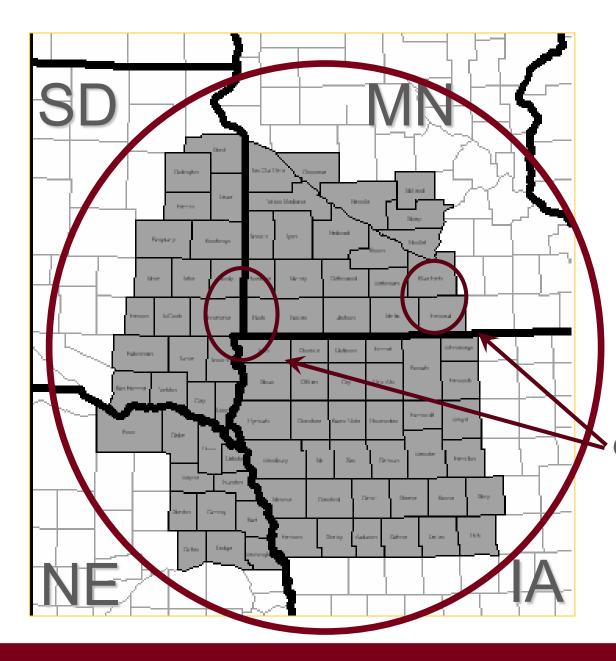
Simple solutions

Crop rotation can still manage WCR.



What is NCR extended diapause?

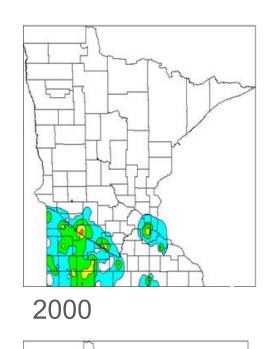
Biggers, 1932
Boetel, et al., 1992
Fisher, et al., 1994
Branson, 1976
Gustin, 1984
Krysan, 1978, 1982
Krysan et al, 1984
Levine, et al., 1992
Ostlie, 1987
Shaw. 1978

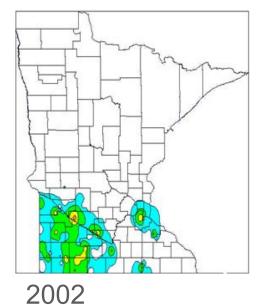


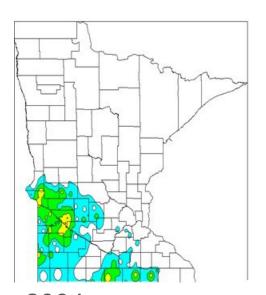
Where does NCR extended diapause occur?

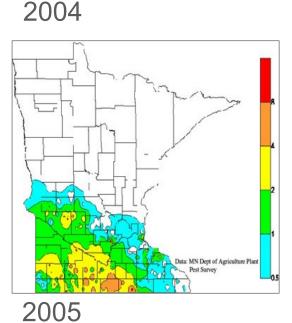
Original Problem Areas (1970s)

Figure from Ostlie 2005









Extended diapause

Genetic trait

Temporal and spatial fluctuation

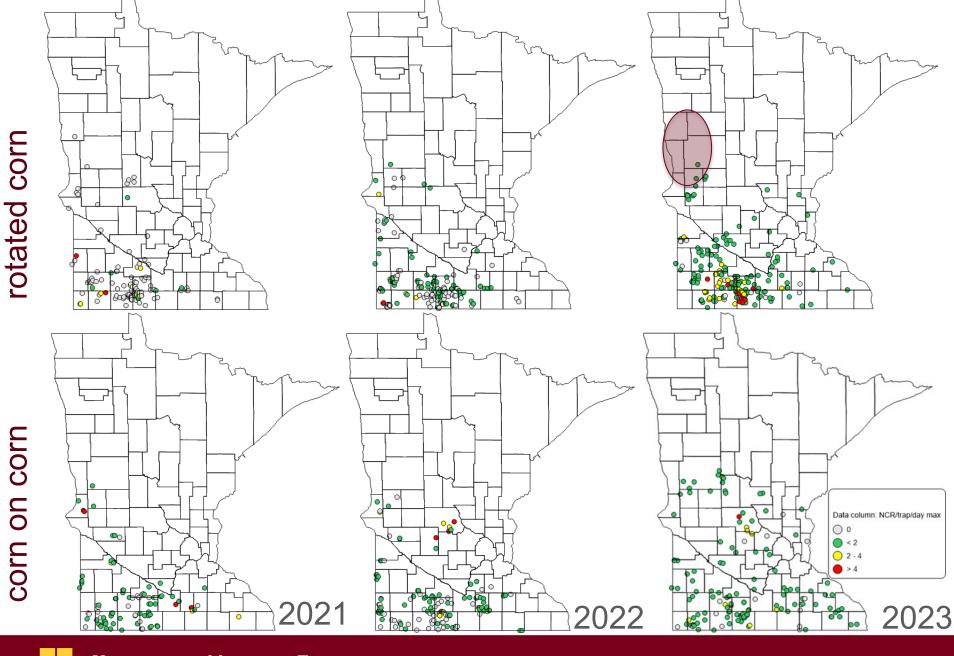
SW and SC MN ~1979 -1986

SW, SC, C, and WC MN ~1999 – 2006

SW, SC, C, WC* MN 2021-?

2001

2003



NCR beetles (#/trap/day)

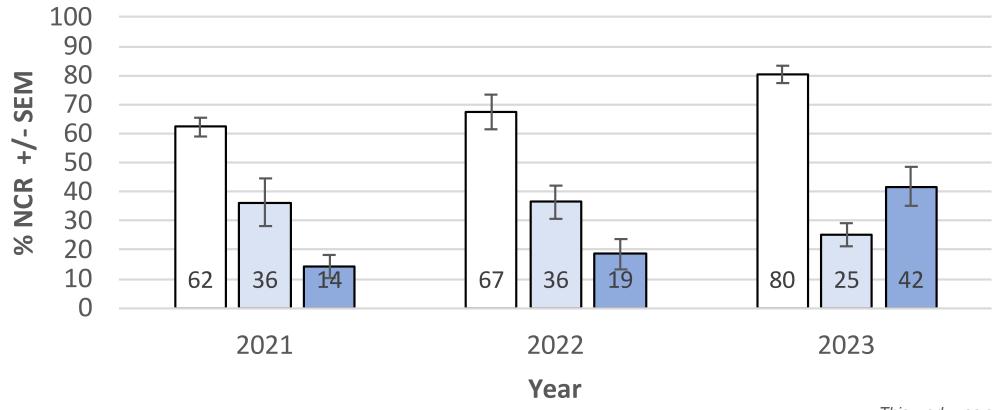
MN cooperative trap network (2021-2023)

This work was supported, in part by the farm families of Minnesota and their corn checkoff investment



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Crop rotation and effect on CRW complex



□ 1 year □ 2 years □ 3 yrs or more

This work was supported, in part by the farm families of Minnesota and their corn checkoff investment



ED- Why not just plant more Bt?





The Handy Bt Trait Table

Updated 2 February 2023

for U.S. Corn Production

Michigan State University Texas A&M University

Complied by Chris DiFonzo Web site hosting by Pat Porter The most up-to-date version of this table plus related extension materials are free online at:

https://www.texasinsects.org/bt-corn-trait-table.html Questions? Comments? Complaints? difonzo@msu.edu

The Handy Bt Trait Table provides a helpful list of trait packages to make it easier to understand seed guides, sales materials, and bag tags.

The big change for 2023: The table increased from one to two pages. Companies continue to recombine existing insect modes of action, rename trait stacks (as Syngenta did for 2023), and add Enlist technology (providing tolerance to 2,4-D and fops herbicides) to existing hybrid packages. Each new combination and new name increased the length of the table. The font size and spacing on the one-page version decreased to a point where it was too small. To remedy this, I flow the 2023 table over two pages. Where possible, the font size increased, and a new column was added for bag tag letter codes. For those who need it, the table of 'transformation events', on page 1 of previous tables, has moved online.

I am often asked why older trait packages, with limited or no commercial availability, remain on the table. This is for historical reference, so you can look back and interpret previous year's planting records, seed guides, and research results. Also, companies often refer to older trait stack names in current seed guides (e.g. 'AwesomeSeed's new XYZ Pro is a combination of trait packages A, B, and C'). Thus, the Handy Bt Trait Table is a one-stop shop for both past and present Bt hybrid information.

Α	BBRE	VIAT	IONS	in the	TRAIT	TABLE

Insect Pest Targets

BCW black cutworm
CEW corn earworm
CRW corn rootworm
ECB European corn borer

FAW fall armyworm

NCR northern corn rootworm

SB stalk borer SCB sugarcane

SCB sugarcane borer
SWCB southwestern corn borer

TAW true armyworm

WBC western bean cutworm

WCR western corn rootworm

Herbicide Tolerance

GLY glyphosate / Roundup-Ready LL glufosinate / Liberty Link

2,4D 2,4-D

fops group 1 'fops'

Trait packages, listed A-Z = former name if applicable	Bag- tag Code	Toxins in package ********** Font type denotes target: caterpillar or rootworm	c		C E	E C	F A	s		s C	s w	T	l I	N B	C R W	Resistance cases for all Bts in package	Non-Bt refuge cornbelt			cide ince
AcreMax	AM	Cry1Ab - Cry1F)	ĸ	Х	X	X)	(X	Х					CEW FAW WBC	5% in bag	GLY	LL	
AcreMax CRW	AMRW	Cry34Ab1 - Cry35Ab1	\top	1				Г							X	NCR WCR	10% in bag	GLY	LL	
AcreMax1	AM1	Cry1F - Cry34Ab1 - Cry35Ab1)	ĸ		X	X)	۲	X	X				X	ECB FAW NCR SWCB WBC WCR	10% in bag 20% ECB	GLY	LL	
AcreMax Leptra	AML	Cry1Ab - Cry1F - Vip3A)	ĸ	Х	X	х)	(X	Х		x	X			5% in bag	GLY	LI	
AcreMax TRIsect	AMT	Cry1Ab - Cry1F - mCry3A	,	ĸ	Х	x	х)	۲,	х	х				X	CEW FAW WBC	10% in bag	GLY	' LI	

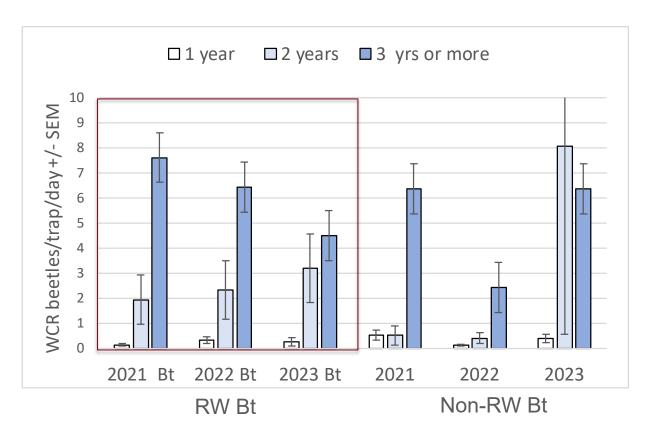
The Handy Bt Trait Table for Bt and RNAi traits in corn hybrid trait packages

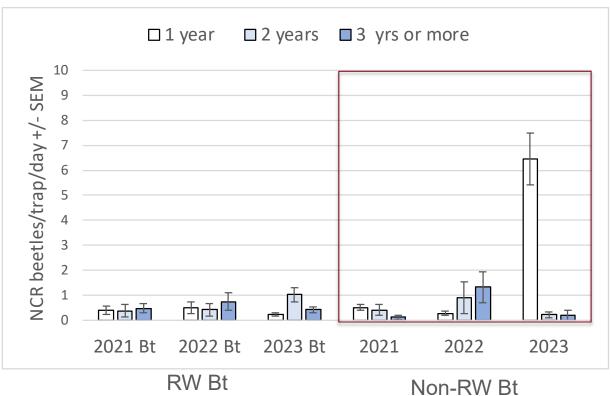
- Herbicide tolerance
- Insects Controlled
- Documented insect resistance



Effect of crop rotation (and Bt) on CRW

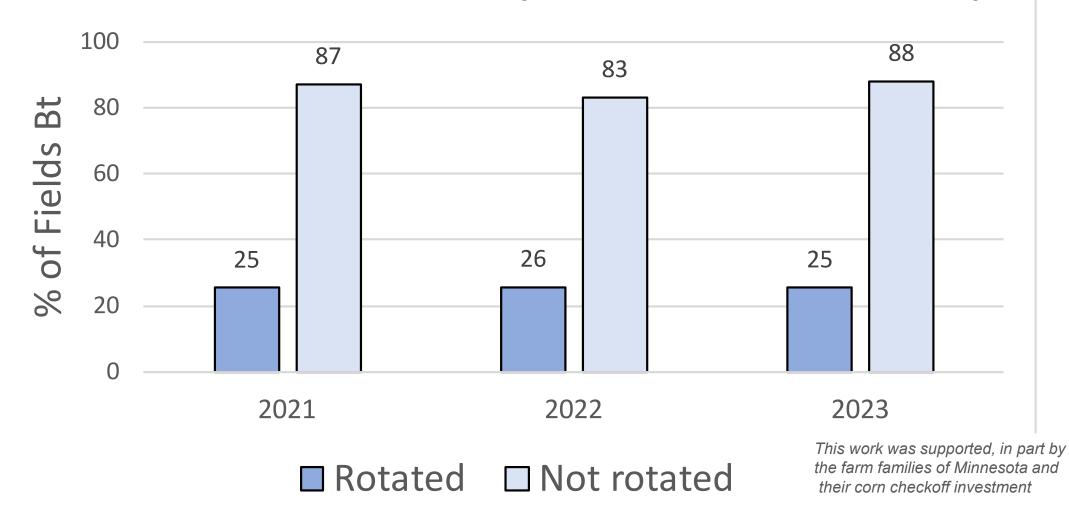
MN cooperative trap network





This work was supported, in part by the farm families of Minnesota and their corn checkoff investment

Bt-RW Placement (Select Southern MN trap sites)





Commercialization timeline (USA)						
Year Protein toxin(s)/Trait						
2003	Cry3Bb1					
2003	YieldGard RW(in VT3P)					
2006	Cry34/35Ab1					
2000	Herculex RW					
2007	mCry3A					
2007	Agrisure RW					
2010	Cry3Bb1 + Cry34/35Ab1					
2010	SmartStax					
2012	mCry3A + Cry34/35Ab1					
2012	AcreMax Extreme					
2014	mCry3A + eCry3.1Ab1					
2014	Duracade					
2022	Cry3Bb1 + Cry34/35Ab1 + DvSnf7					
2022	SmartStax Pro					

WCR Field-evolved resistance

2009 - *Cry3Bb1* resistance was documented in IA field populations only *six years after*

release! (Gassmann et al. 2011)

2011 NE (Wangila et al. 2015)

MN (Zukoff et al. 2016)

2016* ND (Calles-Torrez et al. 2019).

Cry3 cross-resistance

2011 IA (Gassmann et al. 2014)

MN (Zuckoff et al. 2016)

Cry3Bb1 + Cry34/35Ab1 resistance

2013 MN (Ludwig, et al. 2017)

2016 ND (Calles-Torrez et al. 2019)

2017 IA (Gassmann et al. 2019)

2018 NE (Reinders et al. 2021)

Com	mercialization timeline (USA)						
Year	ear Protein toxin(s)/Trait						
2003	Cry3Bb1						
2003	YieldGard RW(in VT3P)						
2006	Cry34/35Ab1						
2000	Herculex RW						
2007	mCry3A						
2007	Agrisure RW						
2010	Cry3Bb1 + Cry34/35Ab1						
2010	SmartStax						
2012	mCry3A + Cry34/35Ab1						
2012	AcreMax Extreme						
2014	mCry3A + eCry3.1Ab1						
2014	Duracade						
2022	Cry3Bb1 + Cry34/35Ab1 + DvSnf7						
2022	SmartStax Pro						

NCR Field-evolved resistance

Cry3Bb1 + Cry34/35Ab1 resistance

2018 ND (Calles-Torrez et al. 2019)

2018 IA and 2019 MN* (Pereira et al. 2023)

Extension Resources

NDSU Extension IPM Crop Survey



Hartstack Wire Trap ECB



Corn rootworm

Corn Insect Trapping Network - IPM Crop Survey Maps

2023 IPM CROP SURVEY MAPS - CORN

Growth Stages	+
European Corn Borer - Iowa (or Z-race)	+
European Corn Borer - New York (or E-race)	+
Northern & Western Corn Rootworms	+
Northern Corn Rootworm	+
Western Corn Rootworm	+

Corn Insect Trapping Network maps are supported by the ND Corn Council.

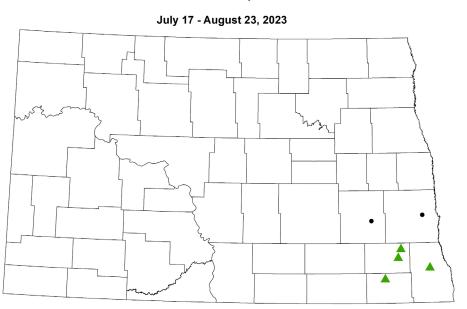


NDSU Extension IPM Crop Survey



Corn Rootworm Trapping

Season Final, 2023



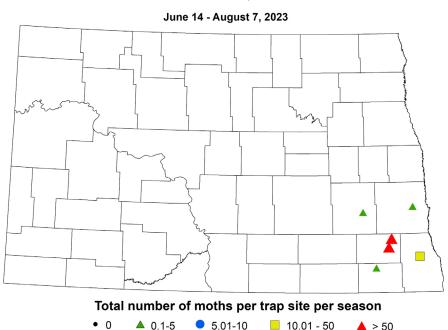
Total number of beetles per trap site per season

• 0 **\(\times \)** 0.1-10 **\(\times \)** 10.01-28 **\(\times \)** 28.01-56 **\(\times \)** >56

69% northern corn rootworm 31% western corn rootworm

European Corn Borer Trapping lowa (or Z-race)

Season Final, 2023



37% fewer moths than 2022

Extension Resources

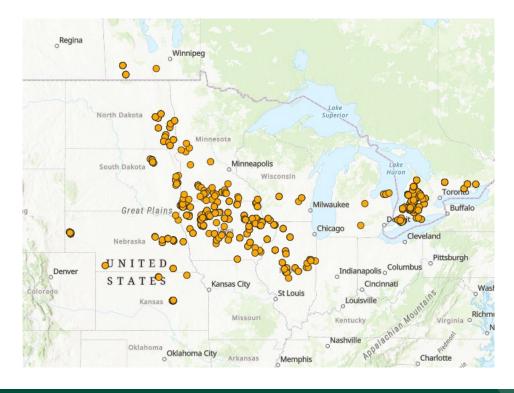
Corn Rootworm Adult Monitoring Network – Iowa State University

- https://www.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=008cd878003f44fca4d

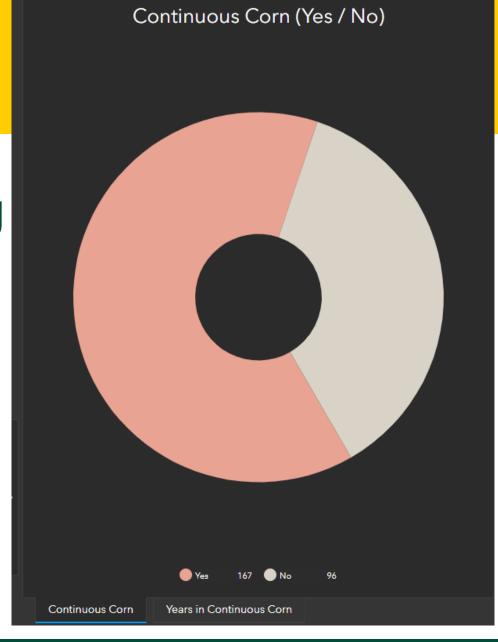
8a6b5f0fe7b1c

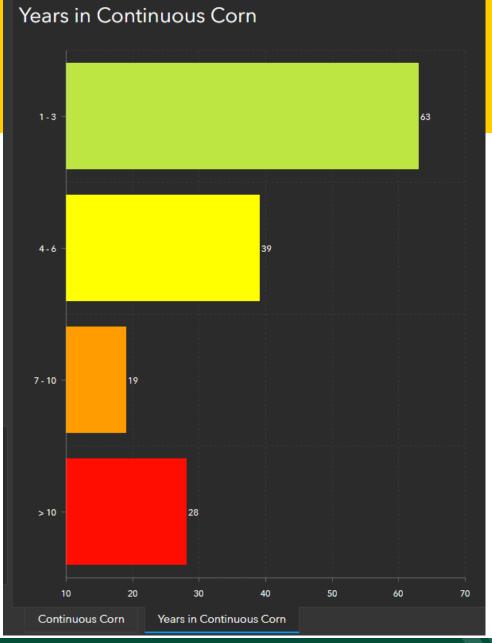




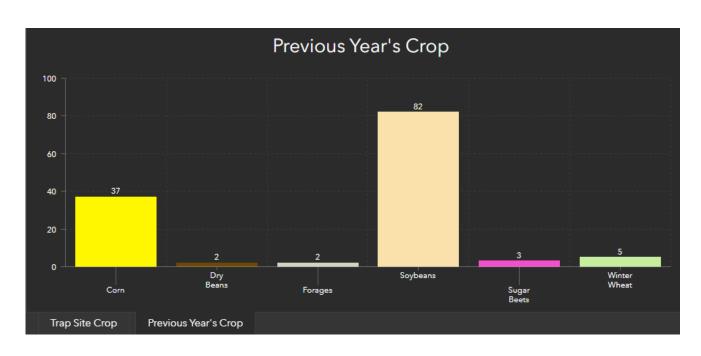


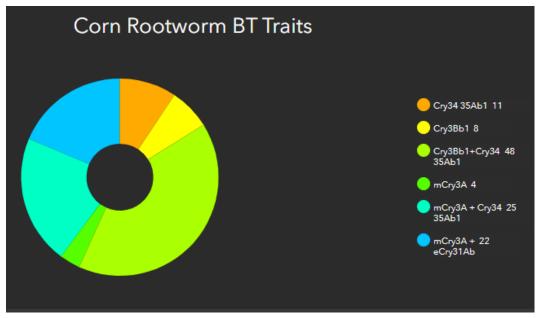
Corn Rootworm Adult Monitoring Network





Corn Rootworm Adult Monitoring Network





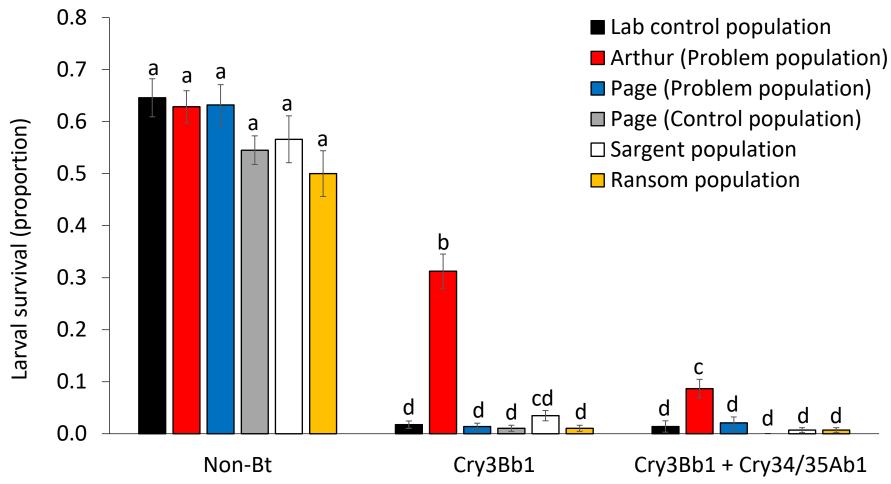
Field sites

Corn rootworms
(Western & Northern)



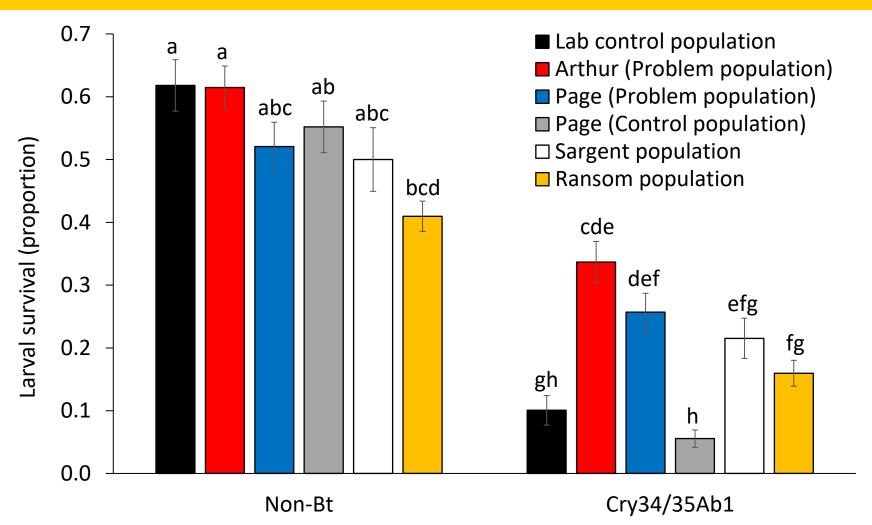


Proportional larval survival of NCR populations on Cry3Bb1, Cry3Bb1 + Cry34/35Ab1, and non-Bt corn hybrids in ND, 2017



Bars sharing a letter are not significantly different based on a two-way mixed-model ANOVA (P < 0.05) and LSMEANS (with the PDIFF option). Alpha values were adjusted by using a Bonferroni correction.

Proportional larval survival of NCR populations on Cry34/35Ab1 and its non-Bt corn hybrid in ND, 2017



Calles-Torrez et al. 2019. J. Econ. Entomol. 112(4): 1875–1886

Corrected larval survival of ND NCR populations on Cry3Bb1, Cry34/35Ab1, and Cry3Bb1 + Cry34/35Ab1 corn, 2017

	Corrected proportional larval survival (mean \pm SEM)								
Population site	Cry3Bb1	Cry34/35Ab1	Cry3Bb1 + Cry34/35Ab1						
Arthur (problem population)	0.51 ± 0.05 a	0.54 ± 0.04 a	0.13 ± 0.03 a						
Page (problem population)	0.02 ± 0.01 b	$0.51\pm0.05\text{a}$	$0.04 \pm 0.02b$						
Sargent	$0.09 \pm 0.04b$	0.45 + 0.06a	0.01 ± 0.01 b						
Ransom	$0.03 \pm 0.02b$	$\textbf{0.41} \pm \textbf{0.05} \textbf{a}$	$0.02 \pm 0.02b$						
Lab (control population)	$0.03 \pm 0.02b$	$0.18 \pm 0.05b$	$0.02 \pm 0.02b$						
Page (control population)	0.03 ± 0.01 b	0.13 ± 0.05 b	0.00 ± 0.00 b						

Means sharing a letter within a Bt corn hybrid are not significantly different based on a one-way mixed-model ANOVA (P < 0.05) and LSMEANS (with PDIFF option). Alpha values were adjusted by using a Bonferroni correction test.

Conclusions

□ The first known cases of field-evolved resistance in NCR populations to Cry3Bb1 (Arthur population) and Cry34/35Ab1 (Arthur, Page problem population, Ransom, and Sargent populations) were characterized in ND.

□ Increased larval survival on pyramided Cry3Bb1 + Cry34/35Ab1 corn was observed in NCR species.



Journal of Economic Entomology, 112(4), 2019, 1875–1886

doi: 10.1093/jee/toz111

Research

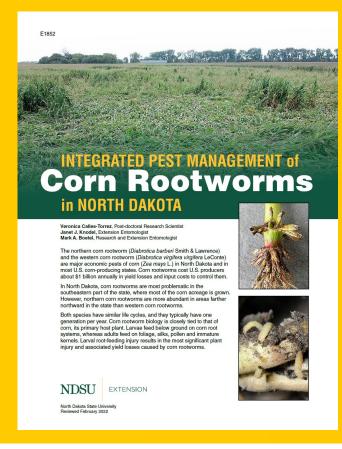


Insecticide Resistance and Resistance Management

Field-Evolved Resistance of Northern and Western Corn Rootworm (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) Populations to Corn Hybrids Expressing Single and Pyramided Cry3Bb1 and Cry34/35Ab1 Bt Proteins in North Dakota

Veronica Calles-Torrez,^{1,6} Janet J. Knodel,² Mark A. Boetel,¹ B. Wade French,³ Billy W. Fuller,⁴ and Joel K. Ransom⁵











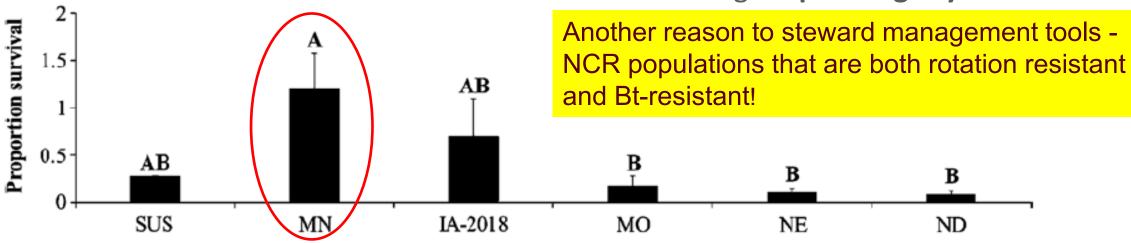
Send any questions to: janet.knodel@ndsu.edu 701-231-7915

EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE >>> CHANGING LIVES

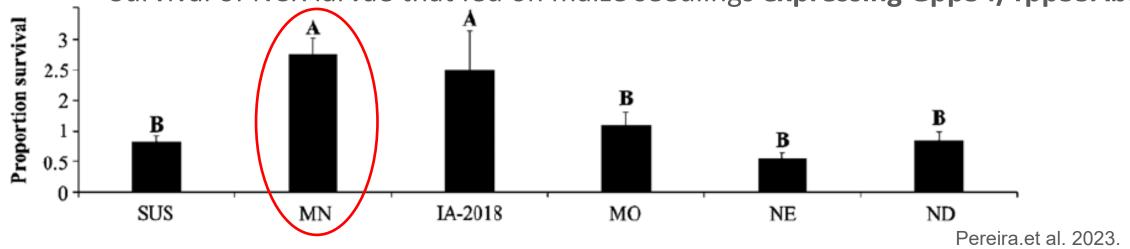
NDSU

EXTENSION

Survival of NCR larvae that fed on maize seedlings expressing Cry3Bb1



Survival of NCR larvae that fed on maize seedlings expressing Gpp34/Tpp35Ab1





Rootworm Traits with RNAi Mode of Action

SmartStax Pro Bayer

Limited release: 2022

Commercial release: 2023

Above-ground:

Cry1A.105, Cry2Ab2, Cry1F

Below-ground:

Cry3Bb1, Cry34/35Ab1, DvSnf7 dsRNA

Herbicide:

glyphosate, glufosinate



Vorceed Enlist

Corteva

Limited release: 2023

Larger release in subsequent years

Above-ground:

Cry1A.105, Cry2Ab2, Cry1F

Below-ground:

Cry3Bb1, Cry34/35Ab1, DvSnf7 dsRNA

Herbicide: glyphosate, glufosinate, 2,4-D



VT4Pro

Bayer

Estimated commercial release in 2024

Above-ground:

Cry1A.105, Cry2Ab2, Vip3Aa20

Below-ground:

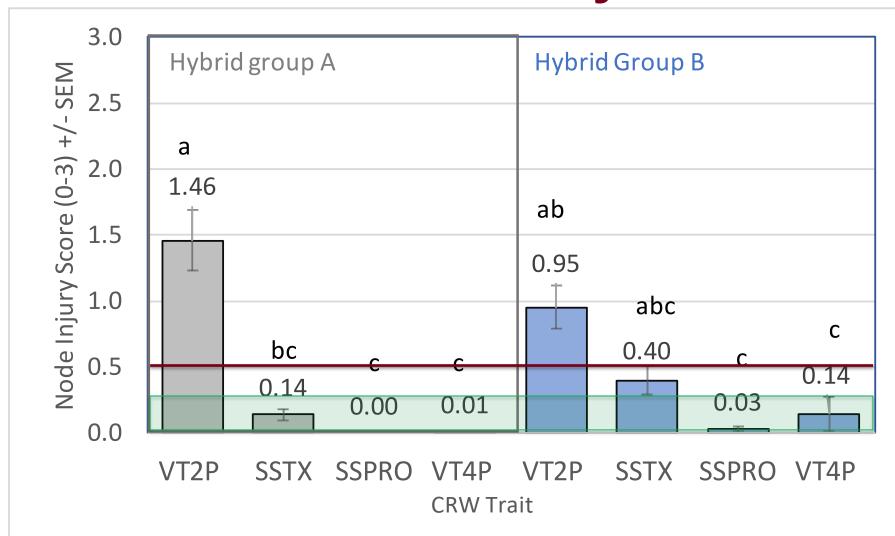
Cry3Bb1, DvSnf7 dsRNA

Herbicide:

glyphosate



RW trait efficacy Lamberton, MN 2023



RW TOXINS

VT2P - None

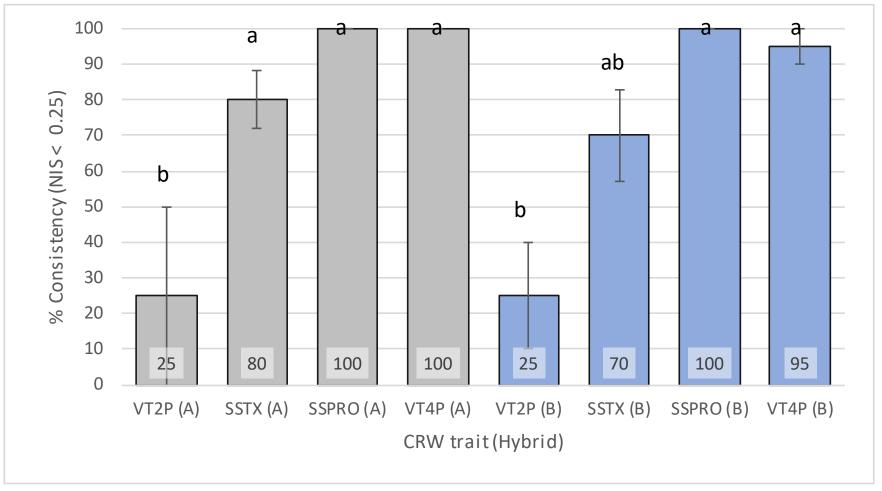
SSTX - Cry3Bb1+ Cry34/35Ab1

SSPRO - CryBb1 + Cry34/35Ab1 +RNAi

VT4P - Cry3Bb1 +RNAi

NIS < 0.25 = Low risk NIS > 0.50 UIR

What about traits (consistency)?



Lamberton, MN 2023

How about efficacy of RNAi

- Compared to Bt, RNAi is slow in killing CRW (-5 days)
- Sublethal effects? Potential resistance?
- Resistant WCR was developed in lab from field-collected beetles
- Reduced uptake of dsRNA
- No cross-resistance to Bt traits
- Cross-resistant to other dsRNAs





Development and characterization of the first dsRNA-resistant insect population from western corn rootworm, *Diabrotica virgifera virgifera* LeConte

Chitvan Khajuria*, Sergey Ivashuta, Elizabeth Wiggins, Lex Flagel, William Moar, Michael Pleau, Kaylee Miller, Yuanji Zhang, Parthasarathy Ramaseshadri, Changjian Jiang, Tracey Hodge, Peter Jensen, Mao Chen, Anilkumar Gowda, Brian McNulty, Cara Vazquez, Renata Bolognesi, Jeffrey Haas, Graham Head, Thomas Clark

Monsanto Co., 700 Chesterfield Parkway West, Chesterfield, Missouri, United States of America

* chitvan.khajuria@monsanto.com



G OPEN ACCESS

Citation: Khajuria C, Ivashuta S, Wiggins E, Flagel L, Moar W, Pleau M, et al. (2018) Development and characterization of the first dsRNA-resistant insect population from western corn rootworm, Diabrotica virgifera virgifera LeConte. PLoS ONE 13 (5): e0197059. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0197059

Editor: Subba Reddy Palli, University of Kentucky, UNITED STATES

Received: January 2, 2018

Accepted: April 25, 2018

Abstract

The use of dsRNA to control insect pests via the RNA interference (RNAi) pathway is being explored by researchers globally. However, with every new class of insect control compounds, the evolution of insect resistance needs to be considered, and understanding resistance mechanisms is essential in designing durable technologies and effective resistance management strategies. To gain insight into insect resistance to dsRNA, a field screen with subsequent laboratory selection was used to establish a population of DvSnf7 dsRNA-resistant western corn rootworm, *Diabrotica virgifera virgifera*, a major maize insect pest. WCR resistant to ingested DvSnf7 dsRNA had impaired luminal uptake and resistance was not DvSnf7 dsRNA-specific, as indicated by cross resistance to all other dsRNAs tested. No resistance to the *Bacillus thuringiensis* Cry3Bb1 protein was observed. DvSnf7 dsRNA resistance was inherited recessively, located on a single locus, and autosomal. Together these findings will provide insights for dsRNA deployment for insect pest control.



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For the three Cry3-type toxins:

Western & northern corn rootworm
Resistance to this one



Results in partial cross resistance to these, even in fields where they have never been planted

Cry34/35 binary toxin:

RNAi technology:

Targeting RNA sequence



Below-ground (coleoptera):

Cry3: Cry3Bb1, mCry3A, eCry3.1Ab

Cry34/35Ab1: Gpp34/Tpp35Ab1

RNAi: snf7 gene

Cry75Aa: Mpp75Aa1

Vip4: Vpb4Da2

MON 95275 (Canada)



Notice of submission from Bayer CropScience Inc. for novel food, livestock feed and environmental safety approval for commercial planting purposes of a plant genetically modified for insect resistance

June 15, 2023

Cry75Aa (MPP75Aa)

8 | Spotlight Selection | Applied and Industrial Microbiology | Research Article | 12 February 2021

Cry75Aa (Mpp75Aa) Insecticidal Proteins for Controlling the Western Corn Rootworm, *Diabrotica virgifera virgifera* LeConte (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae), Isolated from the Insect-Pathogenic Bacterium *Brevibacillus laterosporus*

Authors: David Bowen 💿 🖼, Yong Yin, Stanislaw Flasinski, Catherine Chay, Gregory Bean, Jason Milligan, William Moar, SHOW ALL (19)

<u>AUTHORS INFO & AFFILIATIONS</u>



A new *Bacillus thuringiensis* protein for Western corn rootworm control

Yong Yin , Stanislaw Flasinski, William Moar, David Bowen, Cathy Chay, Jason Milligan, Jean-Louis Kouadio, Aihong Pan, Brent Werner, Karrie Buckman, Jun Zhang, Geoffrey Mueller, Collin Preftakes, [...], James Roberts [view all]

Published: November 30, 2020 • https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0242791

IPD072Aa (Not a Bt protein)

IPD072Aa from *Pseudomonas chlororaphis* Targets Midgut Epithelial Cells in Killing Western Corn Rootworm (*Diabrotica virgifera virgifera*)

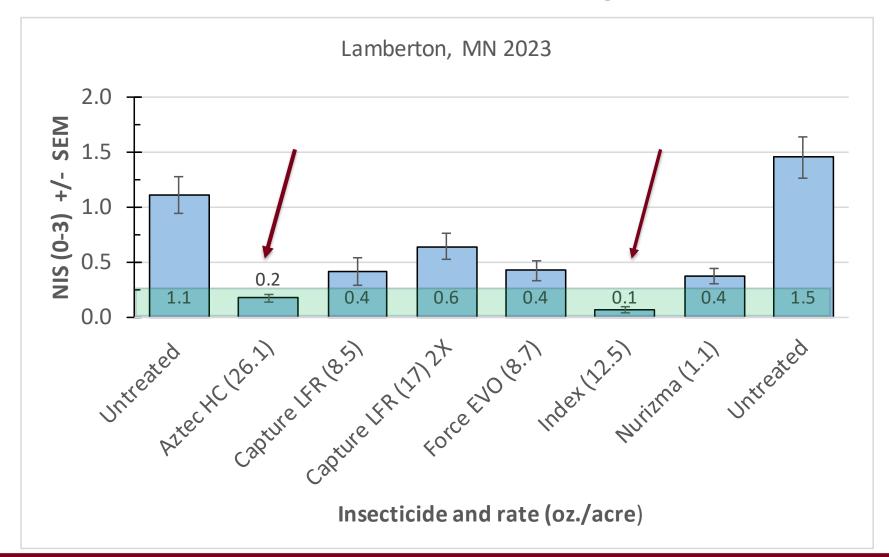
Nuria Jiménez-Juárez, Jarred Oral, Mark E. Nelson 📵 , Albert L. Lu

Corteva Agriscience, Johnston, Iowa, USA



University of Minnesota Extension

Insecticide efficacy on WCR



Benefits of RW control in SW MN

High pressure (1.4 - 2.0 NIS) WCR populations

Cry3 resistant populations w/ evidence of Cry 34/35 resistance

Management	Benefit of treatment
Bt traits*	0.5 to 2.0 nodes (24 - 100%)
Granules	up to 1.7 nodes (34 -99%)
Liquids	up to 1.3 nodes (0 - 98%)
Seed applied (RW rate)	up to 0.6 nodes (24 -33%)

Management practices are not necessarily additive.

*Traits may be even less effective on some populations

Managing CRW: Reducing egg-laying

HOW

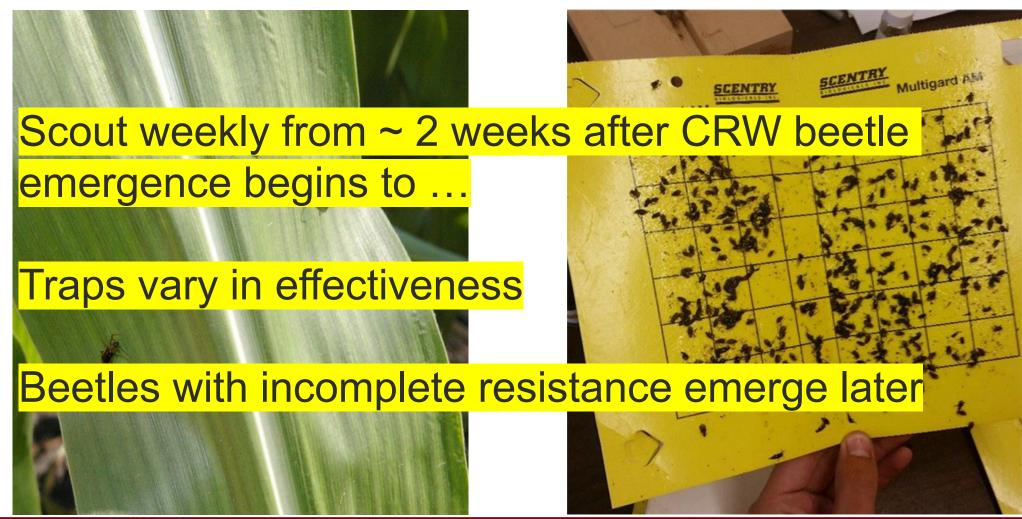
- Egg laying ~ 2 weeks after beetles emerge
- Scout twice a week
- √ 10% of females gravid
- √ 1 beetle/plant
- Re-spray as needed

Ostlie and Leaf rev. 2022



Knowledge Is: Power, Safety, and Happiness!

(Thomas Jefferson)



Managing CRWs: Decisions...Decisions

Beetle populations

Field and area

Root evaluation

- Ongoing problem?
- Management issues?

Species ID

Will rotation or Bt work?





Managing ED: Decisions...Decisions

 Monitor both species in corn Scout efficiently

Field-based management but...
 ED varies by geography and field

• Logistics, capabilities, attitude

How many fields can you scout?



A tale of two rootworms

Rotation is the most effective management tool in the Western corn belt.

Don't rely on RNAi in very heavy infestations.

May need to combine insecticide overlays for resistant populations

Western corn rootworm (WCR)

ED lessens rotation efficacy.

Combine rotation with root type, insecticides, or Bt.

Mobile adults and weather make ED prediction difficult. Pay attention to area's late summer beetles.

Northern corn rootworm (NCR)

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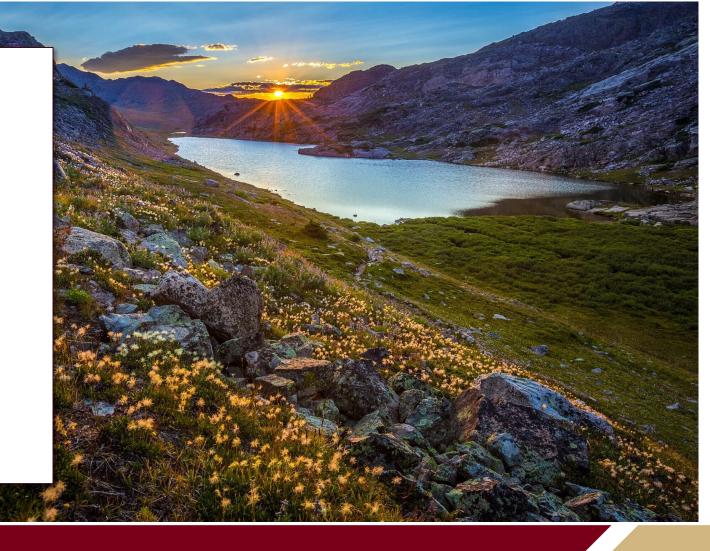
A guide to less corn rootworm stress

✓Know your risk

Your fields are unique "No problem" is a data point

✓ Be unpredictable
Use the whole toolbox

✓ Be adaptable



Thank you for your attention!

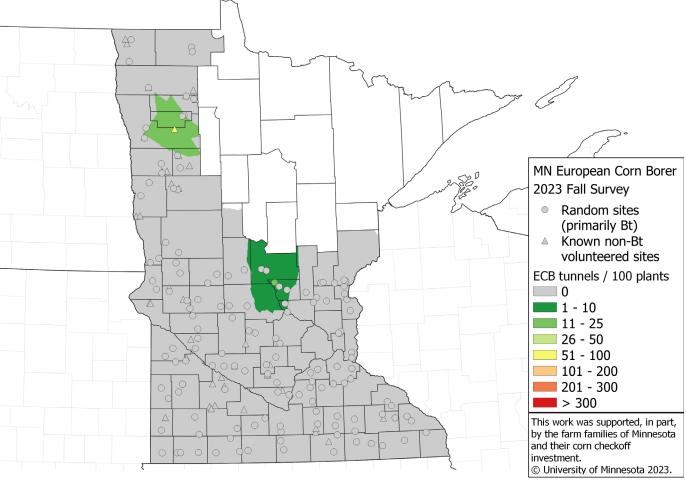
Any questions?

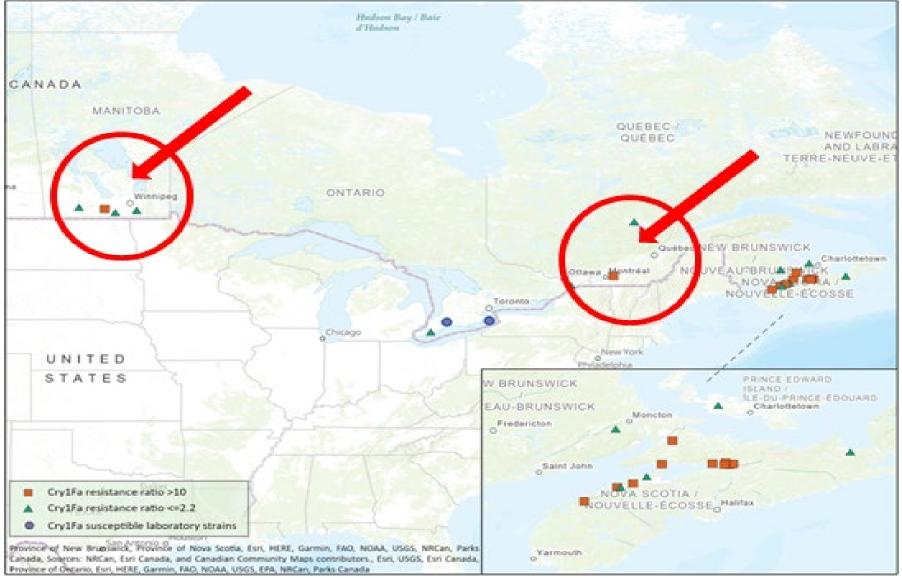




European corn borer









Map from Smith and Farhan 2023



- During 2019-2022, practical **Cry1F resistance** in ECB has expanded into other locations in Canada.
 - Cry1F resistance in 52% of strains (12 of 23)
 - 10 in NS, 1 in QC**, 1 in MB**

0.5 - 3.9

0.5 - 5.8

0.5 - 2.0

Cry1Ab

Cry1A.105

Cry2Ab

JOURNAL ARTICLE

Monitoring resistance of Ostrinia nubilalis (Lepidoptera: Crambidae) in Canada to Cry toxins produced by Bt corn @

Jocelyn L Smith ▼, Yasmine Farhan

Journal of Economic Entomology, toad046, https://doi.org/10.1093/jee/toad046

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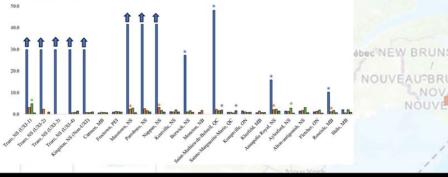
EARLY WARNING OF RESISTANCE* RR Range Cry1Ab resistance in 23% of strains (5 of 22) 4 in NS, 1 in MB

Cry1A.105 resistance in 45% of strains (9 of 20)

7 in NS, 1 in PEI, 1 in QC

• 1 in NS, 2 in QC

Cry2Ab resistance in 14% of strains (3 of 21)



Pioneer 7844 AM

- Cry1F x Cry1Ab
- 5% Integrated Refuge
- 2225 CHU

Sept 1, 2022

Approximately 10-15% plants with ECB injury

- Broken tassels
- Shot hole leaf feeding
- · Borer holes on stalk
- 1-3 ECB per stalk

Smith and Farhan 2023 JEE 116(3): 916-926. *Tabashnik and Carriere 2019 JEE 112(6):2513-2523

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- Non-Bt field in Crookston, MN
- 1000 plants sampled on Oct 1-2, 2023
- Approximate 30-35% corn plants damaged by ECB
- 130-140 ECB larvae were collected and reared in the lab
- Results in spring





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