

# Pyrinex™ 480EC

## ORANGE BLOSSOM WHEAT MIDGE CONTROL IN WHEAT

Wheat midge adults are tiny fragile flies measuring about 3mm (1/8") long with an orange abdomen. The adult midge will emerge from the pupate stage over a 5-6 week period, from mid-June to mid-July. This period is also the period when wheat heads are emerging from the sheath and beginning to flower.

The female wheat midge will be most active in the late evening just prior to or after sunset. She will lay her eggs on the wheat kernel just prior to or at anthesis, these eggs are orange coloured and barely visible to the human eye. Eggs hatch into an orange to red coloured oval shaped larvae that will burrow into the developing wheat head and feed on the contents for 2-3 weeks.

Larval feeding will cause the wheat kernels to shrivel. Kernels may be aborted entirely, not fully developed or may only be slightly damaged. As larvae continue to feed wheat yield and quality will be reduced. Damage can be seen by separating the wheat kernels and inspecting the developing seed.

If 1 or more adult midges are found for every 4-5 heads inspected the economic threshold has been reached and control should be applied within 4 days of reaching this threshold. If 50% of the wheat heads are flowering spray immediately.



Adult Orange Blossom Wheat Midge

**Pyrinex™ 480EC** insecticide is registered for the control of Wheat Midge on wheat at a rate of 830 mL/ha - 1 L/ha (336—440 mL/acre). Apply as a broadcast foliar spray using ground or aerial equipment. Use the 1 L/ha rate for aerial application in 10-30 L (2-3 gallons/acre) of water/ha. For ground applied use 50 to 200L/ha (5-20 gallons/acre) of water.

Spray when adults are found in the crop (1 midge/4-5 seed heads) and when 25% of the wheat heads have emerged from the boot, but preferably delay application 2-3 days after threshold has been reached. Timing of spray application is critical for effective control. Applications should be made when temperatures exceed 15°C and wind speed is less than 10kph during the evening. **Pyrinex** will not control larvae once they have gone inside the head to feed, it will control adult midges and larvae as they emerge from the eggs.



Larvae Feeding on Wheat Kernel  
(Alberta Agri Food & Rural Development)

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON  
PYRINEX 480EC visit [www.uap.ca](http://www.uap.ca)**



**West: 1-800-561-5444  
Ontario & Maritimes: 1-800-265-5444  
Quebec: 1-800-361-9369**

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