

ORANGE BLOSSOM WHEAT MIDGE CONTROL IN WHEAT

Lagon® 480E

IDENTIFICATION

- Small, fragile orange fly 2-3 mm in length
- Two black eyes cover most of head
- Three pairs of long legs relative to body size
- Transparent wings, oval-shaped wings with fine hairs
- Generally sit on plants with their heads pointed up
- Eggs are orange and very small
- Larvae are oval shaped and red to orange in color



LIFECYCLE

- Adults emerge around wheat head emergence and flowering over a 4-6 week period (mid June-July), with a lifespan of 1 week
- Females are most active in the late evening just prior to or after sunset and lay on average 80 eggs on kernels prior to or at flowering
- Eggs hatch in 4-7 days and the larvae burrow into the developing wheat head feeding for 2-3 weeks
- Delays in seeding and high moisture create ideal conditions for development and infestation

DAMAGE AND ECONOMIC THRESHOLD

- Larval feeding will cause shrunken kernels with damage ranging from slight to kernel abortion
- Feeding leads to yield losses and/or poorer quality resulting in revenue loss
- Treat crop within 4 days if 1 or more adult midges are found for every 4-5 heads inspected
- Crop should have minimum 25% heads emerged & delay spraying until 30% of crop flowering

CONTROL MEASURES USING LAGON 480E

- Active Ingredient: Dimethoate 480 g/l
- Apply as a foliar spray using ground or aerial application equipment
 - Ground application: 404 ml/acre using at least 10 gallons of water
 - Aerial application: 404 ml/acre using at least 5.3 gallons of water
- Add LI 700 at 1.25% v/v to lower pH of water carrier and improve efficacy
- Applications should be made when temperatures exceed 15°C and wind speed less than 10 kph
- If adult populations exist after 3-7 days consider another application
- Applications will control the adults and larvae emerged from eggs but will not control larvae that have gone inside the head to feed

Always read and follow label directions
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Photos: Alberta Agri Food & Rural Development

Call: **1-800-561-5444**

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