

# CONTROL OF CUTWORMS



Cutworms are the soil-dwelling larvae of several moth species. The adult moths fly into the area in early spring and lay their eggs in dense vegetation, low to the ground. Fields that have a history of cutworm damage and those with a heavy crop residue or with winter annual weeds such as chickweed will be more at risk to cutworm invasion.

Once the cutworm eggs hatch, the young larvae begin to feed on young crop seedlings. The young larvae will often cut the plant off at the soil surface and can usually be found underground near the stalk. Cutworm larvae stop feeding when they reach full maturity, 2.5cm-4cm in length when they begin pupation.

Cutworms are more active in the evening and at night so insecticides work best when applied in the evening. Feeding usually takes place in May to June. The threshold for spraying is if 5-10% of plants show leaf feeding.

Red-back cutworm larvae and adult



**POUNCE<sup>®</sup>** insecticide will control army, black, dark-sided, pale western, red-backed and white cutworm in canola, cereals, corn, flax, lentils, sugar beets, sunflower, potatoes and vegetable crops. For control on seedlings up to the 5-leaf stage, apply 180 mL/ha **POUNCE** in sufficient water to get thorough coverage. Under dry conditions or on muck soil, apply 295-390 mL/ha. Where cutworms are large, near 2.5-4.0 cm, use 295-390 mL/ha. Apply under warm, moist soil conditions in the evening when the cutworms are most active. **DO NOT DISTURB THE SOIL FOR 5 DAYS AFTER TREATMENT.** Treatment will control surface feeding and climbing stages of the cutworm.

**PYRINEX<sup>™</sup> 480EC** will control dark-sided cutworm, red backed cutworm, variegated cutworm, pale western cutworm and army cutworm in barley, wheat, oats, canola, flax, lentils, sunflower, sugar beet, potatoes, vegetable crops, and field and sweet corn. For field crops the general recommendation is 875 mL-1.2L/ha and vegetable crops use 2.4-4.8 L/ha (see label for specific crop rates). Apply when damage is first seen and crop is in the 2-5 leaf stage of seedling growth. To be applied by ground equipment unless specified. Apply in evening when cutworms are most active.



Pale western cutworm, larvae and adult

Black cutworm feeding on corn

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT YOUR UAP CANADA REPRESENTATIVE, YOUR LOCAL DEALER OR VISIT [www.uap.ca](http://www.uap.ca)**

**Always read, understand, and follow all label directions.**

(Photo source: Iowa State University Entomology Image Gallery: <http://www.ent.iastate.edu/imagegal/Lepidoptera/>) and Oregon State University  
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