

Colorado Potato Beetle



Characteristics: Bright yellow/orange body and five bold brown stripes along the back

Plants Affected: Attacks potatoes, eggplant, and tomato and may be very destructive. They emerge during the early stages of shoot development. Eggs are laid on the undersurface of leaves and hatch in about a week.

Preventative Measures: Crop rotation

Management: Hand picking, Pyganic

Squash Bug



Characteristics: ½ inch long and gray to black with the edges of the abdomen having orange and brown stripes. Nymphs are ½ inch in length. Young nymphs have a red head and legs with a green abdomen.

Plants Affected: They feed on cucurbits and prefer squash and pumpkin. They disrupt the flow of water and nutrients, which can cause yellow specks to develop and leads to wilting.

Preventative Measures: Crop rotation, silver mulch, Surround (on seedlings)

Management: Pyganic, Entrust

Flea Beetle



Characteristics: Small black bugs with enlarged hind legs for jumping.

Plants Affected: Adult flea beetles cause the most damage by feeding on cotyledons, stems, and foliage of early planted crops. Their feeding causes a "shothole" appearance to the plants, which looks like a series of small feeding holes on the leaves. A heavy beetle attack will result in wilted or stunted plants.

Preventative Measures: Row cover

Cucumber Beetle



Characteristics: Adult has yellow wings with 3 longitudinal black stripes

Plants Affected: They feed on the stems and roots, and then move to foliage of Cucurbits.

Preventative Measures: Row cover, silver mulch, Surround (on seedlings)

Management: Pyganic, Entrust

Cabbage Looper



Characteristics: Yellowish white butterfly, green worm.

Plants Affected: The moths are nocturnal fliers, but can be seen during the day resting on the underside of cabbage leaves. They usually lay eggs singly near the outer fringes of lower leaves and on plants not previously infested by loopers.

Preventative Measures: Beneficial insects, crop rotation, clean field management, row cover

Management: DiPel (BT) & Therm-X



Leaf Hopper



Characteristics: They are lime green, slender, small, and somewhat wedge-shaped with heads that are slightly broader than the rest of their bodies.

Plants Affected: alfalfa, clover, eggplants, strawberries, potatoes, soybeans, and snap beans. It will typically achieve high populations in late June to early August. Snap beans will usually be an attractive host. The first signs of feeding are pale leaf veins and curling leaves. Continued feeding results in most of the leaf curling, crinkling, and turning brown.

Preventative Measures:

Management:

Aphid



Characteristics: may be green, yellow, or other colors depending on the species and the plants they feed on. A few species appear waxy or woolly due to the secretion of a waxy substance over their body surface. All are small, pear-shaped insects with long legs and antennae.

Plants Affected: They attack all plants by piercing stems, leaves, and other tender plant parts to suck out plant fluids. They can cause curling, yellowing, and distortion of leaves and stunting of shoots. They can also produce large quantities of a sticky substance known as honeydew.

Preventative Measures: If a problem in greenhouse, do not bring plants from outside into greenhouse.

Cut Worm



Characteristics: Many are stout, smooth, soft-bodied, plump caterpillars. These vary from brown or tan to pink, green or gray and black. Some are all one color, others spotted or striped.

Plants Affected: They typically attack the stem of any plant and cut it down by chewing through the base. They usually move on after cutting down the plant causing many plants to be damaged.

Preventative Measures:

Management: dig in the soil within 6 inches of the plant to find worm; diatomaceous earth, DiPel (BT) & Therm-X (if brassica or corn)

Cabbage Moth



Characteristics: greenish-brown wings, hind wings are light grey. Eggs are grouped on the underside of the leaves

Plants Affected: red beets, lettuce, cabbage

Preventative Measures: Beneficial insects, crop rotation, clean field management

Management: DiPel (BT) & Therm-X (if brassica or corn)

Corn Borer



Characteristics:

Plants Affected: Corn

Preventative Measures: plant early

Management: DiPel (BT) & Therm-X

