



Early Season Corn Insect Pests, VE to V8

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Corn Growth Stage															
VE	V2	V4	V6	V8	V10	V12	VT	R1							
BELOW-GROUND INSECT PESTS															
SEEDCORN MAGGOT															
SEEDCORN BEETLE															
SUGARCANE BEETLE															
WHITE GRUBS															
WIREWORM															
SANDHILL CUTWORM															
			CORN ROOTWORM LARVAE												
ABOVE-GROUND INSECT PESTS															
SOD WEBWORM															
GRAPE COLASPIS															
BLACK, DINGY, CLAYBACK CUTWORMS															
CHINCH BUG															
	BILLBUG														
		COMMON STALK BORER													
		1ST GENERATION EUROPEAN CORN BORER													
		1ST GENERATION SOUTHWESTERN CORN BORER													
		1ST GENERATION SOUTHERN CORN BORER													
ABOVE-GROUND NON-INSECT PESTS															
MILLIPEDES															
SLUGS															

Below-Ground

When searching for below-ground pests, a small garden trowel or pocketknife is a handy tool to use. Early season insects can be found attacking the seed (seedcorn maggot, seedcorn beetle), the seed and below-ground parts of the seedling (wireworm, sugarcane beetle), they may be more limited to the roots (white grubs), or attack the under-ground stem (sandhill cutworm). White grub is a generic term for the larval stage of insects like the Japanese beetle, rose or sand chafer, and May or June beetles. True white grubs are the

larval stage of May and June beetles. To identify the grubs, the raster pattern, or the setae (hair) pattern on the posterior end is used. Michigan State University has developed an excellent publication, Severe Grub Damage Spotted in Northern Michigan Hay field, that can be used to help identify white grubs in the field. Follow this link, <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/severe-grub-damage-spotted-in-northern-michigan-grass-hay-field> to access the Field ID Sheet.

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Corn rootworm larvae may be present during the later stages of early season growth but may be too small to readily detect. If detected, they will have a brown to black head and a brown to black anal plate.



Wireworms

Frank Peairs, Colorado State University,
Bugwood.org.



Seed corn maggot



White grub

Alton N. Sparks, Jr., University of Georgia,
Bugwood.org.



Sugarcane beetle

Clemson University - USDA Cooperative
Extension Slide Series, Bugwood.org.



Sandhill cutworm

James Kalisch, University of Nebraska,
Bugwood.org.



Corn rootworm larvae

Scott Bauer, USDA Agricultural Research
Service, Bugwood.org.

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Above-Ground

Some of these insect pests feed above-ground but can also be found under-ground. The cutworm species feed above-ground at night but spend the day under soil clods.



Black cutworm

Roger Schmidt, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Bugwood.org.



Claybacked cutworm

James Kalisch, University of Nebraska, Bugwood.org.



Maize billbug

Clemson University - USDA Cooperative Extension Slide Series, Bugwood.org.



Common stalk borer

James Kalisch, University of Nebraska, Bugwood.org.



Southern corn stalk borer

Clemson University - USDA Cooperative Extension Slide Series, Bugwood.org.



European corn borer

Frank Peairs, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org.



Southwestern corn borer

Frank Peairs, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org.



Millipede

Joseph Berger, Bugwood.org.

Legal Statements

Performance may vary, from location to location and from year to year, as local growing, soil and weather conditions may vary. Growers should evaluate data from multiple locations and years whenever possible and should consider the impacts of these conditions on the grower's fields.

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