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PESTALERT

BANNOCK, BINGHAM, BONNEVILLE, CASSIA, FREMONT, JEFFERSON, AND MADISON COUNTIES

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University of Idaho Extension

Cabbage Worms

By Ron Patterson, Extension Educator

As we approach the end of summer, cole crops (cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, kohlrabi, Brussels sprouts) are starting to form heads and flowers. This is also the time when we see a lot of caterpillar damage to those same plants.

The three most common caterpillar pests of cole crops are:

--Imported cabbageworm—the larva of a white butterfly

- Daytime flyers
- Eggs on both sides of the leaves
- Larvae are sluggish, velvety green with faint yellow stripes run lengthwise down the back and sides
- Feeding produces holes in the leaves
- --Cabbage looper-larva of a mottle, grayish-brown moth
- Nocturnal flyers
- Small, silvery figure 8 in the middle of the forewings
- Eggs on undersides of lower leaves
- Larvae have an inchworm movement
- Feeding produces holes in the leaves

--Diamondback moth—larva of a slender brown moth that show a pattern of three diamond when the wings are folded

- Nocturnal flyers
- Eggs laid near leaf veins
- Small, light green larvae, tapered at both ends that wiggle vigorously when disturbed
- Feeds on underside of leaves, but not all the way through, leaving an epidermal membrane "window pane"

Each of these pests do more than cause damage to the leaves, they also produce a lot of frass (bug poop) that collects on the leaves and flowers.







EASTERN IDAHO PEST ALERT

Monitor

Check your cole crops regularly for caterpillar feeding—probably daily this time of year.

Control options

Cultural—remove weeds that belong to the mustard family as they are alternate hosts for these pests.

Physical—use of floating row covers from seedling to harvest will eliminate almost all of these pests. You would need some sort of support structure and as the season progresses the wind will wear holes in the row cover.



Biological—encourage natural enemies such as paper wasps, ladybug beetles, and parasitoid wasps to help reduce the pest population.

Insecticides—most effective when pests are small. It is important to choose pesticides that will be less damaging to the natural enemy populations.

Pyrethrins need to be sprayed directly on the caterpillar to be effective

Spinosad (some forms are approved for organic production) absorbs into the epidermis and does very little damage to natural enemy populations. It is effective against chewing pests.

Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) is an organic pesticide that is very host specific. The strains that are effective against lepidopteran insects (moth and butterfly larvae) are Bt aizawai and Bt kurstaki. Bt can be applied as either a dust or a spray and will not harm other insect orders.



Fall Lawn Care

By Ron Patterson, Extension Educator

With shorter days and cooler nights your lawn should show another burst of growth before winter. How we treat our lawns at this time will have great effect on how they come out in the spring.

Mowing—If you had your summer mower height higher than normal (I raise mine up a notch for summer mowing) you can drop it back down to the normal height—about 3



inches. Mow as often as necessary so that you are not removing more than about 1/3of the blade of grass. The very last mowing can be short—2 – 2.5 inches—which will reduce the amount of snow mold in the spring. The last mowing should be bagged.





Fertilizer—A regular application of one pound of nitrogen per 1000 square feet can be applied now and then a half rate after the lawn is dormant—after the last mowing. The last fertilizer application is the most important one of all, but it needs to be light.

Weed control—Fall is the best time for perennial weed control, such as dandelions and field bindweed (morning glory). It should be applied in early September when the plants are pulling more energy into the roots to survive the winter.



Codling moth

All apple and pear fruits in all areas should be protected until September 15. Codling moths become inactive after September 15 due to day length. Be sure to follow the timing

Ingredient	Efficacy	Residual length (days)	Comments
Conventional			
Carbaryl (old Sevin products)	Good	14	
Gamma-cyhalothrin (Spectracide Triazicide)	Good to Ex- cellent	14 – 17	Last application at least 21 days prior to harvest
Malathion (Bonide Malathion, Hi Yield Malathion)	Good	5 – 7	Max 2 applications; some products are pears only
Zeta cypermethrin (Garden Tech Sevin)	Good to Ex- cellent	14 – 17	Last application at least 14 days prior to harvest
Organic			
Azadirachtin (Safer BioNeem)	Fair to Good	7 – 10	
Codling moth virus (Cyd-X)	Good (if pop- ulations low)	7	Works best when used at beginning of generation
Kaolin clay (Surround)	Fair	7	Produces protective barrier
Oil (All Seasons Oil, EcoSmart, Neem)	Fair	3	Recommended for the first application of the generation only
Pyrethrin (Ortho Fruit Spray, Fertilome Fruit Tree Spray, Safer End All	Good	3 – 5	
Spinosad Monterey/Fertilome Spinosad	Good	7 – 10	Max 6 applications





Fire Blight

At this point, prune out any new fire blight strikes as they happen. Don't wait until fall or wintertime. Remember to disinfect your tools between each cut.

EASTERN IDAHO

PEST ALERT

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 13 IDAHO HOME GARDEN TIPS

TENDER SUMMER BULBS

SEPTEMBER 27 IDAHO HOME GARDEN TIPS

FALL LAWN CARE

RON PATTERSON, EXTENSION EDUCATOR

7:30 PM PLANT TALK

OCTOBER 11 IDAHO HOME GARDEN TIPS

DIVIDING PERENNIALS

OCTOBER 25 IDAHO HOME GARDEN TIPS

WINTER PROTECTIONS OF ROSES, GRAPES, CANE BERRIES ETC.

BRACKEN HENDERSON, EXTENSION EDUCATOR

7:30 PM PLANT TALK



PHOTO OF THE WEEK: Photo credit: Fred Prose

PHOTO OF THE WEEK:

It's that time of year when you can see hummingbirds flitting around your yard if you've got the right environment for them. If you'd like to see more hummingbirds in your yard, consider planting more flowers as color will attract them and adding a hummingbird feeder and keeping the food fresh. For more information: <u>https://extension.psu.edu/</u> <u>attracting-hummingbirds</u>

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