Sweet Corn Growers

Manage European Corn Borer Naturally

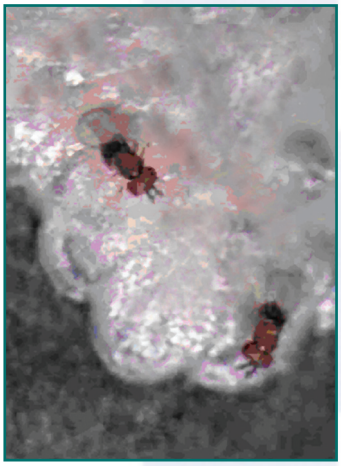
also in Sweet Peppers

Use ECB's Natural Enemy

Kill European corn borer (ECB) **before** it tunnels into tassels, stalks and ears. **Now there's an effective biological way to manage ECB.**

Trichogramma ostriniae **is a natural enemy of ECB.** This miniature (less than 0.5 m in length) insect will parasitize and **kill the entire ECB egg mass** (not just a few eggs). T. ostriniae is known for its "proficient dispersal" and "exceptional host finding capabilities."

> ***"…Clean corn. The sweet corn worm control was phenomenal. The best we ever had by far."***
> Jim Crawford
> New Morning Farm,
> Hustontown, PA



Female T. ostriniae parasitizing ECB egg mass. Photo by: Sylvie Chenus, Entomology, Cornell University

Efficient Hunt and Kill System

T. ostriniae females seek out, locate and lay their eggs inside the eggs of corn borers. The eggs hatch inside the ECB egg and the tiny ***T. ostriniae*** larvae **feed on the contents of the corn borer egg**. This progression is often termed "parasitism," even though the natural enemy kills the pest.

Host eggs that have been parasitized will turn black in color after about 4 days as the ***T. ostriniae*** parasitoids mature inside the ECB egg. When the ***T. ostriniae*** is ready to emerge from the dead ECB eggs, it will chew a tiny emergence hole. Newly hatched females **immediately seek out** other ECB egg masses to parasitize and the cycle continues, exponentially, throughout the season.

Continued . . .

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Protect your sweet corn from European Corn Borer

NATURALLY with Trichogramma ostriniae.

ECB is hard to control through conventional means because of the short exposure time between hatching and tunneling. **Current insecticides do not kill ECB eggs.**

T. ostriniae **kills the eggs before they hatch and bore into the plant.** This beneficial is also used for control of ECB in peppers and for grape berry moth.

How Effective is It?

T. ostriniae is **exceptional at dispersing and attacking ECB egg masses**. Its preferred habitat is sweet corn fields and it possess **keen hunt-and-kill skills.**

Dr. Mike Hoffman of Cornell University's Integrated Pest Management program and his colleagues have observed ***T. ostriniae*** **parasitizing high levels (>80%) of ECB egg masses.**

> ***"The T. ostriniae worked extremely well for us. Only about 1 ear In a 100 showed any ECB damage."***
>
> John Bishop
> Bishop Farms
> Sidney, NY

How Many Should I Release?

A female ***T. ostriniae*** wasp **can kill up to 50 ECB moth eggs** during her lifetime and lay 86 eggs of her own.

IPM Laboratories, Inc. recommends 3-4 releases of ***T. ostriniae*** beginning when corn is young. Recommended release amount is 30,000 or more ***T. ostriniae*** per acre. Rates in sweet peppers are 120,000 per acre per week. This results in season-long parasitism of ECB egg masses.

Can I Spray if I Need To?

Yes but select beneficials-compatible insecticides. T. ostriniae is completely compatible with B.t., and somewhat compatible Spinosad.™ It is NOT compatible with pyrethroids like Warrior™

Call When You Plant

This beneficial is produced on demand. Production plans must be finalized in spring. If you want to protect your sweet corn this year using *T. ostriniae* **call IPM Laboratories, Inc. when you plant to place your order.**

To Order: Call 315 497 2063 or email ipminfo@ipmlabs.com

IPM Labs produces and distributes beneficial insects, mites and nematodes, and offers:

- early-start sustainable systems
- proprietary expertise for effective action
- reliable delivery