

# Agricultural Beet

## Cutworm 2017

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### Identification:

- Darksided, Redbacked, and Black cutworms are commonly found in this area (Fig. 1). Eggs hatch during mid-May into early June. Reports on Black cutworm migration can be found at: <https://swroc.cfans.umn.edu/agricultural-programs/pest-management/black-cutworm-reporting-network>
- Dingy and Variegated cutworms are also observed regularly in this area but not until late July or August.



### Damage:

- Seedlings are cut off near the soil surface.
- Fields should be checked regularly in early spring for wilting or dead plants. Early morning is a good time to scout before cut plants are displaced.
- Cutworms may be found on the soil surface around sunrise or just below the soil surface near damaged plants once the sun is up for an hour or two (Fig. 2).



### Control:

- Applications should be made if 4 to 5% of seedlings are damaged. However, if poor sugar beet stands are already present lower thresholds should be considered.
- Apply insecticides in the late afternoon or early evening, as cutworms are active at night.
- Products available for control:
  - Asana XL - 5.8 to 9.6fl oz/acre.
  - Lorsban - 1-2pints/acre
  - Mustang Max – 2.5 to 4oz/acre

### Information Credit:

Mark Bloomquist - Director of Research  
Khan, M. 2017 Sugar Beet Production Guide.  
NDSU Extension Service and  
[University of Minnesota Extension.](http://www.smbc.org)

If you have questions call your Agriculturalist.

