

'Best Bet' IPM strategy

Winter cereal pests – Northern region

	Pre-season	Establishment	Winter	Spring
Aphids	Remove green bridge (weed and volunteer hosts)	<p>High risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> wet summer/autumn history of virus <p>If high risk, consider seed dressings.</p> <p>Targeted early control along crop edges or infested patches may delay build-up in the crop.</p>	<p>High risk: Warm conditions favour aphids.</p> <p>Monitor and record aphids and beneficials. Review to determine if populations increase/decrease or are stable.</p> <p>Rainfall >20 mm will reduce aphid populations. Consider delaying insecticide application if rain is forecast. If spray required, use a selective insecticide.</p>	<p>A warm, dry spring encourages population growth. No yield loss will occur if infestations occur later than milky grain.</p> <p>Monitor/record aphids and beneficials. Use suggested thresholds.</p> <p>If spray required, use a selective insecticide. Use of broad spectrum pesticides will kill beneficial insects and increase likelihood of aphid population resurgence.</p>
Common Armyworm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Control host weeds (especially ryegrass) Ensure correct ID (armyworm vs <i>Helicoverpa</i>.) 	Use traps to indicate moth activity (lures of 10% port, 15% raw sugar and 75% water)	<p>High risk: good local rain following a dry period encourages egg laying.</p> <p>Monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use traps to monitor for moth activity. Monitor for larvae at dusk with a sweep net. Ground search for larvae and droppings. Look for scalloped leaf margins. <p>Control larvae when small.</p>	<p>Increase monitoring as crop starts to dry down.</p> <p>Small larvae take 8-10 days to reach size capable of head lopping. Determine if crop will be susceptible (dry, except for green nodes) when larvae reach damaging size.</p> <p>Control late in the day when larvae are actively feeding. Use of SPs to control armyworm early can increase likelihood of <i>helicoverpa</i> survival and damage by killing beneficials that would control them.</p>
<i>Helicoverpa armigera</i>	If large numbers of <i>Helicoverpa</i> present in previous crop, pupae busting may reduce pest incidence.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor for larvae with sweep net (can be done when checking for armyworm), or with a beat sheet. Control small larvae (<7 mm) with NPV 	<p>Monitor for larvae using a sweep net or beat sheet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large larvae are most damaging to developing grain. (Small larvae (<7 mm) can be controlled with NPV). Be aware that <i>H. armigera</i> have resistance to SPs in all regions.